

Principle FIVE

P5

Newsletter, December 2019

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Principle 5 AGM 2019

The AGM was held on Friday 29th November at 2:00pm, Union Street Union St. Co-working Space

The following directors were elected with unanimous support:

Jonathan Cook
Dennis Chambers
Chris Olewicz
Rosemary Telfer

A report to Principle 5 members was tabled at the meeting and is re-produced here in full:

Committee Report - Principle 5 AGM 2019

Principle 5 co-operative resource centre provides a facility for members to develop ideas about co-operation - how co-operatives evolved from individual organisations into a Movement with the potential to transform society for the better, and how co-operatives are changing the world. It's a place where anyone can develop a sound understanding about how to play a part in the transition towards social ownership and control through co-operative ventures.

The lending library is full of books which tell stories of the successes and failures of co-operatives, practical information for people involved in co-ops and research materials for social historians. The Collection includes back editions of Co-operative News which are being indexed. The Centre is a friendly and accessible place where anyone can learn more about the Co-operative Movement. The Centre is open for anyone to use and appointments can be made by contacting Steve Thompson [*steve@sheffield.coop*](mailto:steve@sheffield.coop)

Principle 5 is a member of:

Co-operative College

Co-operative Press (publishers of Co-operative News)

Co-operatives UK

Sheffield Co-operative Development Group

UK Society for Co-operative Studies

Webarchitects

Wortley Hall

Indexing Co-operative News

Yingjia Cao (Jade) is helping us to develop a searchable index of the back editions of Co-operative News. This will be an on-line resource on the Principle 5 website. The Principle 5 collection goes back to 1997. This is a huge task but it will be well worth it. Co-operative News is one of the most valuable resources for co-operative research because everything of interest to the Co-operative Movement has been reported on in a weekly newspaper (now a monthly magazine). The complete collection going back to 1871 is in the National Co-operative Archive in Holyoake House.

The Sheffield Co-operator

Chris Olewicz is putting together another edition of the Sheffield Co-operator. We will ensure that all Principle 5 members get a copy when it is ready.

Principle 5 Study Group

Anyone wishing to be a part of the study group please contact us. So far it is an e.mail group with study notes being circulated.

The Co-operative College

Principle 5 is now a member of the Co-operative College which is celebrating its centenary this year and is working to become a university.

The Principle 5 Library and Archive

A programme of library improvements is under way which will make for a much better experience for visitors and researchers. The glass and metal shelving is of a poor standard. This will be replaced by much more suitable book cases. The filing cabinet has now gone and this will make more space for bookshelves. The back editions of Co-operative News will be housed in proper storage boxes and will be accommodated on the bookshelves. There will be more space in the resource centre when the chairs which we use for meetings are replaced by good quality folding chairs. Rosemary Telfer, the Principle 5 librarian is organising these improvements and helping to bring the whole collection into better order. This work should not take long providing that funding is secured.

Sheffield Co-operative Showcase

In September, Principle 5 organised for the first time a two-day 'Co-operative Showcase' in Sheffield. It was a gathering of co-ops for networking, presenting their products and services, and meeting the public. The event was part of Heritage Open Days and took place in the Aizlewood's Mill conference room. Visitors were treated to a welcoming mini-bazaar of displays and stalls by various types of co-op, including food, education, publishing, print, phone, telecomms and co-op development.

Festival of Debate

Principle 5 took part in the Festival of Debate again this year with an event in the Millenium Gallery. A slot has already been booked for next year, more news soon.

The Principle 5 Team

Jonathan Cook – Chair

Rosemary Telfer – Librarian

Steve Thompson – Membership Secretary

Dennis Chambers – Sustainability

Chris Olewicz – Publications

Steve Wagstaff – Co-opMaps

Yingjia Cao (Jade) – Information Systems

There was discussion about activities for the coming year:

- Principle 5 Library improvements
- Study Group.

