

HINCHLIFFE MILL CO-OP RESUME

Documents located in Huddersfield library West Yorkshire Archives section have been used

The society started in 1870 but no records exist from this time. An 1895 book with details of many co-ops and their history lends a few facts. Minute books from the Society dating from 1898 are archived and give lots of detail until 1927. After this date the minutes are increasingly less detailed. The Society merged with the CWS in 1965 and no more information is available. The actual locations of the various shops which increased throughout the early twentieth century are not specified in the minute books. This makes it difficult for the modern day researcher to pinpoint actual shops in use today. Photographs of Holmfirth in particular in the early twentieth century are also available and it requires more research to affix a shop by name to a shop in a photograph.

Notes from the 1895 book (Co-operative Distributive Societies) which has two pages of information on the society. The dates are copied in the order in which they appear on pages 88-89.

Text written in italics is additional information added to enhance the context. Sources include items from the Holmfirth Express, trade directories and census documents

The society began in 1870 with a loan of £125 from members.
It was successful from the outset with Dividends in 1872 ranging from 4d to 1s in the pound.
In 1874 the Society purchased shares in the Sowerby Bridge Flour Company.
In 1883 the property in which the Society carried on its business, together with the adjoining property came on the market and was bought by the Society for £1000. This money was easily raised from the members
In 1880 it subscribed two guineas to the Huddersfield Royal Infirmary and subscriptions have continued ever since.
In 1881 a branch was opened in Underbank.
In 1883 the Underbank property was purchased.
In 1883 (same year) The Society became a member of the Wholesale and the Co-operative Union.
In 1887 it trialled a butchering department but abandoned this in 1889.
In 1894 It had 630 members and its property was worth £1079 with fixed stock valued at £270
In 1895 the business was said to be a strong local society.

Notes from the minute books 1898 onwards. Now called the Hinchliffe Mill Co-operative Society Ltd.

NB: these are selected items only.

Ref: KC63/18/1-3

In 1898 the President is Benjamin Lockwood, the treasurer, Fred Cartwright and the auditor, W.J. McClintock. Later in the year Ben Butlin became a scrutineer along with W. Simmonds.
A new set of fixtures was to be put into the house occupied by James Mettrick and the fixtures removed from Underbank be put into the house occupied by Wright Hirst.
Pigs were bought.
Lime was put on fields.
Dividend was 2/9d in the pound on drapery and grocery and 11d in the pound on corn and coal.
Sick pay was paid to Fred Shore
Benjamin Lockwood was appointed delegate to the Holmfirth Boot Society.
Bacon was salted
The Society was trying to sell a big spring cart and a heavy coal cart.
The plate glass window at Underbank branch was insured.

Other premises were Hinchliffe Mill, stable, central shop and central branch
Three guineas was given to Huddersfield Infirmary.

In 1899 A cottage in Old Road was used for bacon salting
The Society owned a house at Damside Farm and the tenant paid rent.

In 1900 Holmfirth UDC wanted to know if the Society would have electric light (if the price did not exceed the present price of gas).

It had a horse called Daisy.

In May the Society complained that five named men had hens 'in our property' and wanted them out.

There is a letter from Mrs Wood about the letting of a shop in Victoria Square and the Society took two shops at the bottom of Victoria Street for use as a drapery shop.

It had to pay one pound each year to Joseph Greenwood and Sons for a right of way up Digley private road for its carters.

It offered Mrs Charlesworth a maximum of £1000 for the Liberal Club at the top of Victoria Street. It had a tea meeting and charged one shilling per head. Five hundred tickets were printed and there were speakers and a choir.

In 1901 the shops closed between 11am and 4pm for the Queen Victoria's funeral

Shops closed at Easter, Feast, Whit and Christmas, often for two days.

The Society took over Odessa House and Wood's carpet shop as tenant.

Percy Taylor was errand boy for the new shop in Holmfirth.

The butcher's shop was let to George Henry Moorhouse.

A new clothing club with up to 500 members was opened.

Kelly's Trade Directory lists the manager of the Underbank branch as William M. Brierley.

