150 THE LENTON SESQUICENTENNIAL

Celebrating 150 Years of Co-operation in Nottingham

The 30th May 1863 saw the opening of the first co-operative society in Nottingham set up on the principles of the Rochdale Pioneers.

We will be celebrating the past, present and future of co-operatives and their members' work, ideas and ideals with a series of events in June and July 2013.



These include a film screening, a historical walk and the publication of an exciting new book, adding new and fascinating facets to the rich and turbulent history of the people of Nottingham.

Events arranged for Co-operatives Fortnight

Exhibitions (free):

Nottingham shire Archives, Castle Meadow Road, Nottingham Local Studies Library, Angel Row.

Book Launch (free):

A City of Light: Socialism, Chartism and Co-operation – Nottingham 1844 (with People's Histreh, Nottingham Radical History Group).

Saturday 22nd June, 2-4pm at the Sparrows Nest, St. Anns. Limited spaces only, please book online at acityoflight@phonecoop.coop

Historic Walk (free):

Secular Origins of Co-operation (with Nottingham Secular Society and Nottingham Women's History Group). Estimated duration 2 hours.

Sunday 23rd June, meet at 2pm outside Boots, Upper Parliament Street.

Book Signing:

A City of Light... at the Ex-Libris stall.

Saturday 29th June, Lowdham Book Festival, Lowdham Village.

Book and Together information stall:

At the Co-operative store re-opening, Lowdham. Thursday 4th July. See in store for details.

Film and Discussion:

European Confederation of Worker Co-operatives' film *Together*, plus talk and discussions with Andy Woodcock, co-operative business adviser.

Saturday 6th July, 11am-1pm at Broadway Cinema, Broad Street. Followed by Atmosphere Glee Choir on the Broadway terrace 1-2pm. Tickets £3 from Broadway Box Office.

Author Talk (free):

A City of Light... with Christopher Richardson. Saturday 13th July, 2-3.3opm, Local Studies Library, Angel Row.

All events wheelchair accessible.

acityoflight.wordpress.com acityoflight@phonecoop.coop



The **co-operative** membership

A City of Light

Socialism, Chartism and Co-operation – Nottingham 1844

A book by Christopher Richardson

In the dark days of the 1840s working class pioneers sought new lives and futures, a new society of their own choosing – 'a city of light upon a hill'. They were not alone.

Courageous women and men, chartists, socialists, co-operators, challenged the inhumanities of the Poor Law; contested charges of sedition, blasphemy and riot; confronted the forces of established religion; and championed new forms of democratic control. Their struggles, many of them previously untold, became beacons of hope, and their deeds resonate across the generations to this day.



£ 7.99*

Published May 2013

*Paperback (244 pages)

ISBN 978-0-9569139-4-4 Also available as eBook.

Book Launch

Sat 22nd June, 2-4pm, the

Sparrows Nest.

Book Signing

Sat 29th June, Lowdham

Book Festival.

Author Talk

Sat 13th July, 2-3.30pm, Local

Studies Library.

Secular Origins of Co-operation

Historic Walk around Nottingham centre

With Nottingham Women's History Group and Nottingham Secular Society

The Co-op in Lenton in 1863 came from nonconformism and temperance, both of which were important influences on Co-operation, but the Co-operative Movement traces its history from the socialism and secularism of Robert Owen several decades earlier.

This walk will visit sites of some notable events and shine some light on the lives and actions of inspiring people.

Many of these stories, especially regarding women like Emma Martin and Susannah Wright, have been hidden from our history for nearly two centuries.

Sunday 23rd June. Meet at 2pm outside Boots on Upper Parliament Street.

Concludes at Boots, Broadmarsh.

Estimated duration 2 hours.

Free Event.

For route and stopping points, see map and guide in the programme available in June, and online (acityoflight.wordpress.com).

Together

How Co-operatives Show Resilience to the Crisis

A film by CECOP-CICOPA Europe

This documentary takes four examples of workers' co-ops in Europe: a mineral water plant in Poland; a bankrupt company in France taken

over by its workers; a consortium of co-ops providing personal and social care in Italy; and Mondragon, the group



of co-operatives in the Basque country.

Introducing the film and facilitating discussion after the film will be Andy Woodcock, a cooperative business adviser, who has provided professional support to several local workers' coops.

This event is sponsored by the Co-operative Party to mark International Co-operative Day.

Saturday 6th July, 11am-1pm.



Tickets £3 from Broadway Box Office

After the film and discussion, there will be a performance on the Broadway terrace by the Atmosphere Glee Choir, a mixed ability choir from Beeston which is in the process of becoming a co-operative.



NLHA celebrates its 6oth anniversary this year with more than 8o Nottinghamshire history societies on its register. The Association publishes *Nottinghamshire Historian* twice a year, publishes a diary of local societies' events – more than thirty in July and August alone – and will be holding a Local History Day School in the autumn.

http://www.nlha.org.uk

Nottingham Secular Society

Nottingham Secular Society

This society has regular meetings in Nottingham with guest speakers. On 28th October, Terry Sanderson,

President of the National Secular Society will debate with David Hilborn, Principal of University of Nottingham's Theological College on "This House Believes that all Religions Should Embrace Secularism."

http://www.nottinghamsecularsociety.org.uk

Nottingham Women's History Group

The group's next event is their popular women's history walk, starting Thursday 18th July at 7 pm, entitled *Poverty, Prosperity and Politics: A summer walk through the city.* Meet at Nottingham Castle Gatehouse. Charge: £2 donation.

http://www.nottinghamwomenshistory.org.uk



The Histreh group are a bunch of people with different political backgrounds, interested in what has been called 'history from below', 'grassroots history' or 'social history'. As Nottingham has such a long and turbulent history of socioeconomic transformation, disturbance and conflict, there is a lot to be unearthed.

Available from their publishing entity Loaf On A Stick Press are also works on Nottingham's 'Great Cheese Riot' of 1766 and the torching of Nottingham Castle during the 'Reform Riots' in 1831.

http://www.peopleshistreh.wordpress.com