

Putty People

The June 2014 newsletter of the Putty Community Association Inc



Hunter Farm Forestry Field Day at Howes Valley

A NOTE FROM THE PCA COMMITTEE

Lots of people are detouring to the hall on Friday nights and last month was the busiest month ever with the number of meals served on a night ranging from 11 - 50. This makes catering difficult for the volunteers so on busy nights bear with us or ring Kathy on 6579 7047 if you have a group coming.

Now that it is winter we are attempting to keep the main doors of the hall shut to retain the heat from the fire. People are encouraged to use the entries into the kitchen or from the deck.



ROADS

Greg Pierce has started work on widening Lindeman's Corner on Putty Valley Road and is expecting to finish next week. Short delays may be experienced during the day and longer delays will be announced by email.

AMBULANCE CFR GRADUATES

The graduation ceremony for the Ambulance NSW Community First Responder Program participants was held at Bulga Fire Control Centre on 17 May.

Nine people from Putty, Howes Valley and Bulga were formally presented with their Certificate II Emergency Medical Service First Responder awards.



From Putty were recipients Ken Ferguson and Peter & Judy Smits, from Howes Valley, Ian Feeks and Jodie Green and from Bulga, Jason Bellamy, Jacob Caban, Paul Jones and Lisa Pawley. These people are now qualified to respond to and be first on scene at medical emergencies both within their local area and along the Putty Road. They are qualified to attend to an injured or otherwise ill patient while waiting for an Ambulance crew to arrive.

The awards were presented by NSW Ambulance officers, Assistant Commissioner Ken Pritchard and Chief Superintendents Daniel Ferguson and Steve York. The manager of the CFR program, Superintendent Susan Webster welcomed all the attendees while Education Manager Alan Morrison presented a course overview. Singleton Mayor, John Martin was also present and he congratulated all the graduates for their achievements and commitment.

NSWRFS Hunter Valley Team Leader Paul Jones responded on behalf of all graduates.

FIRERY NEWS

Putty Brigade Community Safety Officer, Lesley Bayliss and Margaret Ferguson recently attended the Australian Community Engagement Fire Awareness Conference held in Wollongong and came away from it, wondering just how prepared is Putty and its residents should a fire, even more extensive than those of 2013/2014 impact upon us.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT? It is working with the community for the benefit of the Community. So what is FIRE AWARENESS? That includes knowing the risks and addressing those risks before the danger occurs. What may this involve? We get back to those three words you have heard and read so many times already, PREPARE-ACT-SURVIVE.

One major point which continued to be raised at the conference was that only a very small percentage of people have a written Bush Fire Survival Plan, or have even entered into discussion with their family or regular visitors about what they would do in an emergency. Not having a plan could make the difference to survival. Not having a plan could see you running around at the last minute trying to figure out, under stressful conditions, just what is the best thing to do for yourself, your animals, your house, your sheds and other important assets.

Bush Fire Survival Plans hard copies are available from the Putty Brigade Station and we are happy to sit down with you and discuss your plan as you complete it. We are also available to visit your property and discuss any fire related concerns you might have.

The plan and other important fact sheets can also be downloaded from the NSWRFSS website. http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/dsp_content.cfm?cat_id=1150 If you do not have internet access, please contact either Lesley or Margaret for copies of the plan and fact sheets.

Brigade AGM

The Putty Rural Fire Brigade AGM will be held at the Fire Station on 28th June, 2014 at 2.00pm. All welcome to attend with voting rights restricted to members.
Margaret Ferguson

HALL RENOVATIONS



More than two thirds of the ceiling in the hall has been insulated and lined thanks to Ken Ferguson, Russell Griffin & Peter Lines. Brian Abbott

continues to work his way through the weatherboard restoration.

Singleton Council has increased its grant funding for rural halls from \$6000 to \$8000 per annum and the PCA will be applying for a share at the Combined Rural Halls AGM in July.



Putty Landcare has the following equipment available for hire –

Tractor implements: Harrow, pipe layer and grader blade.

Spray equipment: 20 litre backpack sprayer, 50 litre spray with pump, C-Dax Wickwiper.

