

Putty People

The July 2016 newsletter of the Putty Community Association Inc

THE BIG EVENT IN PUTTY 2016

*2016 Putty Valley Fair
Sunday 2nd October 2016*

*That's the long weekend
It is time to think how you might
Join the Fun of the fair*

Show time for Putty seniors and juniors, for those who perform in the Senior or the Junior Talent Quest. Singers, instrumentalists, actors and poets are invited to compete. We are looking for a compere for the Junior Talent Quest and judges for both Senior and Junior.

Putty has talent in both art and photography – how about entering the competition and the gallery of art and photography. First prize \$200 – second and third prizes to be advised.

Why not donate to the Community stall, sell your wares, recycled books, CDs's, Trash and Treasure, home-made items, jams, pickles etc - time to plan, gather things together and prepare. If selling is your forte, you will be very welcome to join the sellers at the Community Stall.

Sunday 10 July at noon, in the hall, is the date, time and place for our next planning session.

We need to look at **progress with the raising of sponsorship**, both for raffle prizes and cash to fund children's entertainments. The **search for helpers continues**. We need help in the Putty Café and we need judges for the talent quests, art and photography competitions along with sellers of raffle tickets. **The various tasks need to be identified which go to make the overall smooth running of the fair.**

Importantly we need publicity so circulate information about the fair to friends near and far, to advertise the events, displays and features.

We look forward to seeing you at the next planning session. All are welcome to join in and share ideas. Enquiries by phone or text to Judy 0488 797 067, Jane 0407 953 353, Glen 0425 217 566. A BBQ lunch will be provided after the meeting. Please advise your attendance for catering.

LANDCARE Weed of the month



FIRE WEED - This plant is a Weed of National Significance (WoNS)

Fireweed is a serious pasture weed of coastal New South Wales. It is able to grow on most soil types and in all aspects. It forms a persistent seedbank and if not controlled before it flowers can rapidly take over heavily grazed and neglected pastures. Plants contain pyrrolizidine alkaloids that are toxic to livestock and cause liver damage. Young or hungry stock or new stock not previously exposed to fireweed are the most at risk of poisoning. All parts of the plant at all stages of growth are toxic. Hay, silage or grain that is contaminated with fireweed plants or their seeds can also be toxic.

While the cold weather has set in and most plants are dormant, Fire Weed still makes its presence known. Now is an ideal time to either spot spray or dig out the plants. Spot spraying can be done with a mix of Metsulphuron plus a wetting agent. Metsulphuron will not kill surrounding grasses.

Ken Ferguson

HUNTER LOCAL LAND SERVICES has some very interesting information on their website again this month. Go to <http://hunter.lis.nsw.gov.au>

And for the Winter edition of the Regional Outlook newsletter, go to <http://us8.campaign-archive2.com/?u=a7e0063dffae6c71b71f717e5&iid=298c8811af&e=57a091e7a0>

REINVIGORATING OUR LOCAL LANDCARE GROUPS

Story, Courtesy Singleton Argus - Shannon Dann
June 21, 2016

During a meeting held on Saturday 18th June, Landcare groups from across the region were told to stop fixating on their problems and instead, follow their passions. Create a group people want to join, and hold meetings they want to attend.

Because, when we rigidly think about solving a problem, we stop being “playful”, we lose the ability to be creative and fail to think outside the square.

This is the advice of Passion Mashin’ facilitator, the insightful Les Robinson.

He told the participants “boring meetings kill groups” and suggested many alternatives, from paddle ‘n’ plant to progressive bush dinners. “Simplify meetings, do we really need to bore people by reading out the minutes?” he asked the crowd.

On Saturday, he attempted to inspire representatives from Singleton, Broke, Bulga, Lambs Valley, **Three Valleys (Putty)**, Gresford, Dungog, Merriwa, Scone and Muswellbrook, during a day long workshop at the Singleton Visitor Information centre.

It was an initiative of the Singleton Shire Landcare Network, funded through the Upper Hunter Local Land Services, along with the Singleton Council.

Local Landcare coordinator for Singleton - Mid Hunter, Adam Dwyer says it was aimed at re-energising local groups and building links between groups. He used the words “reinvigorate and networking”.

Three Valley Landcare Group Inc
INC: 9875906 - ABN: 94292400384
An Invitation is extended to community members to join their association

- Joining or renewing your membership has been made even more convenient.
- Just open the following link for information about our local Landcare Group and forms to complete and return. Bank details for EFT payments are included above.

www.putty.nsw.au/landcare/membershipapplication-renewal/

OUR EMERGENCY SERVICES

FIRERY NEWS

Seems the only fires in Putty during June were those we lit to keep warm. But don't forget the safety tips. Are your smoke alarms working should an ember escape your fire and set something alight you really don't want to burn as you sleep? It only takes three minutes for a fire to take hold and your home filled with deadly smoke, which cuts down visibility and makes finding your way out very difficult. A working smoke alarm gives those extra seconds to get out.

