A NOTE FROM THE PCA PRESIDENT

This is a quiet, and cold, time of year but I am glad to say that work has finally commenced on the section of Putty Valley Road that is going to be sealed. This will probably take a couple of months and there will be some inconvenience, so please drive carefully and slowly in this area.

The final sheets of tin have now gone on the outside of the hall and the building is starting to look completed. As normal with building work, even though it looks finished, there is still a lot of detail work to be done before we can all sit back and enjoy it. Working bees will be held again when the weather warms up.

Finally I would like to remind you all of the community meeting to be held at Putty Hall this Saturday at 12.00 to discuss the Friday Night Detours. It is important that we get as much input and assistance as possible from the community, so please attend if you can. The meeting will be followed by a free sausage sizzle prior to the Putty Fire Brigade AGM and Meeting.  

Tim Spooner

NEW SMOKING LAWS

New smoking laws will apply in NSW in commercial outdoor dining areas from 6 July. To comply with these laws no smoking will be allowed within four metres of a seated dining area on licensed premises, restaurant or café. The licensed area at Putty Hall is shown on a map at the bar but basically this means that if you want to smoke you will have to go outside the front gate four metres and four metres away from the deck and the amenities block AND you can’t take a drink because this is outside the licenced area.

MOBILE BLACK SPOT COVERAGE

The Federal Government’s Mobile Black Spot Programme will deliver almost 500 new or upgraded mobile base stations around Australia. The first base stations funded under the Programme will be rolled out before the end of 2015 and the rollout will continue for three years.

Tinda Creek duck farmer, Clint Jones, has been campaigning since 2013 for better mobile coverage along Putty Road. He has confirmed that money has been allocated to give Colo Heights full coverage but at this stage he is unsure about the rest of the road. A map of locations which will receive new or upgraded coverage under the first round of funding of the Mobile Black Spot Programme is available from http://nationalmap.gov.au/
Rain, floods and wild weather kept Putty students at home and caused the computers at the school to malfunction.

Pam King presented the awards to Daniel Malone, Senior Class, Gregory Malone, 2/3 Class, Zoey Steele, K/1 Class. Well done to all students for their valuable contributions. Thanks to Mr Ellis for his wonderful support.

**SCRUBHUB**

Roland and Michelle Leggat have approached the PCA about running a ScrubHub at Putty Hall on Mondays and Fridays from 9am to 5pm.

A ScrubHub is a remote working environment for office workers with employment outside of the Putty area. It is a space for residents to work, learn and collaborate, allowing new initiatives and revenue ideas to be generated with other residents with varied skills sets. Difficulties with technology can be discussed and perhaps solved.

The effort and cost involved in creating this space will be based on donations and volunteers to setup and maintain the space. Roland and Michelle Leggat have volunteered to create the space in the multi-purpose room off the deck of Putty Hall. Several pieces of hardware including monitors, mice, projectors and cabling have already been donated by Microsoft. As Roland and Michelle both work for technology companies they are able to repurpose old equipment for the Scrubhub.

Initially Roland’s personal device will enable internet connectivity and the PCA will cover the cost of power, tea and coffee. If there is enough demand a 3/4g LTE Wi-Fi device may be purchased.

Roland and Michelle are proposing a 90 day trial of the Scrubhub to assess the community’s needs. Please contact them if you are interested in utilising the Scrubhub.

Contact Roly Leggat rolleggat@outlook.com or Ph: 0410 107 298

**BOOK CLUB**

Singleton Library has left packs of ten books of three different titles at Putty Hall for a book club.

The titles and authors are:

*Back when we were growing up*, by Anne Tyler  
*The Help*, by Kathryn Stockett  
*Atmospheric Disturbance*, by Rivka Galchen

A list of discussion questions which relate to the content of each title are available. If required, an audio copy of the book could be added to the pack.

Book club meetings could be held in the Putty hall or even rotated at the homes of club members over coffee and cake or even a wine or two. Please contact Margaret Ferguson on 65797077 if you are interested in being part of the club.
BULGA MINE EXPANSION

Kevin Taggart, an elder of the Wonnarua traditional custodians, spoke to around 200 people on 30 June at the Planning Assessment Commission public meeting into the proposed expansion of Rio Tinto’s Mt Thorley Warkworth coal mine near Bulga. Bulga residents, alongside the custodians, have been fighting for more than five years to stop the expansion by Rio Tinto. They say it will create severe noise and dust pollution, destroy a critically endangered woodland and threaten 110 registered Aboriginal cultural sites. Rio Tinto told residents that the town would not be moved. A final decision about whether or not the mine expansion will proceed is due in coming weeks.