It also specifies that this is No.1 branch.

The same directory lists David Oliver as the manager of Holmfirth and District Boot and Shoe Ltd.

In 1902 Central, No.1 and No.2 branches were mentioned (including grocery and drapery).

A former barber's shop at Underbank was to be prepared for use as a salting room.

The President was Wm Simmonds.

A request was made to Mrs Wood about the draper's shop on Victoria Street; that the door, which at that time was situated in the centre of the shop, be moved to the side nearest the Lancs and Yorks Bank, thus making only one large window consisting of only one sheet of glass.

The Boot Shop committee was urged to remove from the present site to a more suitable shop as soon as possible.

In 1903 James Lockwood was President.

The slaughterhouse was let to J.R. Woodhead for two shillings per week.

In 1904 Mr Archard was to be the optician to the Society and to use the drapery showroom and give the Society four shillings in the pound commission on all transactions.

The Underbank shop had a corn chamber.

In 1905 the butcher's shop and slaughterhouse were let to Fred Hinchliffe.

The Society bought a currant cleaning machine.

Nine pence was charged for each pig killed in the Society's slaughterhouse.

Members were allowed to use the telephone and were charged one penny for local calls and three pence extra for trunk calls.

In 1907 the Society owned a field known as Long Tongue and rented it to John Bailey.

Mr Hargreaves' offer of the two shops in Victoria Street for £1400 was accepted conditionally and then bought.

In 1908 (researcher had difficulty here with identifying the shops) the shops (at the top of Victoria Street) were owned by Mrs Wood and she was given 12 months notice to quit (she wanted more time).

The society did not want to take over the millinery and drapery stock of Mr Lister Sykes in Victoria Street.

Mr Sykes was given 12 months to quit the Victoria Street premises.

(it seems) the shop on Victoria Street was let to another party and the society wanted to meet with John Sykes to make terms. They then offered him £20 to clear out this shop and if he did not would legal proceedings would be taken

A coffee mill was bought from Avery's for No.1 branch.

In 1908 there were 12 slaughterhouses in Holmfirth

As with many years, the Holmfirth Express newspaper had a round up of all the shops in the two issues printed before Christmas.

This has not been that helpful in identifying where shops were located. It used a system of grouping shop specialisms together instead of effectively taking a walk along a street and describing the merchandise sold.

The Co-operative Boot & Shoe Society was listed with staff named as John Moorhouse and J. Cartwright, but no definite location.

The drapery section of the Hinchliffe Mill Co-op was situated on Victoria Square and it had a new manager. But sadly it does not give his name.

On Victoria Street there was a shop called Oldfield's Dividend Stores selling clothing. Its manager was Mr. Green.

The newspaper gave precedence to shops which had paid for advertisements throughout the year, but it seems the Hinchliffe Mill Co-ops never availed themselves of this opportunity.

In 1909 alterations were being made to shops in Victoria Street – fire proofing, shop floor raising in front of the windows to give light to the cellars, a door nine feet wide to be cut in the back portion of the building for loading and unloading goods and concrete to be put in the cellars of shops in Victoria Street. These items required permission from Holmfirth UDC.

Children were playing on the roof of the Underbank store so the Society wanted to cover it with cement and glass to prevent this.

Drapery stock was moved into the newly decorated new shop.

Letter boxes were affixed in each shop in Victoria Street.

In 1910 two wagons and four horses were sent to assist the Wesleyan Centenary celebration on July 16th. one wagon to Underbank and the other to Hinchliffe Mill.

The Society asked the police to warn children against playing on the flags of the Central Stores.

Joe Hadfield was now President.

The Holmfirth shops stayed open until 10pm on Christmas Eve.

There was a large mirror in the drapery shop

In 1911 the committee recommended against starting a greengrocery business at present.

The drapery shop was open from 8.30am to 7.30pm on Monday and Wednesday, from 8.30am to 8pm on Friday and from 8.30am to 9pm on Saturday.

The Society donated to the Unity Fire Brigade.

