

Principle FIVE

P5

February 2021

Principle 5 Study Group

The study group is starting again with a discussion piece. We hope that you will read it, feedback would be welcomed. It can be read [HERE](#)

And for further reflection [HERE](#)

This will be the first in the 2021 study programme.

Anyone who would like to join the study group or the reading group please contact Steve
steve@sheffield.coop

Principle 5 Reading Group

Hope in Hell by Jonathon Porritt

[Introduction](#)

[notes for chapter one](#)

[notes for chapter two](#)

for a co-operative bookshop, try:

News from Nowhere

<https://www.newsfromnowhere.co.uk/page/detail/Hope-in-hell/?ISBN=9781471193279>

*

Reconstructing public housing

Liverpool's hidden history of collective alternatives

An Open Access edition of this book is available on the Liverpool University Press website and the OAPEN library.

<https://www.liverpooluniversitypress.co.uk/books/isbn/9781789627404/>

The Housing Question Reimagined - Matthew Thompson

“The housing question was framed by Engels as a debate torn between, on the one hand, a Marxist argument claiming “the solution lies in the abolition of the capitalist mode of production and the appropriation of all the means of life and labour by the working class itself” and, on the other, an anarchist perspective ascribed to Proudhon contending that small-scale co-operative initiatives in which new forms of social organisation are tested out through grassroots experimentation can reform capitalist-state structures from within.” *Stir Magazine Winter 2021*



This Co-op Fortnight (21st June - 4th July 2021) Co-operatives UK are calling for everyone to #JoinACoop.



There are many excellent Co-operatives, here are just a few.

Ethical Consumer At the heart of the ethical consumer movement, since 1989. An independent, not-for-profit, multi-stakeholder co-operative with open membership, based in Manchester.

Carbon Co-op an energy services and advocacy co-operative that helps people and communities to make the radical reductions in home carbon emissions necessary to avoid runaway climate change.

The Co-operative Party became a co-operative in 2005 after being a sub-section of Co-operatives UK (The Co-operative Union) since its foundation in 1917. Its purpose is to give political support to the Co-operative Movement with the vision of building a co-operative commonwealth.

Co-op Culture Localising the Economy through Sustainable Co-operative Enterprise. Co-op Culture is a co-operative consortium of co-operative and community advisors, entrepreneurs and enterprises.

News from Nowhere Not-for-profit radical & community bookshop - established in 1974. A workers' co-op - committed to social justice. Shop in Liverpool and also mail order service.

Acorn Co-op Support is a small workers co-op, that exists to support co-ops, businesses, community groups and campaigns which encourage co-operative working and practices. Co-operative land management, sustainable small scale businesses, appropriate renewable technologies, with specific focus on community ownership of those technologies.

[Catalyst Collective](#) is a worker's co-operative supporting other co-ops and collectives. We believe in helping people take control of their housing, work and lives through common ownership and collective decision making. We are a member of [Radical Routes](#), a network of co-operatives working towards social change.

[Radical Routes](#) is a network of radical co-ops whose members are committed to working for positive, radical social change. The network is made up mainly of housing co-ops of various sizes (none with more than 17 members), a few workers co-ops and a couple of social centres.

[Regather](#) is a trading co-operative that helps people to work together, support each other, trade their goods and services and make projects happen.

*

Co-operative News Celebrates 150 years of continuous publication.

1871 – 2021

Co-op News: informing and educating about co-operation

Gillian Lonergan writing in Co-operative News 3 October 2020

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

*

Wealth, Social Enterprise and the FairShares Model

Dr Rory Ridley-Duff is Professor of Co-operative Social Entrepreneurship at Sheffield Hallam University. He worked for 12 years as a director of the workers' co-operative Computercraft Ltd before building his academic career through a PhD study of co-operative social enterprise, and a series of publications on co-operative approaches to social enterprise development. He has taught co-operative social enterprise at Sheffield Hallam since 2003, and pursued a research programme that led to publication of the [FairShares Model](#) in 2013.