Fire and Rescue NSW Commissioner, Greg Mullins is recommending that every house in NSW be fitted with the latest photoelectric smoke alarm, which is superior in most circumstances and provides faster warning.

Are you leaving your patio LPG gas fires outside where they belong? Remember these heaters deplete the oxygen in a room and you could be overcome by carbon monoxide poisoning. Take care and stay safe during winter.

Take advantage of the cold, staying inside weather and plan your Bush Fire Protection well before the next fire season begins. Community Safety packages to help you do this are available and can be picked up from the Putty Brigade station. Any enquires you have regarding bush fire safety can be made by contacting Lesley Bayliss on 65 797 054 or 0417 220 244 or Margaret Ferguson on 65 797 077

COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS

Putty, Howes Valley and Bulga CFR units had a quiet time during June only being called to two medical incidents. They attended their compulsory Annual Assessment and Re-Certification which was held over a full weekend. Saturday involved a full day of theory and Sunday covered practical scenarios including how to attend a person trapped in a collapsed building and how to treat two others suffering from a heart and an asthma attack.

Over the last twelve months, Putty Community First Responders have attended more than twenty incidents ranging from motor cycle accidents to falls from horses, insect bites and people with breathing difficulties.



**ST. SHENOUDA
MONASTERY**

Bishop Anba Daniel has extended an invitation to a very special event which will take place at the St. Shenouda Monastery during July.

The following details covering the event have been provided to us by Bishop Anba Daniel and you are all welcome to attend this joyful and historical Occasion.

Consecration of the 2 New Monks.

Monasticism; Egypt's Gift to the World.

Egypt is the Cradle of Christian Monasticism. Monasticism in the Orthodox Tradition/The Monastic Calling, considered to be a Personal Gift of God to the Individual Soul for his Salvation & Service to the Body of Christ.

God willing and by His blessings, we will consecrate for the first time here in Sydney Australia and in our Monastery of St Shenouda in Putty, two of our fine Australian born young Novices, Brother Mousa and Brother Bishoy, who have been trained at the Monastery for more than two and half years.

The Consecration will take place on Saturday: 16 July 2016 during the Celebration of St Shenouda the Archimandrite Feast (The Patron Saint of the Monastery).

The main part of the Consecration is, praying the whole prayer of the Funeral over the new Novices, since Monasticism is dying to the World and living for Heaven/Christ while still on Earth.

We will be blessed by our Fathers the Bishops and Honourable Dignitaries.

The whole Consecration will be transmitted outside the main Church to many large screens in different areas around the Monastery, so to enable the large number of visitors to watch and enjoy the event.

We are also planning to transmit the Event through the CYC & Aghapy TV channels as Live Streaming if possible. If it works, we will notify you beforehand.

Please note that, since the existing Church is so small, we ask you to be patient and humble to leave it only for The Bishops, the Priests, the Deacons, the VIPs Dignitaries, our Neighbours,

the Families of the Monks & the Novices only, and take it seriously to help for a bigger Church soon.

Please note that: no private cameras or video cameras are allowed to be used inside the Church during the Prayers, but only the designated cameras that are recording the whole events, so to keep the Church quiet and organised and let the professionals move freely inside the Church. (So please don't be upset from me when I tell you off for that).

I promise you, to give you ALL, a copy of the whole Occasion in a DVD- free later on.

We ask you to pray for the success of the Day.

Thank you & God bless you All.

Bishop Anba Daniel.



		Feast of St. Shenouda. (Actual Day: Thursday 14/7/2016).
7:00 am	8:00 am	The Prayers of Matin.
8:00 am	9:30 am	The Consecration of the 2 new Monks.
9:30 am	12:30 pm	The Holy Liturgy (Giving Presents after Mass).
12.30 pm	3.00 pm	Lunch.
3:00 pm	4:00 pm	The Procession around The Monastery.
4:00 pm 5:00 pm 11:00 pm	5:00 pm 6:00 pm 3:00 am (Sun).	Rest Time. Vesper Prayers. Vigils, Hymns, Midnight Praises.
Sunday 17/7/2016.	Feast of St. Shenouda cont. (Actual Day: Thursday 14/7/2016).	
3:00 am	5:00 am	The first Holy Liturgy.
9:00 am	12:00 pm	S second Holy Liturgy (Giving of Presents after Mass).
12:00 pm	2:00 pm	Lunch.
2.00 pm	3.00 pm	Procession around the Monastery.
3:00 pm 5:00 pm	5:00 pm 6:00 pm	Rest Time. Sunset prayers at the Church

FRIDAY NIGHT DETOUR AT THE PUTTY HALL



The Friday night Detour starts at 6.00pm and the PCA invites you to catch up with friends or meet new ones in a relaxed and welcoming environment. Delicious meals are available at reasonable prices.