Lomandra plants are available for \$1. Lomandra is a grass like plant ideal for planting along creeks to stabilize the banks. Cattle will eat it.

Contact Carol Gibson 6579 7014 or 9810 7661

LANDCARE TRAINING

How to bring back native species to your property

Free seminar for Sydney-based rural landholders:

Date/time: 6-8pm, Wednesday 11 June 2014

Location: Annie Wyatt Room, National Trust Centre, Observatory Hill, The Rocks

Cost: FREE. A light supper will be provided

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: Click here to register or go to <http://bit.ly/1qcYlqi>

Speakers include:

Geetha Ortac, National Parks Association, talking about the "Who's living on my land?" citizens science project, which has been capturing native and feral animals on camera across NSW.

Peter Ridgeway, Greater Sydney Local Land Services, talking about what land management practices you can put into place to encourage more native animals to your rural property.

Getting in touch with your roots—Soil health: what it is and why it matters

Free, hands-on workshop. Learn about the key features of soil health, including chemical, physical and biological aspects.

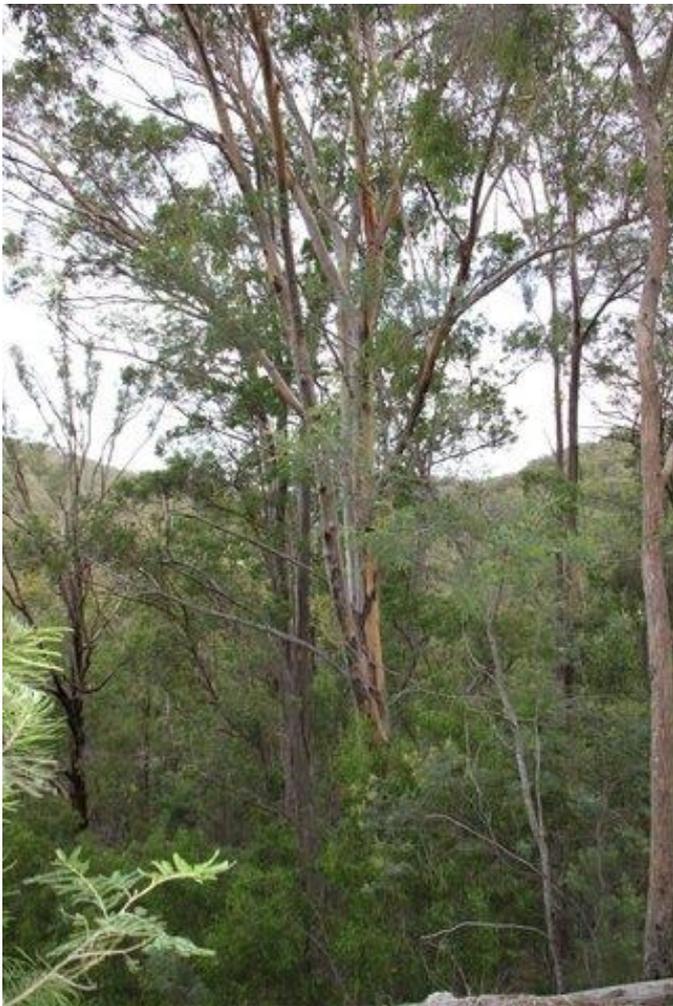
Date/time: 9am to 2pm, Wed 18 June 2014

Location: Sydney field vegetable demonstration farm, Gate 6 Southee Rd, Richmond

Cost: FREE – includes morning tea and lunch

RSVP: by 11 June by clicking here or go to <http://bit.ly/1kKCwWS>.

For more information on these events contact Angela Maier on (02) 9895 6126 (Mon, Wed) or angela.maier@lfs.nsw.gov.au



Eucalypt Identification Workshop

The Australian Association of Bush Regenerators presents Van Klaphakes famous Eucalypt identification course. Earlwood on 5 & 6 July. More information from Paul on ibb56@yahoo.com.au.

