

# Chinley Coop newsletter and update

August 2022



Dear Members, shareholders and supporters

Thank you for supporting Chinley Coop and here is an update after 20 weeks of trading. Please share this newsletter to help us reach a wider audience.

## Our finances

So far our average takings are around £1000 per week which meets the target we set in order to break even in our 3<sup>rd</sup> year of trading. We have 110 shareholders owning community shares to the value of £7730.

## Our values

We would like Chinley Coop to be a friendly place where it's easy for locals to shop with minimal waste and our suppliers have been carefully selected to be trustworthy, sustainable and ethical.

Our not for profit Co-operative shop (Co-op) is set up and run by local members for our surrounding communities to help us live sustainably and ethically at a fair price. We use the words "fair price" to convey the idea that we make no profit, we only mark up our products as much as we need to pay our rent and bills. Many of our products are cheaper compared to the equivalent quality of product elsewhere (as a consequence of bulk buying and our low markup). Nonetheless there is a cost to protecting the environment and treating workers well but you can be certain that Chinley Coop is not adding to that cost. Many of the products making up a healthy diet – grains, cereals, rice, beans, pulses - are inexpensive compared with meat and dairy or processed foods so increasing consumption of these types of food can substantially reduce your food bill.

Using ethical and eco-friendly products benefits the poorest people in our world and protects our shared environment. People living in countries with low income economies are most affected by global warming and environmental degradation. Through the products we sell we hope to help reduce child labour, worker exploitation and slave labour, packaging and single plastic use, our carbon footprint and fossil fuel usage, contamination of water supplies, deforestation and improve air quality locally and globally.

## Our suppliers

Our main supplier is [SUMA](#). SUMA is wholefood collective and worker's cooperative established in 1977 and now based in Elland, West Yorkshire. They deliver over 7000 vegetarian, natural, responsibly sourced products to businesses and communities across the UK.

We also use other suppliers listed below. Eight of our suppliers are local (Buxworth, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Chinley) and four are local but slightly further afield (Bollington, Buxton, Chesterfield, Ilkeston).

[Bird and Wild coffee](#) – organic, shade-grown coffee helps to preserve native tree coverage offering suitable migratory bird habitat. All coffee is certified as Bird Friendly and Shade-Grown by the

Smithsonian Migratory Bird Centre and contributes to support their research and conservation programs plus 6% of sales is donated to the RSPB.

[Brambles of the High Peak](#) – home-made jams and chutneys from Chapel-en-le-frith

Buggy Honey – locally-produced honey (from Brierley Green 0.7 miles from Chinley Coop)

[Cakes from Home](#) – fresh-baked in Chinley to order

Crafty Annie – waxed food wraps made in Chinley

[Day Zero](#) organic fruit and veg boxes – supplied by Day Zero, a zero waste shop in Buxton.

Designed for the Planet – shampoo, conditioner and washing up bars hand-produced in Chinley

[Happy Valley honey](#) - located in Bollington with over a 100 colonies of worker bees pollinating British crops and harvesting nectar from the surrounding towns and villages. The honey is sustainably sourced, direct from the bees and is cold extracted then coarsely filtered. It is never blended or pasteurised.

[Jill Kerr](#) linocuts – handmade unpackaged cards and tea towels based on Chinley artist Jill Kerr's linocut prints

[Lola & Co](#) - grain free, hypoallergenic, protein-packed natural dog treats

[More than soap](#) – soaps, shampoo and deodorants hand-made in Smalley, Derbyshire. Owner Jan's aim is to help people live a single-use plastic free life.

[Northern tea merchants](#) – tea blenders, tea bag manufacturers, coffee roasters and specialist contract packers of teas, coffees, cocoa, super foods and chocolate located in Chesterfield. Northern tea are licensed Fairtrade importers and pack both non-organic and organic products.

[Real food Source](#) – a family business supplying organic or, if not organic, the best conventional equivalent wholefoods.

Wayside Eggs - laid by free-range Cream Legbar hens in the Wash, Chinley.

[Who Gives a Crap](#) - make eco-friendly toilet paper, tissues and paper towels without using any trees and donate 50% of profits to charity partners so they can build toilets and improve sanitation in developing countries.

[Wilton Wholefoods](#) - a family run wholefood suppliers near Salisbury. They specialise in sourcing, mixing, blending, and packing using minimal packaging, natural foods from all over the world.

### **Our volunteers**

Every week our volunteers have donated a total of 50 hours in the shop. We have 38 volunteers who have worked at last 2 shifts. With this number of volunteers we need each person to work one 3 hour shift each 2 weeks. This is not possible for some people and others are working many more shifts with some of us doing 2 or more shifts per week. We welcome any volunteering that people can offer and there is no obligation to commit to a regular time or number of shifts. We are always happy to add to our volunteers and please do get touch if you or anyone you know might be interested in joining us as a volunteer.

We also have a few high school students helping us out. Most of our young volunteers are undertaking the Duke of Edinburgh award at Chapel High School.

As well as working in the shop Violet Barrow has run two successful needle felting workshops and donated her work for sale and raffles. Altogether Violet has raised over £750 for the coop which is a huge help. That's 6 weeks of rent for us. Thank you Violet.

Oliver Theaker spent many hours undertaking a complete stock take. The results were reassuring and we hold the value of stock that we would expect to. We cannot afford any sort of electronic stock control system and these manual stock takes are very time consuming so Oliver's work is very much appreciated. We currently stock over 550 products and the value of our stock is around £8000. Sadly for us Oliver will be moving away from Chinley next month and we will miss his contribution to the coop. Thank you Oliver and good luck in your new job and home.

We are very sorry to lose two of our management committee members – Stella and Lawrence Moran who are moving to Youlgreave. They have been extremely committed members of our committee and put in many hours to prepare the shop for opening and arrange the lease. We will miss them, and their contributions to the shop, very much and hope they will return sometime. Thank you Stella and Lawrence.

### **Recent highlights**

We have been awarded a 5\* food hygiene rating by DCC.

Our new scales funded by a grant from DCC are up and running. These have made the job of our volunteers much easier.

### **Finally can anybody give us advice on flooring?**

We are looking for replacement flooring for the shop. We would like this to be as eco-friendly as possible. If you have any expertise in flooring we would be most appreciative of advice or recommendations. Send us an email at [admin@chinleycoop.org.uk](mailto:admin@chinleycoop.org.uk) or call in at the shop to see us.





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