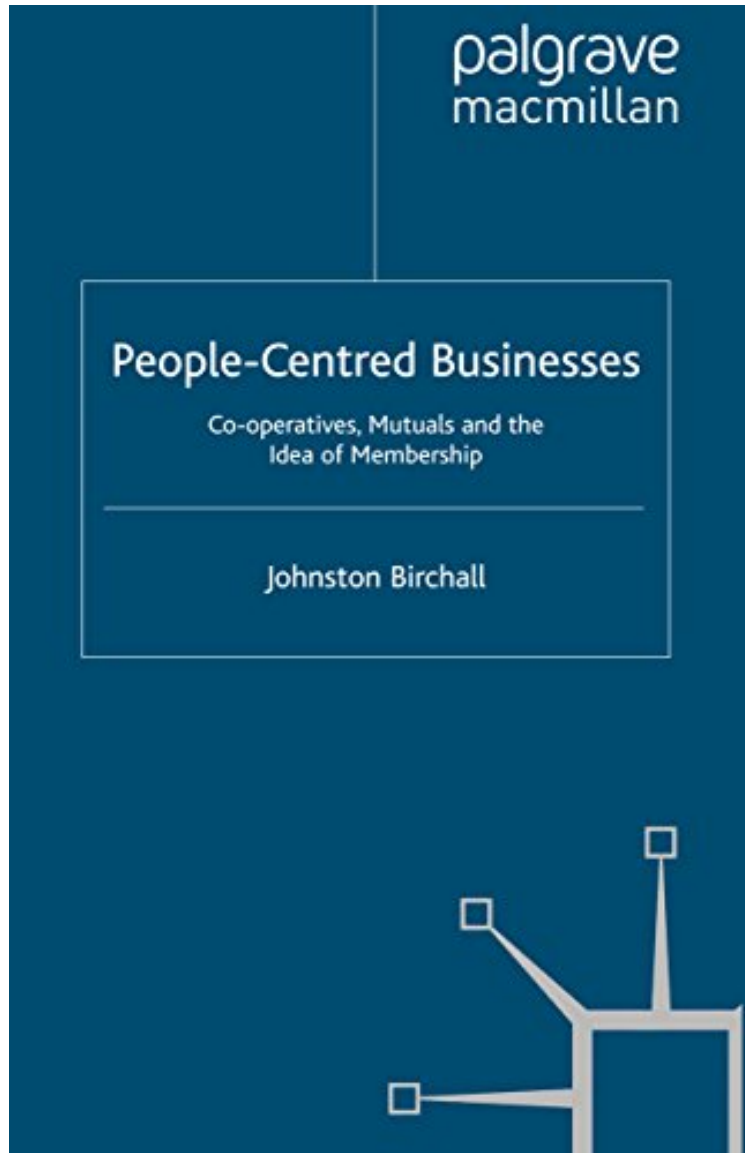


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# People-Centred Businesses: Co-operatives, Mutuals and the Idea of Membership

*Professor Johnston Birchall*

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So what is a member-owned business? What does it look like? How can we distinguish it from an investor-owned business? The crucial distinction is between a business that is people-centred, and one that is money-centred. This book explores the growing number of companies which use this model and their wider significance in society.

About the Author JOHNSTON BIRCHALL is Professor of Social Policy at the University of Stirling, UK. He studied at Oxford and did his PhD at York University, UK. He spent five years as a housing association manager before returning to academic life to focus for the next 25 years on questions concerning stakeholder participation in co-operatives, mutuals and public service agencies. He has written several books on the subject (with translations into five languages), and has advised UN agencies on co-operative responses to the global economic crisis.