



Braidwood Garlic Growers Co-op Ltd

Braidwood Garlic Board Buzz February 2020

Dear Members

Your board, elected January 2019, continues to respect the advice given to the previous board not to publish the minutes of Board meetings. However, we recognise that members have a desire to know what the board is doing on their behalf, hence this newsletter.

Your Board continues to meet monthly to discuss how best to progress the interests of your Co-op. We believe we have made significant progress. Our current focus is:

1. We thank all members who came to the AGM and helped us set our co-op's course for this year.
2. We continue to sell member garlic to existing and new clients. The first deliveries were made in early December. Some of our clients have been affected by the recent bushfires. We expect further orders for garlic from them.
3. Not all members participated in the opportunity to sell garlic through our co-op. It would be good if members would let us know why they did not participate.
4. The "Paddock Plot" was harvested by Roderick and Phil, and has been safely stored in an available shed. It will be used to fulfil orders and for seed stock.
5. The board purchased a garlic peeling machine, which has undergone testing: the bushfires were problematic in getting this initiative full operation. We are investigating the shelf life of kryovac garlic. We hope that peeled garlic can be kryovaced and marketed. It would need to be refrigerated.
6. We have organised a Garlic Dinner in Braidwood in lieu of the Festival, since the Airing of the Quilts does not align with our products being available.
7. We have sponsored the Garlic divisions in the Braidwood show.
8. We continue to market co-op member grown garlic through the Information Centre in Braidwood as well as the Tramshed Markets in Sydney. Members should contact David Dawes for available dates to participate in the Tramshed Markets.
9. We sourced some excellent seed stock from Victoria. Quite a few members availed themselves of the opportunity to acquire some.
10. We are working on Procedures Manuals to assist future members of the board. We have made progress on ensuring our procedures meet the requirements of NSW Co-ops, and have established processes for dealing with lapsed memberships.
11. We have created a Members' Only section of the website to gather all the information that we have on growing garlic in one place, so all members can benefit from this information.

Experienced members are asked to send any articles they would like to add to the Members' Only section to Wendy.

12. Documents from the last AGM are also published in the Members' Only section of the website.
13. We are looking at ways to value add and experimenting with various possibilities. We plan to make the results available to members in our Members' Only section of our website.
14. We have an eZine initiative to publish recipes that use garlic, including preserving garlic.
15. We have a current budget and have ensured that our co-op remains solvent.

Your Board 2019:

Phil Shoemark	-- Chair
Dave Ellis	-- Treasurer
Gerogina Bynes	-- Director
David Dawes	-- Director
Liz Peschler	-- Director
Wendy Hutton	-- Director