

# Principle FIVE

# P5

Yorkshire Co-operative Resource Centre

June 2020



Dennis Chambers, a founding Director of Principle 5  
turned 90 on the 18<sup>th</sup> May.

Dennis is one of the four directors of Principle 5 and keeps our co-op in touch with developments around 'sustainability and mitigation'. He is working with local groups to find co-operative ways of building up community resilience in the face of the climate crisis. He inspires through example in his local area, making community gardens growing fruit and flowers, and has started a community allotment working with the local school.

Since the 'lockdown' he has been unable to make weekly visits to the resource centre to discuss sustainability and co-operatives, and to keep up to date with relevant books and publications.

During a lifetime of working as an engineer in Sheffield and latterly for Sheffield City Council at Richmond College he has been an active member of his trade union, the AEU/AUEW and NUPE.

Dennis has taken an interest in watercolour painting and has led an Agewell art group, and an Agewell walking group and he is still involved in the Tuesday Group for older people (this is no longer an Agewell group as it recently became independent). It was through the Tuesday Group in 2012 that I first met Dennis. He had been looking for someone to speak about the Co-operative Movement and contacted the Co-operative Group to ask if they knew anyone in Sheffield who could come and speak. They put me in touch with Dennis. I was pleased to be invited to the Group which was held at the Manor Library.

Steve Thompson



<https://sustainablefoodtrust.org/>

Health has been on people's minds and has raised questions about how we live, what we eat and how we can learn from the present situation of Coronavirus. Dennis recommends a series of podcasts by the Sustainable Food Trust, with Patrick Holden and notable people. Here are a couple of examples:

**George Monbiot** - What constitutes a sustainable diet?  
What is the role of livestock in sustainable farming?  
Is this the same as permaculture?

<https://sustainablefoodtrust.org/podcast/episode-one-george-monbiot/>

**Caroline Lucas** -This virus has exposed the fragility of our present food system. The questions of food security, the importance of local food systems and a green framework for the future and how we can ensure that people get access to sustainable food in times of crisis.

<https://sustainablefoodtrust.org/podcast/episode-three-caroline-lucas/>

There are 11 podcasts altogether

\*

**The Principle 5 Resource Centre is closed while the distancing restrictions are in place. But we have digital resources and are happy to help with enquiries electronically. The digital catalogue is not yet completed, but we will endeavour to provide resources by e.mail as requested. Contact: [steve@sheffield.coop](mailto:steve@sheffield.coop)**

\*

**The Co-op Economy is the nation's only comprehensive report on the UK's co-operative sector. It reveals turnover, membership and employee figures for thousands of co-op enterprises across the UK.**

**Download the Co-operative Economy Report 2020**

**[HERE](#)**

## Co-operating with new technology

Open source, free/libre software is a much more co-operative alternative to the corporate capitalist products like Microsoft Windows, Google etc. Principle 5 uses open source and as a result is not at the mercy of the market place with its built in obsolescence, repeated renewal payments and vulnerability to viruses.

Written by Principle 5 Chair, Jonathan Cook, I recommend this article to all co-operators.

You can read it [HERE](#)

\*

### **The Principle 5 co-operative Quiz**

**We hope that you enjoyed last month's quiz. The answers are at the end of this newsletter. Here is the second quiz -**

1. The Co-operative Party was incorporated as a single legal entity and ceased to be a department of Co-operatives UK in what year?
2. Name three worker co-operative food wholesalers.
3. What year was the Phone Co-op founded?
4. What was the relationship between the Co-operative Group and the Co-operative Bank before 2013 ?
5. What does ABCUL stand for?
6. What year did the Co-operative College return to Holyoake House?
7. How many co-operative retail societies were there in 1900?

8. How many co-operative retail societies are there now?
9. When did the Co-operative Heritage Trust separate from the Co-operative College?
10. What was the year that 31 Toad Lane, Rochdale came back into the Co-operative Movement and when was it re-opened as a museum of co-operation?

\*

### **Answers to last month's quiz**

1. Co-operation among co-operatives.  
<https://www.ica.coop/en/cooperatives/cooperative-identity>
2. 59<sup>th</sup> Annual Co-operative Congress, Cheltenham, 1927  
**Resolution “That this annual Congress of the Co-operative Union accepts the agreement reached between the National Committee of the Co-operative Party and the National Executive of the Labour Party. This Congress believes that the agreement provides the basis of an amicable understanding between the two movements and will ultimately assist in achieving the ideal of the Co-operative Commonwealth”.**
3. The Co-operative Advantage.  
<https://www.iansnaith.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/8/files/2013/02/coop-advantage.pdf>
4. The Co-operative Central Board. Established 1869
5. Hugh Gaitskell.  
<https://archive.org/details/CooperativeIndependentCommissionReport1958/mode/2up>
6. Any three of: Co-operative News, Morning Star, New Internationalist, Ethical Consumer, Positive News and West Highland Free Press  
<https://www.ethicalconsumer.org/>

<https://morningstaronline.co.uk/>

<https://www.thenews.coop/uk/>

<https://www.positive.news/>

<https://newint.org/>

7. 1993

8. 2015

9. 2002

10. John Monks

<https://www.iansnaith.com/wp-content/blogs.dir/8/files/2013/02/coop-advantage.pdf>

\*

Principle 5 Yorkshire Co-operative Resource Centre  
Aizlewood's Mill, Nursery Street, Sheffield, S3 8GG  
Tel: 0114 282 3132

[steve@sheffield.coop](mailto:steve@sheffield.coop)

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

