

Putty People

The February 2015 newsletter of the Putty Community Association Inc.

From the President

The start to 2015 has been a rejuvenating time for the country with good soaking rain, and also for the volunteers who have had four weeks off to recharge their batteries. Now back into it for this year.

As always we would appreciate any help we can get to assist running the functions at the hall, particularly on Friday nights which are becoming more popular. Kathy is organising a roster, so if you can help any night please let her know.

We appear to be having problems with the mail delivery again with letters placed in the wrong boxes, so can you please ensure that your name and rural road number are clearly visible on your letterbox. Lot numbers are no use as there are so many properties with the same lot number. If you do not have a rural road number make sure that your name is quite visible.

Finally remember the Annual General Meeting is on Saturday 21st February at 5.00pm followed by drinks and a BBQ, and the Sydney Balalaika Orchestra will be performing on 21st March, so organise all your friends for what will again be an entertaining evening.

Tim Spooner
President



“We had a guy here today filming with a drone,” said a neighbour recently. “I spoke to him about it and he said it was legal as long as he was 100 metres from the house. He was starting at one end of the valley and working his way down. I asked him to send me a copy to show at the hall. He said you are not allowed to sell anything taken with a drone.”

It would appear that the use of drones is not well regulated although there are some rules, eg, you cannot fly any drone for commercial gain without certification - Real Estate Agents could have fun with this. You may not fly within a radius of 5.5km of any aerodrome or above 400 feet. You may not fly closer than 30m to vehicles, boats and buildings that are not on your property, without explicit permission. You are not allowed to fly over populated areas, beaches, other peoples' back yards or sports ovals when there are games in progress and can only operate within daylight hours in good weather.

Did we think we had some privacy out here in Putty?



KIDS' FUN AT FRIDAY NIGHT'S DETOUR

FIREY NEWS

Lots of rain and only two small fires since the last week in December has given our volunteer fire fighters a quiet month. One fire was started in a rubbish hole, the other in a pile burn. Both escaped into grassland and caused concern for both the owners and the Brigades. Once again, Putty Brigade was ably supported by crews from Howe's Valley and Bulga.

The Putty Fire Brigade AGM will be held at the Putty Fire Station on Saturday 21st February 2015 at 3pm.

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDER INCIDENTS

Ken and Peter from Putty and CFR's from Howe's Valley attended to a patient who had fallen from his motor cycle on the Putty Road, just north of the Putty turnoff. He was transported to John Hunter hospital by road ambulance with a suspected broken ankle.

Another patient, attended to by Ken and Peter and CFR's from Howe's Valley and Bulga and NSW Ambulance, had crashed his car on the Putty Road at Howe's Valley. He was flown by helicopter to John Hunter hospital in a serious but stable condition. The Putty Road was closed in both directions for a short time.

The CFR's continue to attend monthly revision and debrief sessions with officers from NSW Ambulance. Scene Management and Major Trauma was the subject for January with Management of an Unconscious Patient to follow this month.

AUSTRALIA DAY

Thirty people attended the Australia Day celebrations at Putty Hall on a cold and wet evening. Aleda led the singing of the National Anthem and Lawrie Webb recited a number of bush poems. The local ladies excelled again with the quality and quantity of their desserts.

COMMENTS ON JANUARY'S RAINFALL FROM JUDY HOBSON

This January's rainfall is the second highest in 27 years - since 1988. January 2013 was the highest at 172mm

Before 1988, higher January rainfall was recorded by the Bureau of Meteorology in 1972 - 255.3mm, 1974 - 227mm and 1968 - 218.5mm. *Note BoM records were and are taken close to Fairview.*

The January 10 year average is very high. Over this 10 years 2006 to 2015, seven out of the ten years recorded rainfall above 96mm.



THE KANOOKA TREE, *Tristaniopsis laurina*



Judy Hobson found a Kanooka Tree growing along the creek at her place at "Fairview."

Apparently it's a native and well suited to Putty. "It must have been washed down by seed or broken

branch from someone's place along Putty Creek," said Judy. "It was in bloom and standing out from the surrounding foliage with a brighter green appearance, somewhat wattle shaped leaves on an oval shaped tree."

The Kanooka or Wattle Gum belongs to the Myrtaceae family, and is related to the eucalypts. It usually grows near the eastern coastline and along the banks of streams, where the trunks and branches tend to be shaped in the direction of the current and give an indication of the flood height. The individual flowers are about 10 mm in diameter with five small, rounded petals and stamens united in five groups, and have a rather distinctive unpleasant odour. They usually bloom in the late spring or early summer.

LANDCARE

With all the welcome rain and steamy weather recently, the grass in our paddocks is finally covering the bare ground. It has also made for perfect conditions for thistles, unwanted weeds and invasive grasses to grow and these compete with the important native species.



STICKY NIGHT SHADE

Blackberry, Scotch Thistle, Sticky Nightshade (Wild Tomato), African Love Grass, Giant Parramatta Grass and Rock Fern or Mulga Fern is taking over again. While as the majority of these weeds are only invasive and a nuisance to control, Rock Fern is a poisonous weed.

BLACKBERRY, recognised as one of the worst weeds in Australia, is thriving right now. They might be good to eat and make great jam but bushes will take over and destroy your pastures.

Metsulfuron herbicide will kill Scotch Thistle, Sticky Nightshade, Rock Fern and Blackberry. Glyphosate herbicide will kill all of the weeds listed and everything else it touches.

Both can be mixed together for better results when eradicating blackberry. LANDCARE has obtained both of these herbicides at a negotiated price and have them available for purchase. Metsulfuron 600 is priced at \$25 for 500gm and Glyphosate 360 at \$12 for 1 litre.



