Some of the people we helped



October Books, Southampton

In the bank

October is a radical bookshop in Southampton, founded in 1977. Last year, this co-operative, owned by both its workers and customers, bought and converted a former bank branch building.

The money to make the move was put together with the help of Co-operative and Community Finance. We provided a loan to supplement a wider community fundraising. The total raised was more than £480,000.

October was named after the month of the Russian revolution in 1917. A hundred years later, this co-operative was able to buy its own building.



Talk to us if you want to:

- Set up a new co-op or community business
- Grow an existing one
- Hand over ownership to your employees
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CO-OPERATIVE & COMMUNITY FINANCE

supportive lending since 1973

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- We don't ask for personal guarantees
- Ongoing support during the loan term
- All our borrowers become members



The Old Ship Inn, Cornwall

Out of the ashes

Derelict for many years then burned down in 2013, The Old Ship Inn in Cawsand is being resurrected by a co-op of local people – with the help of Co-operative and Community Finance.

This ancient building will be completely rebuilt, to include a bar and café.

Along the way, the project will provide employment and training opportunities for young people.

Peninsula Trust is a community co-op with more than 600 members – and more joining every week.

Blooming marvellous

o-operative and Community Finance supported this not-for-profit project, which includes a landscaping and floristry service. It provides work opportunities for adults with learning disabilities and mental health needs.

Our funds will help finance the purchase and conversion of Lodge House, next to the Garden Centre, into a place for light meals and refreshments.

The Garden Centre's day care service offers up to 125 full placement days for people with a disability, every week.

Bishopwearmouth Garden Centre