In 1912 coal was only supplied to members and old customers because of the miner's strike.

The Society recommended that the cottages on Water Street be repaired.

A chair was to be installed behind the counter of the drapery store for the lady assistant.

The Labour Exchange was granted permission to fix a notice board at Central Stores.
A children's day was held in July on a field owned by Mr Battye at Bottoms. Holme Band played.
The President was John Eli Marsden.
Building work was affecting the Society's shop on Victoria Street. It was named as the Hippodrome and there was an issue about the right to light.

In 1913 Mr Brittlebank the dentist was allowed to attend at the drapery shop on Wednesdays.
The Society had built new houses to rent at Prospect Place at Workhouse.
Police were to warn people against causing damage by striking matches on the shop doors and windows on Victoria Street.

In 1914 A laundry service was started with the Huddersfield Society
£10 was offered to London, City and Midland Bank for the privilege of erecting an extension on the drapery Department. This was accepted for a fee of £25.
In August the sale of flour was restricted to one week's supply per customer.
The Society offered Mrs Mettrick £258-2s-11p for No.4 house and she was to pay all the transfer costs.
Any male employee enlisting could have his job back after the war.

In 1915 alterations were being made to the drapery store.
Drapery store staff had to clean the windows and remove the rubbish.

In 1916 there were new blinds for the Victoria Street shops.
With regard to sugar, customers had to be careful with its use. Only members would be supplied and they had to buy half a crown's worth of goods to be able to buy one pound of sugar. This limit was subsequently reduced to one shilling and six pence.
In July the Society was seeking quotes for a thirty hundred weight motor lorry (sic) which was bought in November for £500.
There was no field day this year.
The Society was trying to get their male staff exempt from being enlisted.
Sugar rationing stepped up. Only half a pound was allowed and a spend of three shillings and six pence was required.

In 1917 Potatoes became a ration issue. Customers needed their sugar ticket when buying potatoes.
Dogs were now not allowed in the shops.
The Society was negotiating the purchase of Brook's shop in Holmfirth.
It was making arrangements for an employees dining room.
It was against a joint tailoring and ready-made clothing department.
Harry Bray who had been a manager of the Underbank branch and subsequently of one of the Holmfirth premises and who had been serving in the war, died in April. His cause of death was illness, not wounds and he was thirty years old.

In 1918 a speed meter was put in the motor wagon.
The Society had a field at 'Workhouse'
If customers had a butter card with other shopkeepers, they were only allowed half rations of lard.
The shops were to remain open on Tuesday afternoons but closed on Saturday afternoons.
The Society enquired if the shops at the top of Victoria Street are for sale and shortly after they are purchased for £1950.
Later notice of removal was given to Messrs Wallace and Mrs Firth Lee. Mr Firth Lee was allowed to occupy the house and bedroom (at the top of Victoria Street) for a few weeks (to 30th September) at five shillings a week rent.
The rooms at the top of Victoria Street were let to the Colne Valley Labour Party at five shillings a

week for election purposes.

Customers were entitled to four ounces of bacon per week per member.

An education committee was formed.

Aircraft insurance for all shops was renewed.

The Society wanted to be a representative on the Holmfirth Food Control Committee.

It wanted to sell the house at Prospect Place for £340.

Mr J.H. Turner was to be asked if the property (stables) owned by him in Huddersfield Road was for sale.

The Society was requesting the release from the Army of Percy Taylor and Arnold Jessop

It was proposed that the Society become a member of Huddersfield Industrial Society.

Ernest Crosland who had been a manager of a Holmfirth branch but subsequently moved to Leeds died in France of heart failure.

In 1919 all female assistants were given four weeks notice from February 21st.

The Society was prepared to buy Messrs Mettricks Brothers' business and premises but it was also looking elsewhere. Later the land at the top of Victoria Street was offered at £850 but the Society declined.

The shop lately occupied by Firth Lee was to be used as a confectioners' shop and cafe. Alterations were to be done by architect, Mr Willie Batley. Work was ongoing well into the year.