Thank you to all the volunteers who have been preparing, cooking and serving at the Detour.

Even more volunteers who can help prepare the food, cook on the BBQ or assist with kitchen duties will be most welcome.

The Putty Community Association practices the responsible service of alcohol.

All profits support Putty Community activities.



Dave Thurston beside his wo-man sculpture

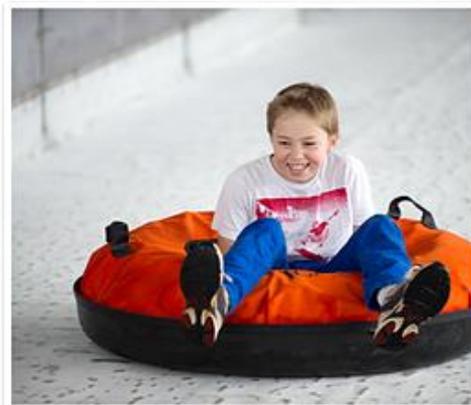
WATER 4 LIFE ACTION DAY ON ROADS AROUND AUSTRALIA

Dora Bustamante and Kathy McKenzie displayed their support for the #water4life16 action on Saturday 25 June at David Thurston's Halfway Roadhouse at Garland Valley on Putty Road. The day of action on highways all around Australia was to put water on the national agenda and ask candidates in the upcoming election to protect our water resources. Motorists honked their approval as they passed or called in for a sausage or egg and bacon roll.

If you are travelling north on the weekend, Kathy and Dora highly recommend Dave's bacon and egg rolls.

WHATS HAPPENING ELSEWHERE IN THE HUNTER VALLEY GARDENS

SNOW TIME 25th June - 17th July



Snow Time in the Gardens is a great opportunity for families and friends to get together and experience an icy wonderland over three huge weeks, including the winter school holidays! Chill out on the giant ice skating rink, the 25m ice toboggan and build a snowman the man-made Snow Play Zone!

With games, entertainment, warm beverages and hearty food, there is so much fun to be had for all ages. This is a day and night event running from 10am – 9pm every day.

Visit www.hvg.com.au for the full program and tickets.

WINTER ROSE PRUNING 18th - 31st July



Ever wonder how it's done? Hunter Valley Gardens have thousands of roses to prune, let them show you how! With demonstrations and talks throughout the day, you can be sure you are caring for your roses correctly. Don't forget to pick up your complimentary rose cutting on departure.

Winter Rose Pruning is open to the public from 9am to 5pm every day. Adult entry is \$28, children \$17 and a family pass is \$80 (2 adults, 2 children).

You can purchase tickets online
www.hvg.com.au

AT Tocal HOMESTEAD

Date: 31 July 2016

Peek Into The Past is when Tocal Homestead comes alive with the sights and sounds (and smells) of yesteryear. It is a wonderful old fashioned day out for all the family. Grandparents will reminisce, there's nostalgia. The sounds of working horses, heritage tractors and machinery mingle with the aromas of scones and apple pies baking in the old wood stove. Make sure you see the blacksmiths working at the forge and then enjoy a piece of damper from the camp fire, topped with 'cocky's joy'. Watch the local straw broom maker at work - he'd be happy to sell you one. Keep an eye out for the 'redcoats' of the soldiers of the 73rd Regiment of Foot, who will fire their muskets and march through the site - keeping law and order. Bring a scarecrow for the Scarecrow Competition and then vote for the best scarecrow (most votes wins!).

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2016 Dates (so far) Friday – Sunday June 17–19

<https://gasgabtours.com/pilliga-guided-self-drive-tours/>

AND BACK IN PUTTY CHURCH SERVICES RECOMMENCE

PRAYERS & BIBLE STUDIES

Our Lady of the Valley Services will recommence on Sunday 10 July at the Putty Hall. 9am Service, 10 am Bible Study and 11am Sunday School.

All Welcome.

THE NATIVES CALLED IT B'POOTY

Chapter 6 – The Women Who Made the Difference

During the early years of Australian settlement, the development of Australian cities and small towns has been attributed to men, with women given little recognition. Women were not named in a census and as late as the early twentieth century a married woman's title did not contain her Christian name, for example, she would be known as "Mrs. Robert Jones."

In the Howes Valley and Putty villages there was a small group of women who without them and their descendants, both places would have been very different.