This has begun as an e.mail group starting with study notes to form a basis for co-operative study and exploration. It is hoped that this will develop into occasions where members can meet to question and develop ideas about co-operation. Anyone wishing to receive study notes by e.mail please contact Steve: steve.sheffield@coop

- Film Nights.
The first Principle 5 Film Night took place earlier in the year. A selection of co-operative films were shown from the National Co-operative Archive. Suggestions were made for future such events.
- Trip to Working Class Movement Library – Salford
- Festival of Debate, Co-operative Showcase

The first Principle 5 pamphlet “Sheffield and Socialism” by Edward Carpenter was tabled at the meeting. It was agreed to proceed to publication. The content of the pamphlet comes from the autobiography of Edward Carpenter “My Days and Dreams”(1916). It was re-published by Mushroom Bookshop (Nottingham) in 1993.

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In these difficult times when co-operatives can offer real prospects for poverty alleviation and equality, co-operative values based education will continue to play an important part in democratic practice. Co-operative education needs to be fit for purpose but it must be bold in offering a vision of a different type of world.

It is a century since [the Co-operative College](#) opened its doors, but its roots lie deep in the decision by the Rochdale Pioneers to pledge a percentage of Toad Lane’s profits to education.

[A hundred years of education: How the Co-operative College built for the future](#)

Dr Cilla Ross

The Centenary Commission on Adult Education



‘Adult education must not be regarded as a luxury for a few exceptional persons here and there... it is a permanent national necessity, an inseparable aspect of citizenship, and therefore should be both universal and lifelong.’

Today sees the release of a brand new report on adult education and lifelong learning that argues how it must once again be regarded as a national necessity, 100 years on from the original 1919 committee conclusions.

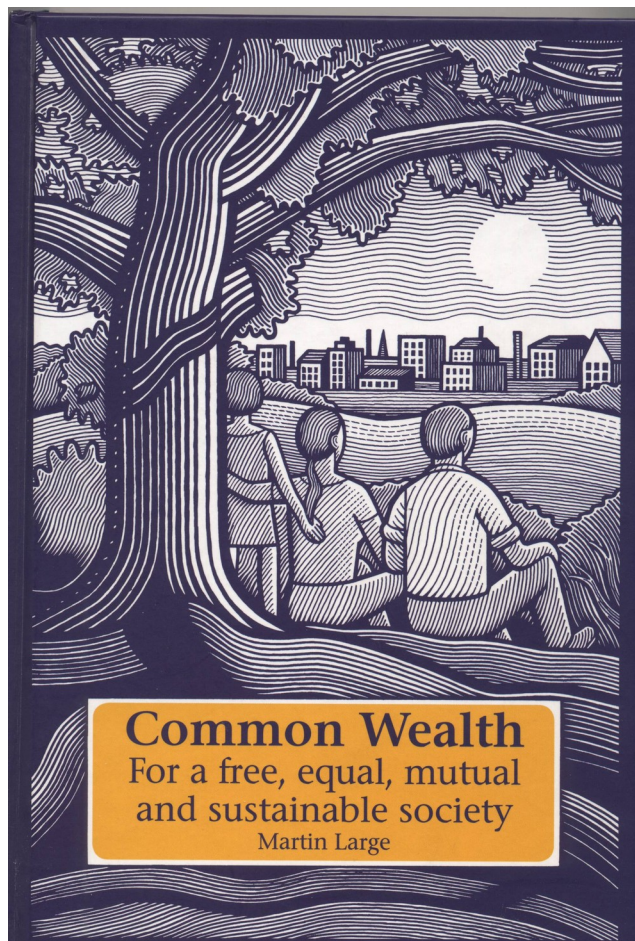
The findings highlight how adult education is an integral aspect of citizenship and vital to addressing the huge societal divisions that exist across the UK.

<https://www.co-op.ac.uk/news/adult-education-a-national-necessity>



co-operative
college

A new addition to the Principle 5 Library



Principle 5 Yorkshire Co-operative Resource Centre
Aizlewood's Mill,
Nursery Street,
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