

Principle FIVE

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Yorkshire Co-operative Resource Centre

May 2025



International Year of Cooperatives

Cooperatives Build a Better World

Happy May Day

Co-operators are meeting up in Sheffield regularly. The Last meet-up was at the Gardeners Rest. The May Day meet-up will be on the 1st May, details [HERE](#)

The June Meet-up will be on the 12th June, details [HERE](#)

On the 22nd April, co-operators gathered at the Lord Mayor's Parlour to celebrate the International Year of Co-operatives. This event was organised by Cllr Minesh Parekh and hosted by the Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Jayne Dunn.



Sheffield co-operators in the Lord Mayor's Parlour

A Sheffield co-operative has celebrated its 15th birthday by purchasing the building they have been based in since opening.

Regather is a community benefit society working to improve food and build community in Sheffield. Running an organic farm, veg box scheme, and many other community projects. The organisation, centres its work around care for our environment and the people in our community. The objects are to foster community development and understanding around the importance of the local food system in Sheffield and how it works, in order to enable everyone to work together to democratically change their food system for the better.

After an anxious time when the future of the Regather building's future was uncertain, in December 2024, Deputy Prime Minister Angela Raynor announced that 85 "local treasures" would be saved and restored, Regather was one of them and this enabled the purchase of their building. Completion day coincided with the 15th anniversary of the founding of Regather.

Regather was founded in 2010, growing fruit and vegetables from a farm in the Moss Valley and running a vegetable box scheme and other community projects from their base in Sharrow.

Last year, when their landlord decided to sell the Regather Works building on Club Garden Road they managed to secure a £250k government grant to purchase it.

Gareth Roberts, co-founder and director, said: "I wept with joy when we heard, 15 years of work is vindication, somebody somewhere thinks what you're doing is worthwhile."



To find out more about Regather see: <https://regather.net/>

It is not often that I write about the current political situation, but it seems right to share with you how I see things.

Political Considerations

In 1933 the people of Germany voted for Hitler in a democratic election. Hitler gained the support of people because he said that he would deal with the Jews, and other non German people. He was plausible because he said that Germany should be for German people and life would be much better.

It was the non German people who were making life difficult. This message had wide spread appeal. But the only way to eliminate a whole class of people was to round them up and put them in the gas chambers, or corral then in concentration camps. None of this was without horrific consequences. German people were trained to obey orders and not to think for themselves. It took years after the war for German people to be re-humanised.

It might be argued that here in Britain the situation is very similar. Non British people are seen by millions of working class people and many people who live in deprived areas as the problem. And the answer is to vote for the 'Reform Party'. Reform and the Conservatives could be in Government at the next election, supported by the USA and Russia.

There is a problem. The people in the Southern hemisphere of the globe are facing the consequences of climate change and starvation through the unsustainable lifestyles of the Northern hemisphere, war, and government and economic policies. As habitable land is reduced and people are forced into poverty, more and more people will seek refuge in European countries. The response to this could be fascism in Europe again, voted for in a democratic election just as in Germany in 1933.

Steve Thompson
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Members are always welcome to visit the
resource centre. We look forward to seeing you.

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