

Worker Co-op Weekend 2024

Programme

There are open spaces for adding workshops/discussions/meetings/activities. Find the programme board in Base Camp to claim a slot and add a session.

Friday 17th May *Arrival & set up 16.00 onwards*

Room	Base Camp*	Farmhouse*
16.30-17.30	Welcome area workers.coop Inductions	workers.coop building the fed Q&A
18.00-19.00	Dinner & Socialising	
19.00-20.30	'Givers gain' Business Networking Icebreaker (Principle 6)	

**Base camp - main room*

**Farmhouse - second room (attached to dorms)*

Saturday 18th May

Room	Base Camp*	Farmhouse
8.45-9.30	**Yoga/stretches	
9.00-10.00	Breakfast	
9.30-10.00	Informal intro + Session pitching	
10.00-11.00	How to get to 1,000 co-ops in 2 years (John Atherton)	Open Space
11.00-12.00	Accounting and tax workshop (Abbas Shapuri, Third Sector Accountancy)	Propaganda! (workers.coop Comms' group, Sion Whellens, Calverts)
12.00-13.00	Lunch	
13.00-14.00	History of the co-op movement (John Atherton)	How should we approach International solidarity? (Colm Massey, Rory Robertson- Shaw, SEA)
14.00-15.00	Hope Beyond Borders: international cooperation (Joe Friel, Yalla Co-op & workers.coop Intl group)	Open Space
15.00-16.00	Break	
16.00-17.00	Crash course cycling the peaks (all levels) 16.00-17.30 (Birmingham Bike Foundry)	workers.coop Inductions And Open Space
17.00-18.00	Bike Industry meetup 17.30-18.00	Industry meetups Or free time
18.30-21.00	Dinner (19.00-20.30) Bonfire & socialising, music	

***Saturday - art space**

Loose plan for art space & badge making in corner of base camp/free space

****Yoga/stretches**

Yuliy (Rad co-op) will informally lead some exercises. Outside weather permitting.

Sunday 19th May

Room	Base Camp	Farmhouse
9.00-10.00	Morning group walk around site*	
9.30-10.30	Breakfast	
10.00-11.00	Open Space	Somatic Skills for Co-operators (Jane Charlesworth)
11.00-12.00	Meal Deal Test Play Game (Caleb, Principle 6 on behalf of Fractals co-op)	Regional meetups or Co-tech meetup
12.00-13.00	Lunch	
13.00-15.00	Tidy-up time	

**Look for Cath and Warren who will be leading the walk*

Further session information

workers.coop building the fed Q&A

No doubt many people will be curious about the development of the federation since the inception at the last WC. To avoid having repeat conversations, this is a chance for the paid workers & working group members to give an overview of how things are going, where we are at, challenges, plans. And a place for people to bring their questions. Learn more about the fed.

workers.coop Inductions

New member welcome drop-in. Understand the fed, working group sign-up, where do I start?

Getting to 1,000 worker co-ops in 2 years

There are around 500 worker co-ops in the UK. Getting to 1,000 in two years would mean creating 5 a week. This session will imagine we did it. The question is, how did we do it?

Accounting and tax workshop for worker co-ops

This session will be a dive into accounting and/or VAT specifically aimed at worker co-ops. A skill that we all need to master when we do our returns or look at our balance sheets. More details coming soon, or let us know what you would like this training to include. Led by Third Sector Accountancy.

Propaganda

Who should workers.coop be communicating with - and what should be our key messages and claims about worker cooperation be? Join this participatory workshop with the Comms working group to explore messaging, framing and audiences as well as a look at our merch and materials.

How should we approach international solidarity?

Solidarity Economy Association will talk informally about some of its challenges with its international solidarity work, with a focus on its work with co-ops in NE Syria. But we are looking for a broader conversation about how as a new federation we should approach international solidarity.

History of the co-op movement

From the Fenwick weavers society through to the foundation of workers.coop. This session will take you through the key milestones of the co-op movement and the lessons we can learn from the past.

Hope Beyond Borders: international cooperation

The workers.coop international working group will introduce the session and tell us why it is relevant for UK cooperators interested in mutual aid. This is an opportunity to learn about Yalla co-op, the work they do and context from Gaza as they talk about their [Hope beyond Borders fundraising campaign](#). Yalla is a worker co-op with workers in the UK and in Palestine.

Crash course cycling the peaks (1.5 hours)

Join Birmingham Bike Foundry for a compressed version of their adventure cycling course which they give in their workshop and helps prepare people for anything from short cycles to round the world trips. You will learn about route planning, emergency repairs, useful gear and tips.

No tools or bikes required! Beginners to advanced, everyone welcome.

Content: route planning, cooking systems, emergency repairs, tool kits, wild camping tips.

Somatic skills for cooperators

Somatics refers to a variety of body-based practices people can use to use sensory data to make decisions and commitments, understand stress responses without catastrophising or judging, stay present under pressure and respond to uncertainty/conflict. In practice, this involves some gentle and accessible movement practices and discussion of what comes up.

Somatic practice is one way we can build the relational skills we need as cooperators that we don't often get the chance to learn in more mainstream education or workplaces.

Participants would leave with some practices they can use in their day-to-day life.

Meal Deal Play Test Game

Meal Deal is a card game about working as a courier in the gig economy. Experience the highs and lows of being at the whims of the Algorithm. It's a game where you push your luck to try to earn enough ££ to survive, but if you're unlucky you'll go home with nothing. Created by Oliver (fractals co-op) & Ben Kirman (University of York) and co-designed with Caleb.