Get to know your Vegetation Communities & Eucalypt Trees

TAFE - Richmond Workshops
This course is designed for those with some plant knowledge. Please contact Peter Mobbs, Horticulture Unit, on 4570 9060, mobile 0414 512 884, or email Peter.Mobbs@tafensw.edu.au Or visit <http://wsi.tafensw.edu.au/courses-and-careers/course-search/8397/?fullsite=on>

BIGGEST MORNING TEA

Wow!!! A whopping \$300 was donated by Putty residents at the annual fundraiser for the Cancer Council held on May 24th at the Hall.

Fr Max donned his Psychologist hat and gave a short presentation on the emotional and cognitive affects during recovery as well as sharing with us his personal experience, emotions and fears during the five year period of his remission from both bowel and prostate cancer.

HUNTER FARM FORESTRY NETWORK



Chris and Ishbel Searle invited people to a field day at their property at Howes Valley. Part of their place has been declared Private Native Forest and they now pay primary industry rates.

Craig Tate a forestry consultant spoke about grants being available, particularly for forest corridors to be established between forests and creeks.

Keven Carter, an ex-forestry and National Parks employee, named the five tree species known as The Royals in the forestry industry – ironbark, grey gum, turpentine, (all these grow in this area) tallow wood and white mahogany. These hardwoods were traditionally logged for railway sleepers and girders but are now in demand for other uses as tools have improved enabling carpenters to nail and saw these durable timbers more easily. Kevin also emphasised the importance of backburning from the top of the hill down, and thinning the forest from the ground up. <http://hffn.org.au/>

PUTTY EMU GOES NATIONAL



"The things you see near Putty, NSW"
Photos courtesy of Rob Harden-NSW

Recent visitors to Putty, while living out their Great Big Australian Adventure, met up with Putty's resident emu, affectionately known as Steve or Chook. Rob, the traveller, has had an

article published in the June edition of the Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia's "Wanderer" magazine, complete with his descriptions and photos of many waterfalls he encountered throughout the trip and one of our Putty emu. The CMCA has over 66,000 members Australia wide with the circulation of the "Wanderer" very extensive. Not only is Steve seen making his way along Putty Valley Road but he has made it onto the National circuit.

GARDENING TIPS

It might have been the warmest May on record but there are still some winter duties:

1. Replenish the soils. The growing season has diminished much of the nutrients in your soil so now is payback time: here are my favourites: Cow manure for minerals, peatmoss for water retention, for you veggie garden mushroom compost and magnesium phosphate to improve the protein content of your pasture.
2. Without the leaves you can now see what you are doing when pruning your deciduous trees either for shaping or cutting out diseased and/or dangerous branches. Cut on new growth shoots and you will have two new shoots next growing season.
3. Talking of pruning now is the time to attack your roses – providing they have finish flowering – do it soonest and they should have time to get over their hair cuts before those heavy Putty frosts set in.
4. Now is also the time to save money and purchase your bare-rooted shrubs and get them in before the hard frosts come.

Fr. Max-Augustine

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY NIGHT DETOUR

Every Friday 5-9pm at Putty Hall

Stop by at the Putty Hall for supper and a yarn in front of the fire. Bar open and delicious home-cooked food on the menu! The standard menu includes steak sandwiches, marinated barbecued chicken, salad, pies, and cheese & ham toasties. Specials are announced by email. If you are bringing a large group please contact Kathy on 6579 7047 to help with catering preparations.

PUTTY HALL WORKING BEES

Saturdays 9am to 1pm.

See calendar and check emails for dates. All help greatly appreciated. Contact Tim on 6579 7047 if you have any queries.

PRAYERS & BIBLE STUDIES

Putty Hall, with resident Anglican priest Fr. Max. Our Lady of the Valley services held:

2nd Sunday of the Month:

Eucharist at 8:30am,
Prayer and Bible Study 9:30am,
Sunday School 11am.

4th Sunday of the Month

Eucharist at 9am and Sunday School at 11am.

GARAGE SALE

Sunday 8 June

695 Putty Valley Road from 9am
Chainsaw, tools, mowers hay equipment, slasher plough tractor. 10% of proceeds go to Parkinson's research. Cash only.

