

# Principle FIVE

# P5

- Newsletter - September 2019 -

## Welcome to our first ever Co-operative Showcase!

This month, Principle 5 holds an experiment, bringing together co-operatives for a "Showcase" event over two days at Aizlewood's Mill. As far as we know it's a first. Members of the public will be visiting the Heritage Open Days at the historic mill, and co-operative people will set out their stalls in the Conference Room, and have time to chat. Food, talks and tours of the mill and the Principle 5 resource centre will be available.

It's a chance to tell the co-op story, to attract new customers or members, and to invite friends, family and the general public to learn about how co-ops are working to make the world a better place. Co-operatives have historically created culture and common wealth through collective self-help in working class communities. Come and join in this celebration of 'people power' and the unique values and principles of the co-operative movement.

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 10am-4pm, part of Heritage Open Days 2019**  
**Venue: Aizlewood's Mill, Nursery Street, Sheffield, S3 8GG. All welcome; entrance free.**

**Full details: <https://www.heritageopendays.org.uk/visiting/event/co-operative-showcase>**

*This picture, used for our Heritage Open Days page (link above) comes from the Co-operative Wholesale Society's "Campaign for Co-operative Capital" in 1920. It appears in "Building Co-operation" (Wilson, Webster & Vorberg-Rugh); we have a copy of this book in the library:*

[www.principle5.coop/books/building-co-operation-a-business-history-of-the-co-operative-group-1863-2013](http://www.principle5.coop/books/building-co-operation-a-business-history-of-the-co-operative-group-1863-2013)

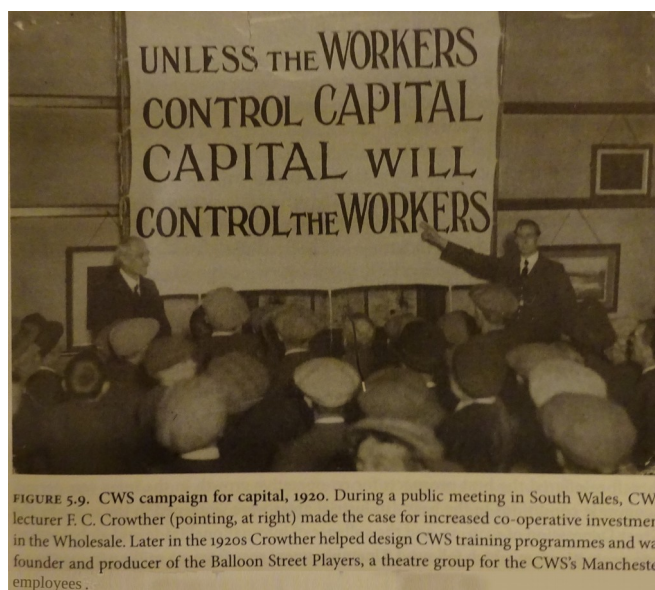


FIGURE 5.9. CWS campaign for capital, 1920. During a public meeting in South Wales, CWS lecturer F. C. Crowther (pointing, at right) made the case for increased co-operative investment in the Wholesale. Later in the 1920s Crowther helped design CWS training programmes and was founder and producer of the Balloon Street Players, a theatre group for the CWS's Manchester employees.

<https://www.principle5.coop/books/building-co-operation-a-business-history-of-the-co-operative-group-1863-2013>

## Co-op Economy 2019

The 2019 Co-op Economy report has been compiled by Co-operatives UK on behalf of the UK co-operative movement. The report analyses data from thousands of co-op businesses across the UK for the period 1 Feb 2018 to 31 Jan 2019.

The report is issued annually, so students of the UK co-operative sector of the economy are welcome to read it by contacting the resource centre, or to read the report online:

[https://www.uk.coop/sites/default/files/uploads/attachments/co-op\\_economy\\_2019\\_0.pdf](https://www.uk.coop/sites/default/files/uploads/attachments/co-op_economy_2019_0.pdf)

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### Local authorities look to co-operation

Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) has formed a Co-operative Commission in an interesting experiment to push positive developments (in housing, environmental and other areas). Principle 5 has responded to the commission in collaboration with P5 member Vivienne Evans, and its results will be available later this year.

