**The Coop**

The Coop was an important institution in Furness up to the 1970s. It had many shops and even tea rooms and a farm at one point.

The tokens that are included are dividend checks from Dalton Cooperative Society that would have been issued to their members, in the same way that members have plastic digital dividend cards nowadays.

There are also a few tokens for coal and British Restaurants. In May 1941 Barrow’s first Civic Restaurant, later called The British Restaurant opened in the old Public Hall serving 400 meals a day. Tokens could be purchased in shops and workplaces and these exchanged for tickets for food. For example Thursday’s lunch: Soup, meat, potatoes, carrots and turnip, semolina or ginger pudding, tea or coffee—10d (less than 5p) the maximum cost for an average meal.
**OXO box and tin**

**OXO** is a concentrated extract of meat that can be a substitute for the real thing. It has many uses including in gravy and soups. **OXO** published recipe books and the cubes went to the trenches in the First World War in their thousands. There was an **OXO** doll, a book of Nursery Rhymes, a painting book, a magic book and also a red **OXO** van Dinky toy. In 1953 John Hunt and his team took OXO up Everest with them.
This laundry starch company began producing laundry blue in 1852 by using a combination of a man-made ultramarine and sodium bicarbonate. The dolly blue was added to the final rinse to ensure that white items would maintain their original brightness.

This dye used to be made near Backbarrow just off the A590 near Newby Bridge in a factory which was known as the Dolly Blue works. The rocks along the riverside were covered with a fine, royal blue dust from the works. When the workers were taking a break they used to sit outside the building at the side of the main road. They were called the Dolly Blue men because every bit of exposed skin was covered in blue dye.
Smith’s potato crisps

Smiths Crisps were first manufactured in Australia in 1931. Smiths Potato Crisps sold its early crisps in 3d [1p] packets, 24 to a tin. 'Twist of salt' sachets were included before pre-salting was introduced. Growth after World War II was rapid and the cooking process was also improved. In 1961 Smith's introduced its first flavoured crisp: chicken and later on salt and vinegar. Since then there have been many new variations on Smiths products.
Cinnamon tablets

Cinnamon comes from the inner bark of the shoots of a tree that grows mainly in India, China and Sri Lanka. It has been found that just half a teaspoon of cinnamon a day significantly reduces blood sugar levels in diabetics. It is one of the oldest remedies used in traditional Chinese herbalism to help the digestive system. The Egyptians used cinnamon in their embalming rituals and the Romans used it as a love potion and valued spices as highly as gold.

It has also many uses in baking and cooking and is arguably the most popular spice in the world.
National dried milk formula

Infant formula is a substitute for breastfeeding, but it remains a controversial product. Improperly used it can contribute to obesity and tooth decay in children, among other health problems.

Formula milk first reached the United Kingdom in 1904 and became very popular during the Second World War. In 1941 dried milk was also made available to the general public and once made up by adding water to the dried milk it would have to be kept chilled, usually by standing the filled jug in a bowl of cold water as few houses had fridges.
Bicarbonate of soda

Bicarbonate of soda is a white powder which, when heated, gives off carbon dioxide. It is still used today in baking such things as gingerbread cake because it enables the cake to rise. It is also used to treat indigestion and heartburn and in effervescent salts. Used in toothpaste, baking soda helps to gently remove stains, whiten teeth and freshen breath. It is also used in fire extinguishers, to clean fridges and microwaves and remove household stains.
**Shopping Loans Box**

![Wicker shopping basket]

**Wicker shopping basket**

Wicker is made from the willow tree and the twigs are plaited and made into baskets, chairs, mats, storage baskets and even containers for pets. Willow is used because it is flexible. In Victorian times food, flowers and many other items would have been carried from home to market in a basket like this.
Shopping Loans Box

Veritas oil mantle

The mantle was a very important part of the lamp. It was a fragile lacelike tube fixed round the gas-jet which gave off a light that glowed with heat. Although, obviously things have progressed with the coming of electricity, lanterns are still made for leisure, commercial and industrial uses and are used all over the world because they are highly dependable, safe and long lasting, although nowadays paraffin is used to fuel the lamp.