[FairShares](#)

Co-operative College's Online Youth Series

Since the start of Covid-19, Co-operative College has been providing an *Online Youth Series* for all young people aged 12-20 (open to young members, and becoming a young member is free). These offer a chance to hear and discuss, with speakers on topics like mental health, climate change and race/racism. The sessions run monthly via Zoom and can be accessed via smartphone, tablet or laptop.

<https://www.co-op.ac.uk/young-people-projects-sessions>

Online Short Courses

The Co-operative College is offering a growing range of online short courses, being created under the supervision of experienced co-operative educators Dr Cilla Ross and Dr Malcolm Noble. Three are online at this stage, including *Co-operative Values and Principles*. This is an excellent place to start, useful to newcomers or anyone who wants to brush up on their knowledge. Two more cover internationalism: *Co-operatives Worldwide*, and *Co-operatives and the SDGs* (the Sustainable Development Goals set out by the United Nations in 2015). Further courses to come over the next few months will include *Coaching Skills*, *Chairing Skills*, *International Development*, and *Developing Leadership*. In addition, suggestions are welcome for new topics to be covered.

At £42 each, including VAT, the courses may sound expensive, but each stand-alone course will give great insight into the co-operative movement. No certification is offered at this stage, but completing the courses would help anyone's CV, or entry into work or further study. The collection of courses will build into the basis for an education in co-operation.

There's a members' discount, and Principle 5 is a member of the Co-operative College so if you're one of our members considering this, ask about discounted rates.

<https://www.co-op.ac.uk/online-short-courses>

Video online: Climate education for your co-operative

A useful and educational video is available online, *Co-operatives for Climate Action*. Led by Ruth Hayward, an environmental educator, researcher and organiser, it's a webinar exploring reasons why co-operatives should engage in climate education. It was made for last year's International Day of Co-operatives, and lasts 36 minutes. Ruth Hayward explains in detail some of the science and ideas linking the environment and co-operatives. It's recommended viewing, and will be most useful to people running co-operatives.

<https://www.co-op.ac.uk/Event/co-operatives-for-climate-action-how-climate-education-can-help-your-co-operative>

Recast Zine

Recast, a mini-magazine for radical co-operative educators in words, poems, multimedia and images was started last year, intended to run for three editions. Two dozen articles fill the first edition, all personal reflections under the theme of *Lockdown*. They are a complete mixture, impossible to sum up in a sentence, and even including a poem about Zoom! The next edition will have the theme of *Co-operative Learning*. Meanwhile, edition one is available in print or (as a free 40 page PDF download) here:

<https://www.unpress.co.uk/p/recast-1.html>

Co-operative Training Opportunities with Principle 5

Principle 5 is currently offering two opportunities to engage with learning, along with other members. One is a [Study Group](#) which invites members to examine the path taken by the Co-operative Movement towards creating a Co-operative Commonwealth, its successes and failures. What is the role of modern co-operatives – will they play a part in building a cohesive co-operative commonwealth? Members are welcome to join in the discussion on this. Secondly, the forthcoming Reading Group (on [Jonathon Porritt's *Hope in Hell: A decade to confront the climate emergency*](#) begins shortly.

Finally, a reminder to anyone thinking of setting up a co-operative, and looking for tailored advice: *Sheffield Co-operative Development Group* (SCDG) is available to offer, by arrangement, helpful services towards the development of co-operatives and similar enterprises. It's based in Aizlewood's Mill (as is Principle 5) and has years of experience and expertise.

<https://www.scdg.org>

*

Co-operative News online index

Work on the index continues.

All of the Co-operative News editions which we hold in the Resource Centre between 18th March 1997 and December 2005 are live on the index.

To search the index go to: <https://www.coopnews.principle5.coop/>

Any article can be scanned and sent to you by email – contact: steve@sheffield.coop

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

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

