

Bread for Good Community Benefit Society Annual General Meeting

Sunday May 12th
Mill House Café, Bowhouse, St Monan's KY10 2DB
15.30-16.30

Chairman's Report

Part 1 – for the period 1 January to 31 December 2018

1 Capital, membership, funding

As at December 31st 2018: 220 shareholders, 54 subscribers (including shareholders who renewed their subscriptions after their free initial period).

Total capital raised (shares and donations): £44, 806.

Funding applications

Successful	Network for Social Change £15k, received April 2019 Schiehallion £2,300, received October 2018
Unsuccessful	Fore Trust £30k Strength in Places ('Fife Fermenter') £14.5m

2 Activities & people

2.1 Cereal yields and production

Winter and spring varieties of wheat and rye harvested at Balcaskie in 2018:

Variety	Area (hectares)	Yield kg (dried & cleaned)	Tonnes per hectare
<i>Winter varieties</i>			
Wakelyn's YQ Population	2.5	6790	2.7
Hunter's	1.4	4520	3.2
Golden Drop	1.5	5450	3.6
Rouge d'Ecosse	1.3	4830	3.7
Fulltofta Rye	3.4	9960	2.9
<i>Spring varieties</i>			
Holma Rye	1.0	3170	3.2
Paragon	3.3	4800	1.5
Ölands	3.9	9200	2.4
Dalarna	1.8	4000	2.2
Lögen	1.9	4525	2.4
Total yield of clean grain (tonnes)		57.25	

2.2 Milling operation

Wholemeal flour production from Rouge d'Ecosse, Golden Drop and Hunter's, grown at Mungoswells (East Lothian) in 2015, certified organic (under Scottish Organic Producers Association), continued at Macbiehill Farmhouse (Borders) until September 2018, then moved to Unit 8 at the Bowhouse. Production of flour for the year: **approx 3.75 tonnes**

Fit-out of Unit 8 (mill and small office) completed. (Unit 8 is provided rent-free by Balcaskie Estate for 3 years.)

Miller-manager (Connie Hunter), employed 3 days/week from November 2018.

2.3 Research

On the ground

Sowed a mixture of our three Scottish winter wheat varieties (Rouge d'Ecosse, Golden Drop, Hunter's) as foundation of a Balcaskie winter landrace.

Participated in the following projects/conferences:

June EU Horizon 2020 DiverIMPACTS Stakeholder Group (ongoing)

June IFOAM First International Wheat Landraces Conference, Bologna

July Nordic Heritage Grains Conference, Finland

2.4 Engagement and Outreach

Scottish Bread Championship

Partnered with Scottish Food Guide and Royal Highland Show Society for the second Scottish Bread Championships at the Highland Show (June 21-24). Special category for bread made with Scottish grown grain. Winner used STB flour.

Soil to Slice

Continued support for 8+ community growing groups, sowing STB grain varieties, monitoring their growth and making bread with the resulting grain. STB needs more resources to be able to respond to demand from other groups all over Scotland and to capture useful data (grain qualities and wider health effects).

Took the STB thresher to Midlothian Community Hospital Garden (Bonnyrigg) to thresh wheat and rye from the Cyrenians' Soil to Slice and other projects (October 16).

People's Plant Breeding Event

Held at Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, 25th September. 20+ people helped to select the 'best' wheat and rye ears from our Balcaskie harvest (10 varieties) on the basis of beauty, symmetry and colour, with the aim of improving our grains without narrowing their genetic diversity. The resulting selected grains are being grown out at East Neuk Market Garden (behind the Bowhouse), courtesy of Connie Hunter and Tom Booth. We hope to test the resulting grains and compare them to the 'mother crop', and to repeat this 'participatory plant breeding' initiative each year.

Part 2 – Update from Jan 1st 2019 to date

Flour production Jan-Apr 2019

Jan 19	Feb 19	Mar 19	Apr 19	Total kg
551	941	1,050	1,359	3,901

Enlargement of mill hopper capacity to allow unattended milling of larger batches (150 kg rather than 25 kg at present) should be completed by the end of May.

Installation of new storage and racking in Unit 8 to accommodate additional stock for enlarged online shop offering expected also by end of May.

Cash Bank and cash as at 10/5/19: £19,600

Strategy Maximise income from flour and grain sales
Amalgamate STB and Bread Matters online shops
Seek core funding for Development Manager
Continue Soil to Slice citizen science project as resources allow
Continue research collaborations and policy action

Andrew Whitley
Chairman

May 10th 2019