The Society became affiliated to Holmfirth Trades & Labour Council.

The Society agreed to the Boot Society purchasing its premises.

The list of premises now included: Stable, Central, No.1 branch, No.2 branch and drapery.

The Stable committee bought a half-legged horse for £100.

It was decided not to sell tobacco or cigarettes to youths under the age of sixteen.

Dogs were to be excluded from the shops.

Two horses and a wagon were loaned for the Peace celebrations.

In August the Society was in a lockout (in dispute with the AUCS).

In 1920 it had 1274 members.

The Society wrote to Sam Tinsdeall about sewerage from his farm running on to the Societies land at Nabb.

Discussions were taking place about installing equipment (ovens and electric lighting and motor power) in the new shop. Cost of electrical supply and fit was £148-10-0.

Some of the shop assistants were on strike. The society at first refused to let them join a Union but later it backed down and let them join.

Iron gates were fixed at the entrance to both new shops at the top of Victoria Street.

The Assembly room in the new premises was to be let to the Brass Band Contest Committee.

The registered office of the Society was changed from 117 Woodhead Road, Holmbridge to 57-59 Huddersfield Road Holmfirth.

It was agreed to pay one shilling per annum to Mr Eli Collins for *(this difficult to read in the original)* capings/caprings/? Placed on the wall 'between his property and ours at the back of Victoria Street – without prejudice' and 'that we allow Mr Turner Mettrick use of the road between our two properties at the top of Victoria Street for the sum of one shilling per annum – without prejudice.'

In 1921 The steps leading from the bakery into the shop in Victoria Street were walled up.

A manageress was hired for the Cafe and Confectionery department – Mrs G.A. Beaumont.

The shop was to open on February 10th – a Thursday. Staff were Miss Edith A. Roberts – waitress, Phyllis Wood – assistant and Miss Dorothy Battye – assistant.

Closing time on Saturdays was to be 9pm.

The Co-operative Hall was to be let for small parties (under seventy people) who could dance but not for dances only.

The electric power in the drapery department was to be disconnected for re-wiring.
By March unsatisfactory goods were being made in the Bakery.
A blind was ordered for the confectionery shop.
Half day closing for the cafe and confectionery shop was to be Tuesday.
A speaking tube was to be put in the confectionery shop to the kitchen.
Mr J. Turner was approached about the purchase of the stables at Norridge.
Departments were now Central, No.1, No.2, Drapery, Bakery and Confectionery.
The Society was still in dispute (September) and employees had to go on short time.
A light was to be placed in the steps in the drapery shop.
Bread was to be ready for 10.30am -11am.
The van was to be painted green with gold lettering.
A speaking tube was to be put in the drapery shop and bakehouse.
The cost of a one pound loaf was three pence halfpenny and a two pound loaf was seven pence.
Groceries to the value of two pounds was given to named people out of the Fraternal Fund
The Society increased the rent of cottages by 40% from January 1922.
Shops were to open every day. Wages of Branch managers and assistants were reduced in accordance with the terms agreed by the Hours & Wages Board and the Union concerned.
Electric lighting was to be installed in the Hinchliffe shop

In 1922 the Society appointed a new bakery manager -Tom Bickerdyke (£4-10-0 per week) He was later asked to enter the bread baking competition promoted by CWS.
The Bakehouse was to be limewashed by Mr J.Haigh of Upperbridge.
A site was wanted on Brownhill Lane for a 'wood erection' to supply groceries and bread in that district.
The Brass Band Cup was to be displayed in the confectionery shop window.
The Society was in talks again with Mr J.H. Turner about the property in Huddersfield Road. It was prepared to offer between £800 to £1000. It cost £1000 eventually.
Shops were to close on Whit Monday apart from the Cafe.
The rooms at the top of 57/59 Huddersfield Road were to be decorated.
Kelly's directory of 1922 lists the Hinchliffe Mill Co-op as shopkeepers at 57-59 Huddersfield Road. It had been Wallace's shop before this date
The properties were Central Stores, Cottages, Stables and Slaughterhouse and Underbank
Gwendoline Simmonds was the assistant in the cafe.
The Society offered exclusive use of the ante-room to the Textile Workers Union at a rental of £20 /year.
A piano was to be bought fro £42-10-0 from Mr Frank Hirst for the Co-operative Hall.
The Society was to erect a two storey building on its new property in Huddersfield Road wide enough for two motor wagons to run in side by side – i.e. a motor garage and coal store. This was in New Town.
A secretary was required and they got ninety six applied. Five were interviewed.
They Society protested to the Holmfirth UDC about the fixing of 'an electric switch' in front of the confectionery premises.

