



Troy Harrison and Mitchell Smithers



Sue Eding



Richard Ahouzane



NELSON SARGENT HOLDS A COUPLE OF BEAUT YABBIES FROM JILLAMATONG.



Martin Royds, Patricia Solomon and My Farm Shop's Danny O'Brien

"I think the market is a great idea with many benefits for all involved. The consumer gets fresh produce sourced locally at a great price. The farmer gets to sell their fresh quality produce (we grow fruit and vegetables) to the end consumer with face to face contact. The community get involved with farmers and take an interest in what is happening on the farm. The farmer gets feedback from the consumers, which can help the farmer to produce a better quality product."

"We started with the question: "What if we started a market, a real farmers market?" And everyone went, "Yeah! That's a good idea". So here we are. I'm really thrilled. I went on our local radio with Jill McLeod and I asked the locals to support this market — and they sure have."

"We had another successful market on December 7th."

"I read about the farmers market a few weeks ago in the paper. I've recently bought a farm at Araluen. We had a small chain of pizzerias in Wellington NZ, where I'm from, so we're doing pizza today. It's all pretty awesome really."



Mark Barrington

"What we've found really today is they way people love seeing how we make our healthy soil with our worm farms. We're also selling native grass seeds so people can see how we've got a bio-diverse pasture. We've got the apple cider vinegar that we make and drench our cattle with — and we've got the yabbies that help keep our dams cleared out. People like coming here and meeting the farmer, learning about Omega 3, and higher carotene levels that result from the biodiversity of our farm and our healthy soils."



Jo Williams (with passing bikies)

"I'm on the market committee and I think it's fantastic. I'm really excited about it — it's great for the growers and the community. My vision would be to hold the market fortnightly, maybe even weekly, but of course we'll work all these things through as we go. There's definitely a future for the market."

"It's long overdue. It's a huge opportunity for the town. It's great for the businesses and it's great socially — it's a chance to catch up with everybody."



Robyn Clubb and Keith Goodfellow

"It's been many years since the last person suggested we might put on a farmers market. In a sense it's taken ten years to come to fruition but now that we're all here it's been superb. Such a throughput of people, not just coming to look, but buying product."

"I think it's because the products that are here are fantastic. We're very lucky, you know, when you live your life in Braidwood you might not quite realise what a great range of things we produce here because so often they're exported and sold elsewhere. So here's your chance to try stuff made in Braidwood right here in Braidwood. It's marvelous."



Di West

"It's very heartening today to see everyone who's come — and walked off with things as well. It's a much needed market in Braidwood. It's great to see just who does what and be exposed to some really great produce."



Julia Gibb and Martin Born

"We have pesticide-free produce from our garden; we have vegetable and herb seedlings and we're also doing fresh Peking Duck. I think it's important because we've lost touch with where our food comes from and how it's been grown. There's a growing awareness of wanting to know where food comes from — and grow their own as well."

Brian Carle

"The committee realised that we live in an area rich in local produce and that there was an opportunity to do a bit of direct selling. Look at the stallholders here today — they all have a story to tell about their food and then, on the other side, the customers are happy to listen."

"Some people told us that it had all been tried before and failed so we took up the challenge. We've had a constant flow of people this morning, from around here and from Canberra to Batemans Bay."

"They've talked, chatted and bought great produce that's local, seasonal and fresh."



To market, to market ...

The Braidwood Farmers' market is open again. The organisers hope it'll become a regular monthly event. Judging by the response, "She'll be apples".