In Putty there were women such as Hannah Laycock, her grandson's wife Mary Matcham Pitt, and her two great-granddaughters May Elizabeth Farlow and Emily Jane Laycock.

Maria Jane Merrick, born 1815, may not have been the first woman to settle in Howes Valley, but she did so with her husband Joseph and their thirteen children. Three of her children were Caroline Susannah, Maria Jane and James Robert.

Caroline Susannah, born in 1840, married Henry Jackson and like her mother, also had thirteen children.

It was Caroline's sons William Henry Merrick and William Albert Jackson who bought Putty land in 1888.

It was not unusual for a mother's first or even second child to be given their mother's surname. Visits from the local vicar were few and far between and it seems that even though mum and dad set up home together, only the children born after the nuptials took their father's surname.

Maria Jane, Caroline's sister, was born in 1855. She married her first husband Thomas Café in 1872 and had five children. It was two of them, John Rowland Café and his sister Eliza Cafe, who settled in Putty.

When John moved to Putty and married Mary Matcham Cobcroft, daughter of Emily Cobcroft, (nee Laycock.) it was the beginning of the Putty/Café family.

Maria Jane Café's husband Thomas had died as a result of a gunshot wound in 1885. Three years after his death, Maria married Edward William Medhurst. Her daughter, Eliza Cafe, at age fifteen years, married Edward's brother Jonathan the same day.

Eliza, like many other women of the time, also became the mother of thirteen children.

Was there something about having a baker's dozen? It appears that most of the women had thirteen babies, but sadly not all of them survived infancy.

Maria, now Mrs. Edward Medhurst, had five more children. One of the daughters, Eva Mary Medhurst married Wilfred Cobcroft, brother of Mary Café, John's wife.

Sarah Ann Diplock was another woman important to the development of Putty. Born at Wollombi in 1836, she married John Medhurst from the Lower Hawkesbury and they too settled at Howes Valley. Sarah was the mother of Edward, Jonathan, Laban, John, Walter, George and Joshua, four other sons and two daughters.

Drought conditions forced John, Laban, Walter and George north towards Denman.

Edward and Maria along with Sarah and her two daughters remained in Howes Valley but Jonathan, his wife Eliza and brother Joshua moved to Putty.

But I mustn't forget James Robert Merrick, brother of Caroline and Eliza for he married Martha Louise Gibbs and they settled in Putty. James and Martha were the parents of George Henry Gibbs, and twelve other children named Merrick including William John, James Richard, Albert Edward, Roland Dural, Thomas Leo, and Ada Clara Martha all of whom raised Merrick children in Putty.

It was James Richard Merrick, Martha's son, who Haler Eliza Medhurst, one of Eliza's daughters, set up house with and became the mother of his ten children. James and Haler never married so Haler's children continued on with the Medhurst name.

Caroline's son William Henry Merrick and his wife Catherine also made a fine contribution to the Merrick population.

The eleven pioneer women I have introduced to you were the matriarchs of the Laycock, Harris, Merrick, Cobcroft, Café, Medhurst, Jackson and Gibbs families, the families who made Putty what it is was in its early years of settlement.

I have named only a few of the Medhurst and Merrick ancestors and their descendants. Whose was the biggest family? Impossible to say. It is incredible to think that from only eleven amazing and hard working women that Putty was "up and running" so quickly. Right through the 1800's and early 1900's both families just got bigger and bigger. Census figures did not reflect a true account of all the children living in Putty so this made it impossible for me to figure out who might have won the prize, if there was one, for the having the greatest number of children, was it the Merricks or the Medhursts or were they all one big family after all. A family member once said to me, "don't bother trying to trace the family trees, even those in the families cant sort it out."

To be continued

PUTTY RAINFALL JUNE 2016**Year to date**

June 2016	457.6mm	463.30mm	544mm
June 2015	635.6mm	580.40mm	761mm
June	455.5mm	493.50mm	--
10 yr average to date			

Terry O'Brien from Mellong tells us that possibility of a La Nina event occurring in spring has improved in the last month. There is now a 60% probability of above average rainfalls for the remainder of the year. Four weeks ago the probability was 50%. Last year July to September rainfalls were below average and followed by the low rain in February to May this year ground moisture has been significantly reduced limiting Autumnal growth.

Recordings were taken at Fairview, Putty, with reference www.bom.gov.au. Mellong Grove, Putty Rd (south) and The Top Place, Putty Valley Rd, north.

PUTTY WEBSITE 'Putty Valley Online'

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 <http://www.putty.nsw.au/rural/mla-pricesmarkets>

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!

ADVERTISING: pca@putty.nsw.au

NEWSLETTER CONTACT

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

Martha Babineau, phone 6579 7000
babineaumartha@gmail.com

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

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