BULGA BEATS

Bulga Beats on 20 June had live bands, lots of stalls and an art exhibition.

BEE PRESENTATION

Andy Lowry’s back yard bee keeping presentation at Putty Hall on Saturday was a very interesting event, inspiring potential bee keepers in the valley. Andy belongs to a club in Sydney where members share not only their knowledge but also the more expensive equipment needed to extract the honey from the frames once removed from the hive.

The downside of bee keeping is the bee stings, but if you are not allergic, bee venom therapy may ease joint swelling and arthritis. The old time bee keepers don’t even wear gloves when handling the hives.

ARNO’S WALL

When visiting Winton in Queensland, Marg and Ken Ferguson found the solution for what to do with broken down machinery.

Arno’s Wall is listed amongst the ‘Things to do in Winton’ and attracts many a tourist. It’s a fun curiosity.

ENVIRONMENT AWARD

A project headed by Anna Knutzelius for the Australian Research Institute for Environment and Sustainability (ARIES) won a National Trust Heritage Award.

Habitat Stepping Stones, which won the Conservation Natural Landscape award, is an innovative website which embraces modern technology, social media and public recognition to encourage people to add habitat elements into their gardens.

Anna, the daughter of Carol Gibson and Hans Knutzelius, spends many weekends at Putty. Although Anna’s work is in urban design and conservation she is delighted to have recently seen parma wallabies, a vulnerable species, at Putty. Since introducing rotational grazing, a variety of wallaby species visit their farm.
Read more about Habitat Stepping Stones
www.habitatsteppingstones.org.au

Parma wallabies
app/profile.aspx?id=10501

PHONE OUTAGES
Putty has had a lot of phone outages lately. If you can still get access to the internet you can check the status at
http://servicestatus.telstra.com/

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday 3 July to Sunday 26 July
Singleton Festival

Over thirty events are scheduled throughout the month of July. Family fun, fine art, food and wine, music and concerts. See the website for a program of events. www.singletonfestival.com

Community Meeting

Saturday 4 July 12 noon
Putty Hall
Followed by a free sausage sizzle

The Putty Community Association (PCA) is considering reopening the Friday Night Detour and will hold a community meeting to discuss new smoking laws, existing liquor laws and proposed new house rules.

Past supporters and people who can lend assistance are encouraged to attend the meeting and have their say. If you can’t attend the meeting please send comments beforehand.

LANDCARE MEETING

Saturday 15 August 2pm
Putty Hall

A community consultation meeting for you to find out more about the work of Landcare. We will be canvassing all ideas for positively moving forward. In preparation for the community consultation if you have any ideas you would like to share and or comment or feedback please email jane.robinson@ku.com.au.

PRAYERS & BIBLE STUDIES

Our Lady of the Valley services for 2015 will be held at Putty Hall with resident Anglican Priest, Fr. Max.

2nd Sunday and 4th Sunday of the Month:
Eucharist at 8:30am, Prayer and Bible Study
9:30am, Sunday School 11am - noon.
PUTTY RAINFALL JUNE 2015

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The 10 year average is high due to floods in June 2007.

Recordings taken at Fairview, Putty, with Reference to the Bureau of Meteorology www.bom.gov.au. Recordings also taken at Mellong Grove, Putty Road, to the south, and The Top Place, Putty Valley Road, to the north.

OUR WEBSITE ‘Putty Valley Online’
contains many links including:
Trades & Services Directory at www.putty.nsw.au/whereis
Weekly cattle sale prices from the Meat and Livestock Authority (MLA) at www.putty.nsw.au/rural/cattle-hotline
Articles are posted on www.putty.nsw.au/voice

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PCA FACEBOOK PAGE
For news as it happens. If you haven’t already signed up to our Facebook page you can do so by clicking Like at www.facebook.com/PuttyCommunityAssociation
Post your pictures and stories.

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