

# Putty People

*The March 2015 newsletter of the Putty Community Association Inc.*

## *President's Report*

The AGM was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of February and all the committee members were re-elected unopposed. I thank them all for their work in the past and for their continuing contribution to the community.

This year our aims are to complete the renovations to the hall and to review the constitution and bring it up to date. Due to a shortage of grant money the surplus profits from functions and the Friday Night Detours will be used to help fund the purchase of materials for the renovations, however a safety net of one year's expenses will always be maintained in our bank account.

Working bees will commence again on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March with the cooler weather, and we look forward to seeing as many as possible assisting. There is always something that you can do, no matter how trivial, and it all helps to complete the project. As they say, many hands make light work.

The Local Land Service has contacted us regarding wild dogs which have been sighted and heard recently. They are offering to provide a free training course in 1080 bait use for interested landholders. This will be conducted on a Saturday and takes approximately three hours.



**Look what turned up at the Friday night Detour!**

The date has not been set yet but if anyone interested could contact me or Ken Ferguson, we will keep you informed. To assist with this the PCA has decided to form a Wild Dog Subcommittee and once this is established we will let you know the ongoing contacts to use.

Don't forget we have the Balalaika Orchestra performing on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March, so bring all your friends for an exciting evening. Also, a reminder that memberships are now due for renewal and this can be done by direct debit to: Putty Community Association Inc. BSB 062622 Account 1044 4988.

Tim Spooner  
President



### **SYDNEY BALALAIKA ORCHESTRA RETURNS TO PUTTY 21 March at 7.30pm**

The Sydney Balalaika Orchestra will once again fill the Putty Hall stage to perform a diverse range of Russian folk and classical music played on authentic folk instruments and in Russian costumes.

#### Schedule and tickets

6.00pm bar opens

6.30pm Dinner

Dinner & concert \$35 - beef stroganoff, vegetable ratatouille, rice and bread roll

7.30pm Concert only \$25

#### Bookings

Phone: Kathy McKenzie 6579 7047.

Limited tickets at door.

Orchestra's website: [www.balalaika.com.au](http://www.balalaika.com.au)

## FIREY NEWS

The weather continues to be kind to us as far as fires are concerned and our Community First Responders were not called out to any incidents during February.

### DRILLING FOR WATER AT PUTTY BRIGADE STATION

The water bore on the Putty Brigade station grounds has been sunk, with good water reached at a depth of 35 metres. The auxiliary items, including the holding tank, pump and associated fittings have been ordered for delivery later in March.

Jason Stokes donated the base material and Scott and Ken Ferguson constructed the pad for the tank to sit on.

The cost of the tank, pump and fittings has been covered by a grant received from the Rural Fire Service Association, while the bore has been made possible by the generosity of community members who have made substantial donations to Putty Brigade and the brigade members through their ongoing financial support.

When returning a truck to the Fire Station after attending a fire, crews are required to fill the truck ready for its next use. This must occur at all times, day or night. Being able to do this with water from the on-site bore allows for a much safer working environment for our firies.

The NSW Office of State Water has placed strict conditions on the use of water taken from the bore. The licence is complex, not the usual

domestic and stock watering supply type. The restriction placed upon the use of the water is that it can only be used for Fire Fighting and Training purposes and any use outside will void the licence. Singleton Council has paid for this licence which cost \$1,286.30.



### COMPUTER CLASSES AT PUTTY

The Singleton Library's "Ask your own questions" computer class held at the Putty hall recently was again well attended and many different problems were solved with the help of Joan and Natalie from the Library.

Peter Lines dropped in for a chat and brought some homemade Welsh cakes with him. Still warm from the griddle and perfect with coffee made by Ken Ferguson, the cakes were devoured by the ladies in no time. Thank you Peter and Ken for helping to keep our brain cells nurtured.

Peter's Welsh cakes, made using an authentic Welsh recipe sent to Peter by his sister. They contained currants but a previous batch made by Peter had sultanas in them - just as delicious!

Margaret Ferguson



### PUTTY BOOK CLUB

**Are you an avid reader?** Do you like to really think about the content of the book you are reading? Would you like to share your interest in the book with someone else as you become absorbed in the story?