In 1923 the Society authorised the pulling down of an old building at the top of Water Street provided that sufficient stone remained to build up the doorway in the far cellar. The doorway was to be enlarged.
The old drapers shop was to reopen as a new business – a gents outfitters and tailoring department, both bespoke and ready made.
A small room upstairs was to be leased to Mr Kneeshaw, optician. He paid commission on all his transactions.
There were twenty five applicants for the post of Tailoring Manager. A shortlist of five was made.
The shop was entered into the window dressing competition.

A speaking tube was put in the tailoring/drapery department.

A small room behind the tailors' shop was adapted to become a fitting room and two large mirrors were to be obtained.

The Society allowed the Valley Picture Theatre Co. Ltd. to advertise "The Siege" in the tailors' shop window for one week from 7-9pm and it charged for the electricity used.

Mr Harry Mettrick was dismantling a hut at Honley Moor to be re-fixed at Brownhill Lane. It needed pillars and a brick wall to enclose the space below the hut.

Cold storage was to be built for the bakery by Wagstaffe & Turner.

A 500 gallon petrol tank was bought for the new garage.

The Society set out to buy the shop and premises belonging to Mr Alec Peace and was prepared to pay up to £1400.

Branch No.2 appeared to be the grocery

The Society were buying a barn at Holme and offered £130 to Mr Howard. (Land for rent accepted and then to put a shop on it). Various people were selling land at Holme i.e. Messrs Alderson, Warren and Charlie Beardsell. In the end the Society accepted the Council's offer of one hundred superficial yards of land adjoining the generating station. Rent was agreed for seven years. Then Holme UDC refused to pass the plans for building

Plans were in place to hold a Luton Cocoa Week in the last week in October.

On October 23rd the Brownhill shop opened.

Branches were described as : Central, No.1, No.2, Drapery, Bakery+cafe, Tailoring.

Plans were in place to hold a staff+ committee party in January 1924 i.e. Whist Drive, Supper and Dance.

In 1924 the Society negotiated with Mettrick Brothers to purchase their business and then declined to accept.

A baker was engaged for night work and the arrangements were left with Mr Moss and the bakery manager.

The Society offered Mr Marshall £2000 for the plot of land at the corner of Cooper Lane and Huddersfield Road. This offer was then retracted and later re-offered. Later plans were drawn up to include a double fronted butchers' shop with an inside frontage of twenty four feet to come close up to Cooper Lane. It would have an ammonia plant in lieu of an ice box.

Plans to convert the carriage house at the stables on Huddersfield Road into two one horse stands were drawn up.

The CWS architects' plans for the slaughterhouse were to be submitted to Holmfirth UDC at its next meeting. It would have tiles on three sides.

There were rats at the central shop and plans to install a rat trap were made.

Miss Simmonds was to take temporary charge of the cafe and confectionery

In 1925 Mr Alec Peace was asked if the two fields at Parkhead Hill were for sale and at what price.

Also Mr J.H. Turner, solicitor of Holmfirth was informed that if he offered the society £500 'we are prepared to consider signing an agreement not to build a slaughterhouse by the garage and stables in Huddersfield Road.'

The cafe was to be re-decorated with a Lincrusta dado.

Work on the butchers' shop was allocated to trades.

The Society wrote to Holme UDC re. an application to use part of the generating station as a storeroom and it offered £3/year if the UDC would accept.

A Bray photograph of these premises was to be put on the balance sheet.