<https://www.gmconsult.org/strategy-team/coop-commission/>

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### Obituaries

The death has been announced of two leading campaigners for worker co-operatives in West Yorkshire. **Sean Moran and Dave Brooks both died in their early 50s, and both were members of Radical Routes** (a network of activist co-operatives across the UK, mostly housing co-ops). Cath Muller, activist and co-operator of Radical Routes, Cornerstone Housing Co-op and Footprint Workers Co-op remembers them.

Dave Brooks – died 14/6/2019. Among many other activities, Dave Brooks was absolutely committed to developing Hebden Bridge's co-operative identity. He was a founding member of Zion Housing Co-op, now Nutclough Housing Co-op, acquiring the Nutclough Tavern, Hebden Bridge in 2001. With his partner Em, he set up Weirdigans Cafe, then Mama Weirdigans (Hebden Hostel). They got involved in producing the Green Gathering and its Co-op Camp, creating space to promote radical co-ops. Dave's workers co-op, LED Fantastic provided the gathering with twinkly night-time illumination.



Sean Moran – died 21/3/2019. Sean was larger than life, endlessly curious and caring about people, managing to set people at their ease. His affinity with those excluded from society let him into drug and alcohol support work. His enthusiasm for Radical Routes and for making the setting up of co-ops accessible to all was infectious. He and his partner Cath usually turned up to help the day before gatherings, and welcomed early-comers warmly with an ever-brewing pot of tea. At Extinction Rebellion's Spring Uprising in April, he took a microphone for the first time, to tell people about radical co-operatives as solutions for housing, inequality and social transformation.

Cath Muller's full article is at: <https://www.thenews.coop/141613/sector/worker-coops/obituary-sean-moran-dave-brooks-leading-lights-radical-routes/>

## **Principle 5 joins Co-operative College**

In August 2019, the committee of Principle 5 agreed that the organisation should become a member of the Co-operative College. Clearly both co-ops share mutual aims and objectives. The College has operated for one hundred years, and is based at Holyoake House in central Manchester.

A major initiative in 2019 will be the formation of the UK's first Co-operative University. Principle 5 members will be participating in a launch event on 15<sup>th</sup> October.

Later this year, Centenary celebrations will be held in Rochdale. Details:

<https://www.co-op.ac.uk/pages/category/our-centenary-conference>

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## **Co-operatives in the Community A Sheffield Co-op Party event**

Aizlewood's Mill, Nursery Street, Sheffield S3 8GG  
Saturday the 28th of September, 10am to 4pm  
Attendance and lunch free

### **Programme for the day**

9.30am until 10am. Welcome and coffee

10am to 11.15am Les Huckfield from Edinburgh University. Presenting the Future of Community Wealth Building, followed by Q&A and table discussion.

11.15am to 11.30am Morning Coffee.

11.30 am to 12.30pm Blase Lambeth. Presenting Co-op Housing, with Q&A and table discussion.

12.30pm to 1.15pm Lunch. (Please let them know if you have any special dietary requirements.)

1.15pm to 2.15 pm Dr Gregory Roberts. Presenting The work of the Co-op BAME Group, with Q&A and table discussion .

2.30pm to 3pm. Afternoon Tea.

3pm to 4pm Plenary Session and Conclusion.

Please let them know if you would like to attend this special event, by replying to Rosemary Telfer, Secretary, Sheffield Co-op Party : [sheffieldcoopsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:sheffieldcoopsecretary@gmail.com)

## Principle 5 is a member of:



Co-operative Press



Wortley Hall

Co-operative College: <https://www.co-op.ac.uk/>

Co-operative Press: <https://www.thenews.coop/>

Co-operatives UK: <https://www.uk.coop/>

Sheffield Co-operative Development Group: <https://www.scdg.org/>

UK Society for Co-operative Studies: <https://ukscs.coop/>

Webarchitects Co-operative: <https://www.webarchitects.coop/>

Wortley Hall: <https://www.wortleyhall.org.uk/>

# The Principle 5 Team:

Jonathan Cook - Chair  
Rosemary Telfer - Librarian  
Steve Thompson - Membership Secretary  
Dennis Chambers - Sustainability  
Chris Olewicz - Publications  
Steve Wagstaff - Co-opMaps Development  
Yingjia Cao (Jade) - Information Systems

To book a visit to the Library, e.mail:  
[steve@sheffield.coop](mailto:steve@sheffield.coop)

Principle 5 Yorkshire Co-operative Resource Centre  
Aizlewood's Mill, Nursery Street, Sheffield, S3 8GG

Tel: 0114 282 3132

<https://www.principle5.coop/>