Singleton Library has started book clubs in the Library at Singleton but because of distance, Putty readers have been given the opportunity to start up a book club at Putty. Already we have been left with three packs of different titles. The titles and authors are:

"Back when we were growing up" by Anne Tyler

"The Help" by Kathryn Stockett

"Atmospheric Disturbance" by Rivka Galchen

There are ten books of the same title in each pack and also a list of discussion questions which relate to the content of each title. 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.

## ST SHENOUDA COPTIC ORTHODOX MONASTERY

“The Christian monastic movement in all its forms started in Egypt, attracting the heart of the Church towards the desert, to practice the angelic inner life.” In 1993, the movement was attracted to Putty to begin its monastic life on an initial one hundred acre block.



In 1995 His Holiness, the late Pope Shenouda III from Egypt visited the new acquisition, bringing with him two Monks to start the Monastic life in Putty. The Monastery is a place of worship for their Monks, who want to consecrate their Lives fully to the Lord Jesus Christ, although it is open to all their congregation.

Since then it has thrived and HG Bishop Anba Daniel now oversees the Monastery, together with Fr. Wissa, Fr. Shenouda, Fr. Theodore, Fr. Anthony and Brothers Moussa and Bishoy, who all have their own responsibilities in the Monastery's well being and maintenance. The Monks practise the three vows of Monastic life - obedience, poverty and chastity and their rites are characterised by oneness of spirit.

The Monastery is a self sufficient community that depends on the Coptic Orthodox citizenry from NSW to support them. The Church has fourteen Churches just around Sydney and are a community of about 20.000 people. The Monastery is also a retreat for male youths, who come up during their school and university holidays as individuals and in groups as volunteers to assist in the many jobs around the Monastery.

The dream of building a 500 seat Cathedral and Services Centre is becoming a reality with the Crypt (Cemetery) already completed. It's a matter of funds to complete this enterprising project in the little village of Putty.



The Monastery dwellers have a strong reputation for being excellent neighbours. Kim Grace recalls that when she and John were weekenders at Putty, they would often come and find that any damaged fences had been fixed.

In 1995, when the late Pope Shenouda III visited the Monastery, arriving by helicopter, the Graces were invited as special guests.

The Christian Monastery is also a landmark in Putty for passing folk and the question usually is, “How far are you from the Monastery - before or after,” especially if people are stranded or have run out of petrol.



Some neighbours even joined the Church, still attending Mass and Holy Communion. The Monks at the Monastery are very friendly and ready to assist the Putty community in any way, further enriching our community.

# UPCOMING EVENTS



**This year Putty will remember 100 years of Anzac with:**

- 1 Dawn Service (time to be advised) followed by a egg and bacon muffin and tea/coffee
- 2 10am Special Service of Remembrance – highlighting those, from the Putty area and surrounds, who served in the Great War.

We ask that those in Putty who have memorabilia in their family bring it to the Hall so that we can all share in those special memories.

For more information call Pam King on 6579 7177.

**The Easter Bunny will be at the Grey Gum Cafe on Easter Sunday with Easter Eggs for all the kids**



There will also be a MONSTER Raffle with all proceeds going to Father Chris Riley's "Youth off the Streets" programme.

## NSW STATE ELECTIONS 28 MARCH



**Jessica Price - Purnell**  
**Liberal**

**Clayton Barr**  
**Labor**

**Lindy Williams**  
**Greens**

**Putty residents will now be voting in the Cessnock electorate, which is currently held by ALP candidate, Clayton Barr.**

Cessnock has been a Labor stronghold since 1913, only leaving Labor's hands for a three-year term when Barry Unsworth's crackdown on gun laws put Labor out of favour with voters at the 1988 poll. Bob Carr put Labor back in the good books at the 1991 election, and Labor has held the seat ever since.

Despite the landslide against Labor in 2011, the party's Clayton Barr hung on in his maiden election, having taken over from the outgoing Kerry Hickey.

### FAIRVIEW DECEMBER 2014 RAINFALL

**Not included in the December Newsletter ....** The 10 year average annual rainfall at Fairview was 786.70mm.



## FRIDAY NIGHT DETOUR



**Every Friday 6 - 9.30pm at the Putty Hall.**

Detour to the hall on your way home or come along just for a drink, a snack and a chat.

Summer salads, home made pickles and relishes compliment our standard menu of steak or marinated barbecue chicken sandwiches, Putty Patties, pies and toasties.