The outside wall above the cafe was to be plastered.

The Society accepted the tile decoration scheme submitted by C.H. Williams & Co of Manchester.

The Council was asked to attend to a rubble drain in Cooper Lane.

The door of No.2 shop had a side door which needed repairing.

Mrs Roebuck was invited to submit a price for the butchers' shop, slaughterhouse, dwelling house

etc. in Hinchliffe Mill.

In September the Society did not entertain Mr Ernest Brooks' offer of his butchers shop in Underbank.

The Hinchliffe Mill shop had land in front of it.

In October a butchers' shop on wheels was ordered i.e. a Ford Chassis for £278-15-0

In November the Society advertised for a Butchery Departmental Manager. Six were invited to interview and Jack Firth was appointed.

In 1926 Mr W. Braithwaite was offered the use of the Hall as a Labour Exchange, for £30/annum. The Society entered into negotiation with Messrs Beever with a view to purchasing the site of the old mill at Swan Bank. It was willing to pay £500 to £550.

The offer of G.H. Smith's shop and slaughterhouse was refused.

The Society enquired of Stockwell (butcher) of Underbank if he was prepared to sell. This was settled for £500

The Society prepared to take over Freddy Roebuck's shop at Hinchliffe Mill at a reasonable rental.

Branches now were : Central, No.1, No.2, No.3, No.4, Drapery, Bakery, Cafe, Tailoring, Butchering
W. Stockwell was engaged to manage the Underbank butchery.

The Society planned to draw up plans for the slaughterhouse on Swan Bank. The £200 offer for the land at Park Head was accepted.

The land adjoining the butchers' shop was rented at £3/year to C.R. Tolson and a new road was proposed

The upstairs room (half of the hall) was to be rented out at six shillings per session to Mrs Davies, a dressmaker

In 1927 There was slow progress on Swan Bank slaughterhouse.

There was a new regulation that no-one could be elected on the Board if a relative worked for the organisation.

In 1928 The Society bought land at Carr Houses on Huddersfield Road, bidding up to £2500 There were three houses and one plot of land

(There are several entries regarding this purchase with some margin entries in a different colour pen including mention of Carrfield and Carr Terrace which the Society almost immediately wanted to dispose of. Mr Walter Quarmby was interested. The Society wanted £2100 for the three houses at Carr Terrace and £950 for the vacant house, if they were sold separately. Soon after the vacant house was advertised for sale by private treaty.

Mr. G. England was invited to prepare plans for the building of a bakehouse at Swan Bank.

A gap in entries for ten years. Information from the Holmfirth Express indicates 13 Victoria Street was a location of the Co-op in 1930. It had previously been a shop run by William Simmonds. Perhaps the same William Simmonds who had been President in 1902.

In 1938 the Society had a hairdressing department.

The Society donated to appeals e.g. Spain, pit disasters, Holmbridge old folks' treat. The latter were pipes for the church warden, tobacco for the men and biscuits for the women.

The Society offered to provide dinners at seven pence per head to undernourished day- school children for a one month trial. The dinner was served on Society premises and it did continue for almost two months but the children were considered to be unruly and it was stopped.

Coal was delivered.

In April staff could go to Wembley for the Cup Final if they had already got a ticket and could take the Saturday morning as holiday. The shops would be open as usual.

Chairs were loaned for the Feast Sing.

No. 3 branch was named as the Post Office.

In 1939 the branches were

| | | | | |
|-----------|-------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| Central | Post Office | Drapery | Tailoring | Garage |
| Underbank | Holme | Bakery | Butchery | Drugs |
| Holmfirth | Hade Edge | Confectionery | Greengrocery | Hairdressing |

In November members could get all their requirements for rationed commodities if they registered with 'us'.

Men on active service would get their superannuation paid but the Society would give nothing else toward their Army pay.