PARRAMATTA GRASS



AFRICAN LOVE GRASS

They can be purchased by contacting Ken Ferguson on 6579 7077.

African Love Grass and Giant Parramatta Grass can be controlled by spot spraying with Glyphosate or blanket spraying with Flupropanate which is available from farm product suppliers. Flupropanate use has grazing restrictions applicable. Areas treated as a blanket spray cannot have animals grazing on it for at least four months with spot sprayed areas slightly less.

ALWAYS READ THE LABELS BEFORE USE.

AFRICAN LOVE GRASS is a native of South Africa. In Australia, it is regarded as a weed due to its low feed quality and poor acceptance by livestock. It is declared a class 4 weed in many areas of NSW.

PARRAMATTA GRASS is a native of tropical Asia and Malasia. It is a summer growing unpalatable tough grass and a weed of low fertility soils. It is widespread and locally common in coastal areas of NSW and Queensland.

ROCK FERN OR MULGA FERN

This weed is poisonous to cattle, horses and sheep if they choose to eat it, which they do during drought conditions although it is not such a problem when there is an abundance of other green feed available. Poisoning usually occurs from April to September and symptoms of poisoning including depression, confusion, disinterest, apparent blindness and episodes of convulsions. disinterest, apparent blindness and episodes of convulsions.



ROCK OR MULGA FERN

UPCOMING EVENTS

**WED 18TH FEB
NATIVE BEE**

**AUSTRALIAN
SYMPOSIUM**

Bee Business and the Office of Sustainability invite you to attend the Australian Native Bee Symposium, part of the Bee Aware of Your Native Bees project, funded by the NSW Environmental Trust. Held in February 2015 at UWS Hawkesbury campus, the symposium will host several keynote speakers and live demonstrations and whose specialties and passions are in the biology and behaviour of Australian native bees.

On Wednesday 18 February, arrive 8.30 for 9am start. Ends at 4pm. The venue is Building G1, UWS Hawkesbury campus, located on the corner of Bourke Street and Londonderry Road Richmond, main entrance is via Bourke Street.

Registrations are compulsory.

Email sustainability@uws.edu.au to register before 4th February or until places run out. Places are very limited and are filling fast.



UPCOMING MEETINGS

A Putty Fire Brigade general meeting will be held at the Fire Station on Saturday 21st February at 3pm, followed by a short refreshment break. The PCA AGM will start at 5pm at the Putty Hall.

YOUR PUTTY HALL

The Putty Community Association maintains the Putty Hall for your entertainment as well as for emergency meetings, and is used as an evacuation point when needed. The PCA organises a variety of social events for your enjoyment as well as to maintain and improve the hall and to support worthy causes.

Last year the PCA insulated and lined the ceilings of the hall, kitchen store, bar and general purpose room. Internal wall linings and fit outs were made to the kitchen store, bar and general purpose room. We also insulated the clad the external east wall, upgraded the electrics and installed a new distribution board. The many improvements, especially to the catering side, were carried out by volunteers with materials purchased using grants, donations, profits and membership fees.

At the moment we're awaiting a kids' playground facility, which will be placed in the back yard.

Joining the association will benefit all to make it possible to do even more for your enjoyment.

Botanical Art Talk

Join Artist Maree Elliot to discover the journey from scientific botanical field work to work of art.

9:30am Friday 13 February 2015.
Morning Tea will be provided.



Contact the Library on 02 6578 7500 www.singleton.nsw.gov.au



Nativity Play with Father Max at the Putty Hall



FRIDAY NIGHT DETOUR

Every Friday 6 - 10pm 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 \$50.

We're always looking for an extra pair of hands in the kitchen, and

COMPUTER COURSE at PUTTY HALL on Tuesday 24th February 11.00am to 1.00pm

If you, like many others, are still trying to work out Windows 8 or just can't do what you want to do with programs on your computer, tablet or mobile phone, then Tuesday 24th February is the day for you.

Singleton Library Programs staff will be at the Putty hall to assist you, so whether you are a beginner or just can't figure something out, the Library staff can help you. Morning tea will be provided.

For more information or book a place, contact Margaret Ferguson on 65797077.

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.

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.



NANA PAM KING, JODIE AND CHILDREN

WORKING BEES

Working Bees are cancelled until March.

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 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.

	SOUTH	FAIRVIEW	NORTH
Jan 2015	145.60mm	159.70mm	265.00mm
Jan 2014	15.70mm	16.20mm	18.00mm
Jan 10 yr	102.50mm	96.09mm	

Recordings were taken at Fairview, Putty, with reference to the Bureau of Meteorology 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

so weekenders will know if they need to water their gardens.

PUTTY WEBSITE

Putty Valley Online contains many interesting 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

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:

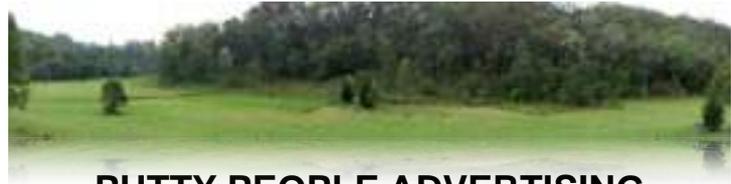
<https://www.facebook.com/PuttyCommunityAssociation>

Post your pictures and stories!

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

PROPERTY FOR SALE

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



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

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

Please call with any news, activities or photographs to include in our monthly newsletter.

Martha Babineau, phone 6579 7000
mailtroika@gmail.com