Specials are announced by email. If you are bringing a large group please contact Kathy on 6579 7047 to assist with catering preparations.

**The PCA draw is now \$80.**

**NO DETOUR ON EASTER FRIDAY**



## PUTTY WEBSITE

**Putty Valley Online** contains many interesting links including:

- **Trades & Services Directory** at [www.putty.nsw.au/whereis](http://www.putty.nsw.au/whereis)
- **Weekly cattle sale prices** from the Meat and Livestock Authority (MLA) at [www.putty.nsw.au/rural/cattle-hotline](http://www.putty.nsw.au/rural/cattle-hotline)

## PCA FACEBOOK

For news as it happens. If you haven't already signed up to our Facebook page, you can do so by clicking *Like* at:

<https://www.facebook.com/PuttyCommunityAssociation>

## WORKING BEES

Saturday at 9am - 1pm. Painting and preparation for re-cladding the western wall.

## PRAYERS AND 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.

## EASTER SERVICES at Putty Hall

**Easter Saturday:** Evening Eucharist at 7.30pm in  
**Easter Monday:** 11am Ms Jane's Famous Easter Egg Hunt and games with prizes. Organised by the Sunday School. All Children (secular and saintly) welcome. Tea, coffee & finger food for parents, grand-parents and supporters.

## TERRY O'BRIEN'S WEATHER COMMENT

The rainfall has been a good start for the year. The southern oscillation index has moved upwards but still remains in the negative >-10. The summer rains may have been insufficient to fill our dams and tanks but the year to date figures exceed last years by 170mm.

## PUTTY RAINFALL

	SOUTH	FAIRVIEW	NORTH
Feb 2015	98.90mm	69.35mm	59.00mm
Feb 2014	61.40mm	68.50mm	50.00mm
Feb 10 yr average	99.63mm	119.00mm	

YTD15 244.5mm 229.05mm  
10 yr av 202.17mm 220.90

Recordings were taken at Fairview, Putty, with reference to the Bureau of Meteorology [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au).

Recordings were also taken at Mellong Grove, Putty Road (south) and The Top Place, Putty Valley Road, north.

If it rains at Putty, residents are encouraged to post their rainfall on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/PuttyCommunityAssociation](http://www.facebook.com/PuttyCommunityAssociation) so weekenders will know if they need to water their gardens.

**Something to sell?  
Place an ad in our advertising  
section  
Local Advertising works well!**

**LAND FOR SALE**

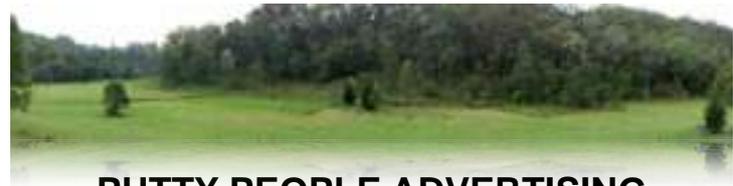
**130 ACRES** tucked away in a beautiful verdant area of three valleys. Seclusion and privacy absolutely guaranteed, narrow entrance ensures great security. **\$220,000** ono. Call Joanie 0417 202 381

**PROPERTY FOR SALE**

**"Lawarra" 1308 Putty Valley Road Putty, 45 acres**  
Permanent creek frontage, olives and vineyard, dam & 55,000 lts fresh water. 3 beds, 2 baths, dining and living area, modern kitchen, air con. Separate cabin and lge machinery shed.  
**Price \$395,000.** Owner, Malcolm 6579 7007 or 0417 258 250.



Please call with any news, activities or photographs to include in our monthly newsletter.  
Martha Babineau, phone 6579 7000  
[mailtroika@gmail.com](mailto:mailtroika@gmail.com)



**PUTTY PEOPLE ADVERTISING**  
In publishing these ads, the PCA is not endorsing or recommending any product or service advertised below.

**TRADES & SERVICES**

**Munro's Meats**

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

**King Road, Wilberforce Shopping Centre**  
**Ph: 4575 1961**

**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](http://www.fitzgeraldmotors.com.au)

**LEC AIR & ELECTRICAL**

Aircon, refrigeration, electrician, heat transfer kits. Lic: 167542C  
Ph: Matt Ward **0413 850 298**

**SHOD by SHEILA**

Horse shoeing and trimming  
**Ph: 0421 867 775**

**NEWSLETTER CONTACT**