In 1940 the Society offered to rent the land at Nabb to Holmfirth UDC for allotments at five shillings per annum. There were to be no huts, greenhouses or clothes stoops placed on the land. Ten guineas was given to the Holme Valley Red Cross to provide an ambulance for overseas. Five guineas was subscribed to the Local Defence Volunteers Comfort Fund (in coals or goods). The shop at Hade Edge was to be the air raid shelter for the children from Hade Edge school. Individual departments were to be responsible for blackout precautions and that included all hirers of rooms too.

Ten guineas was given to the Holmfirth Spitfire Fund.

In 1941 the Society needed to appoint fire watchers for its premises (pay was one shilling per hour). In May confectionery was rationed at seven pence per head per week and special ration cards were issued to members.

The Society catered for the Feast Sing Tea but only provided a plain tea. It loaned the chairs free of charge.

In 1942 seven pounds and ten shillings half yearly was set aside to invest to be used towards a welcome home event for employees after the war was over.

£1000 was invested in 3% war loan bonds in the local Warship Week.

In 1944 the Society gave five shillings each to the men who cleared the chemist's cellar and two shillings and sixpence to the shop assistants who cleaned the shop after the May flood. The cellars were to be whitewashed and the floors cleaned.

£250 was given to the Holmfirth Flood Relief Fund.

In June the Society allowed Mr Smith of Lloyds Bank permission to make an entrance behind the tailoring department, fencing to be put up in order to protect 'our property'.

Miss Stephenson was given permission to sleep in the sight testing room as a temporary measure.

In October they were buying a shop at Holme but the house had to be made separate. It was in fact the Post Office. £50 was initially offered and then raised to £350

The Society negotiated with the Wooldale Society to amalgamate but eventually this fell through.

On VE day the shops were to be open for two hours and then close for the rest of the day. The following day the shops were open for the sale of bread for one hour only.

Meetings were held in the Co-operative Hall in February and August each year.

In 1946 a letter was sent to the York Co-operative Society about the accident to the York Society's wagon in Holmfirth when two employees were killed.

In May a green fruit business was purchased i.e. the business and house of Leonard Gledhill. It cost £3000 of which £1500 was for the house and £1500 for the shop.

In September the bakery licence was refused and two private firms were granted permission to build new bakeries in the district.

In 1947 the Society gave five guineas to the appeal for dependants of those killed in the Bolsterstone bus accident.

Property at Upperbridge was bought for £2700 from A & R Tolson.

In 1948 the Society gave the Holmfirth Meat Allocation Committee six months to quit the tenancy of 'our slaughterhouse at Swan Bank' from the November rent day.

In 1954 an electric boiler was fitted in Swan Bank butchering making-up room

In 1960 the solicitor for the Society obtained possession of the house at 33 Huddersfield Road

In 1961 Booth Rodgers was congratulated for being President from February 1934 to September 1960

The next President was Mr P.D. Cartwright, shortly followed by Mr. J.D. Plant.

Booth Rodgers died in March 1961 – actually in the Society office after a committee meeting.

J.D. Plant died in March 1962 and was succeeded by Wright Mellor.

In 1963 the Society was trying to sell the Hinchliffe Mill premises and wanted £500. Holmfirth Yarns bought it for £350. Later on equipment was sold off.

At the same time the Society had three shops in Victoria Street and closing time was 5pm.

The bakery was valued at £2500

The 190th half yearly report and balance sheet for the half year ended January 19th 1965 listed the following information.

Membership 2260

Land and Buildings: Hinchliffe Mill Grocery

Underbank Grocery

Underbank Butchering

Huddersfield Road Grocery and Offices

Huddersfield Road Butchering

Huddersfield Road Fish and Fruit

Huddersfield Road Painting and Decorating (at Upperbridge)

Huddersfield Road Plumbing

Huddersfield Road Garage

Victoria Street Tailoring and Drapery

Victoria Street Drugs and Hairdressing

Holmbridge Grocery and Post Office

Holme Grocery and Post Office

Swan Bank slaughterhouse

Houses (not specified)

Twelve vehicles.

From 1st May 1965 The Hinchliffe Mill Co-operative Society Limited became part of the CWS.

The reasons given were : falling sales, increased expenses and reduced capital.