A comic-book whizz, a web developer, a chiropractor, a filmmaker, several curators and a grocery store co-op owner: What do these people have in common? Well, they are some of the busiest people on Loomio: and they belong to the Adobe Books and Art Cooperative.

Through the 1990s, Andrew hosted many struggling artists and musicians, who would often be seen sleeping over on the couch at the gallery at the back of the shop. These couchsurfers are now some of San Francisco’s most influential artists.

Unfortunately, the business of selling books became harder and harder. Combine that with San Francisco’s gentrification and doubling of rents, and Andrew wasn’t sure if he could keep the shop going.

Thankfully, Adobe’s community refused to give up the space to skyrocketing rent. To save the shop, they transformed it into a cooperative enterprise and started a crowdfunding campaign – raising enough money to keep the space alive. They now have 14 members in the co-op who run the shop together.

The co-op workers run the shop, but they want the wider community to call the shots.

Adobe love Loomio because:
- It keeps everyone in the co-op up-to-date with important discussions and decisions
- It stops their email inboxes getting clogged
- It’s a ‘perfect cultural fit’ for a co-op

‘Cooperatives are a reminder to the international community that it is possible to pursue both economic viability and social responsibility.’

BAN KI-MOON, UN SECRETARY GENERAL

CASE STUDY
Adobe Books & Arts Cooperative