For more information call David Lindeman 0427 549 219

DOG VACCINE DAY

Saturday 28 June

Putty Hall 9am - 11am

Vaccinations in dogs are important for the prevention of several viral diseases including Distemper and Canine Parvoviral Enteritis (Parvo). Parvo is a potentially fatal disease characterised by vomiting and bloody diarrhoea. Treatment requires hospitalisation and administration of intravenous fluid and other supportive treatments. Outbreaks can occur at any time in populations of unvaccinated dogs.

In an effort to protect the dogs in Putty and surrounding areas, David Hope from Box Hill Veterinary Clinic proposes to run a vaccination day. All dogs should be controlled with a collar and lead. The cost will be \$30, which is the cost of the vaccine plus a \$10 contribution to the Hall building fund.

It will also be possible to provide some other basic treatments such as heartworm testing, intestinal worming and heartworm injections. Any interest in these, or any other services, should be requested by email to David at dmhope@me.com

PUTTY FIRE BRIGADE AGM

Saturday 28 June

Putty Fire Station 2pm. All welcome.

CLEAN UP PUTTY VALLEY

Saturday 5 July

9am to 1pm

Pick up a bag from the hall on Friday evening or Saturday morning from 9am. Return the bag to the hall full of litter by 1pm and join in the volunteers sausage sizzle.

Bags and gloves will be provided by Clean Up Australia. The advantage of doing our clean up in winter is that it is cooler and snakes are hibernating.

Clean the road that passes through your property or help others clean up the entry to Putty which was badly littered last year.

Please register with coordinator, Judy Smits on 6579 7110, advising her the road and the area you want to clean up or to be assigned to an area.

Website: www.cleanupaustaliaday.org.au

Stow it, don't throw it. Stow it don't throw it.

COMPUTER MOBILE LESSONS

Tuesday 22nd July at 11.00am

Singleton Library will host a 2 hour learning session at the Putty Hall for any assistance with technical problems. Morning tea will be provided. Contact Margaret Ferguson on 6579 7077 or 0427 282 246.

CORRECTION

Dora's ducks were black swans

PUTTY RAINFALL MAY 2014

According to Terry O'Brien this is the lowest May rainfall on record.

	South	Fairview	North
May 2014	6mm	13mm	13mm
May 2013	25mm	33mm	34mm
Yr to date	436mm	393mm	507mm

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 interesting links including: Weekly cattle sale prices from the Meat and Livestock Authority (MLA) at www.putty.nsw.au/rural/cattle-hotline Putty Rainfall Charts from 2005 - 2013 at www.putty.nsw.au/weather. Articles are posted on www.putty.nsw.au/voice

PCA FACEBOOK PAGE

If it has rained at Putty residents are encouraged to post their rainfall on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PuttyCommunityAssociation so weekenders know if they have to come to Putty to water their gardens.

Something to sell?
Place an ad in our section below.
Local advertising works well!

PUTTY PEOPLE ADVERTISING

In publishing these ads, the PCA is not endorsing or recommending any product or service advertised below

FOR SALE

Real Estate

Jo Mendoza 0418 609 777 or 6579 7139

Licensed real estate agent 141982 with over 40 years experience has a portfolio of customers wanting to move into the area. Free market appraisal. Justice of the Peace.

TRADES & SERVICES

Butcher

Munro's Meats

Fresh Food winner of the Australian Small Business Champion Awards 2013. Royal Easter Show award winning ham. Order today for Christmas.

King Road, Wilberforce Shopping Centre
Ph: 4575 1961

Mowers Sales & Service

Fitzgerald Motors

Sales and service of mowers, ride-on mowers, chainsaws, trimmers, mulchers, water pumps, generators, posthole diggers, sprayers etc

9 Fitzgerald Street, Windsor Ph: 4577 3401
www.fitzgeraldmotors.com.au

NEWSLETTER CONTACTS:

Editorial: Please call with any news, activities or photographs to include in our monthly Newsletter.

Martha Babineau, phone 6579 7000!

marthababineau@yahoo.com

Advertising and distribution:

Kathy: 6579 7047 or pca@putty.nsw.au