

# Putty People

*The March 2014 newsletter of the Putty Community Association Inc*

## **A NOTE FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Some welcome rain at last and it is steady soaking rain as well. It is great to see the valley greening up again.

At the recent AGM we saw a number of changes to the committee with the retirement of Margaret Ferguson and Barbara Kearns and new members Martha Babineau and Dora Bustamante. Thanks again to Margaret and Barbara for all their efforts and welcome to Martha and Dora.

This month we have two important functions, the Back to Putty Weekend where we have invited old residents and their families to visit and meet the current locals, and the Singleton Council meeting to be held at the Hall. Both these should be informative and allow us to gain knowledge of past history and also air our concerns to our Council.

I look forward to seeing as many as possible of you at these events, but please remember to ring me on 65797047 and register your intent.  
Tim Spooner

## **PCA AGM**

Over 30 people attended the Putty Community Association's AGM and barbecue.



The new committee is  
Tim Spooner – President  
Andy Edwards – Vice President  
David Hope - Treasurer  
Ken Ferguson – Trust Officer  
Kathy McKenzie – Secretary  
Dora Bustamante – Assistant Secretary  
Martha Babineau – Publicity Officer

Martha Babineau will be writing the newsletter next month. Martha has a working background in film, television and writing. Please send contributions to [marthababineau@yahoo.com](mailto:marthababineau@yahoo.com) or ring Martha on 6579 7000.

Discussions were held at the meeting on the following items under general business -

**Changes to Constitution** - The committee will look at adopting the Department of Fair Trading's new model constitution. All past amendments will be included and the new constitution will be sent to members for comment before the next AGM.

**Vegie Co-op** – Jane Eggert will look into the various ways of setting up a vegie co-op at the hall on Saturday mornings where residents can swap or sell excess vegies.

**Smoking on Deck** – Currently the deck at Putty Hall complies as a smoking area but new laws are coming into force on 1 October 2014 when smoking will not be allowed in any areas where food is served or prepared, or within four metres of such areas. A smokers' area with ashtrays will be set up four metres from where food is served or prepared.

**Children's Play Sculpture** - The PCA is investigating the cost and funding for a children's play area within view of the deck.

**Putty Fair** - Debby Payne volunteered to organise a Putty Fair this year and Martha Babineau has offered to help.

**Courtesy bus, lifts, car pooling** – People travelling to Sydney or Singleton regularly can offer lifts to people by putting a notice on the hall notice board or by emailing [pca@putty.nsw.au](mailto:pca@putty.nsw.au) up until Tuesday evening and the community can be notified in the weekly – What's on at Putty Hall. Other short notices to the community will be included in this email at the discretion of the PCA Committee.

## **BUILDING REPORT**

The cladding of the walls of the deck is now completed. The next major job will be the insulating and lining of the hall ceiling. Painting of the deck beams and other trims is also still waiting to be done.

## **PCA MEMBERSHIP**

New members of the PCA are Debbie Payne and Paul Davis of Putty Valley Road, Roland and Michelle Leggert from the Lilavale Track and Herman Streicher from Box Gap Road.

PCA memberships are renewable on 1 February each year and lapse on 31 May of the following year if not paid. Membership from 1 February 2014 to 31 January 2015 costs \$20.

**The PCA moved its accounts to the Commonwealth Bank last year. The new direct debit details are BSB: 062622 ACC: 1044 4988.** Please email [pca@putty.nsw.au](mailto:pca@putty.nsw.au) when payment has been made.

### **FIRIES NEWS**

Early in February, a weekender in the Yengo area was destroyed by a fire which originated in a refrigerator run on LPG. It is thought that perhaps bush rats had either built a nest in the refrigerator or possibly eaten through the flexible gas hose during the few weeks the owners were absent. Fortunately the owners were not injured.

Bottled gas, LPG, is a very useful commodity for those who live in remote areas. However, it does bring with it risks if not handled correctly. Following the correct storage and safety procedures as listed below will help to minimise the possible risks.

- Always keep your cylinders out of the sunlight. The pressure inside a gas bottle which has been exposed to a high temperature can double. In the case of a cylinder subject to a fire, the pressure will be so great that the bottle will either blow the safety valve out or the bottle will explode resulting in an uncontrollable fire.
- Consider replacing plastic/rubber hoses with metal braided hose to avoid rodent damage.
- Position a mirror in a suitable position at the rear of the refrigerator so that the burner and pipework can be easily inspected before lighting the burner.
- Keep all cylinders in an upright and stable position so that the safety valve is in contact with the vapour, not the liquid, inside the cylinder.
- Face the cylinder with the safety valve pointing outwards, away from any wall.
- Where possible, store cylinders outdoors or in a well ventilated shed.
- Protect the cylinder from falling over.
- Do not let material or waste to accumulate in or around the area where cylinders are kept.
- Do not connect or disconnect a cylinder in the vicinity of a naked flame.
- Ensure valves are turned off when not in use.
- Do not keep them near an ignition source, petrol or aerosol containers.
- Do not leave a cylinder in the boot or rear of a car.
- Do not store them in a location such as a doorway or passage which could prevent people from escaping a building in the event of a fire.
- Do not use an outdoor heater indoors or in a confined space as the oxygen level in the air will be reduced and breathing will

become adversely affected.

For further information access the following fact sheet from the NSWRFSS.

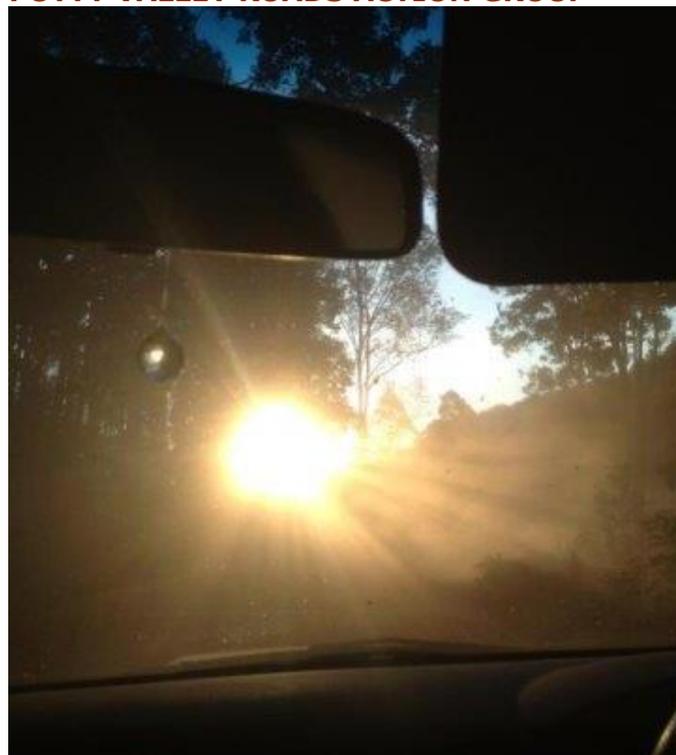
[http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file\\_system/attachments/State08/Attachment\\_20080627\\_C77DBEDE.pdf](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/file_system/attachments/State08/Attachment_20080627_C77DBEDE.pdf)

Margaret Ferguson

Fires near you is a mobile app which tells how far a fire is from you. See [www.firesnearme.com](http://www.firesnearme.com)

For further information, please look up 'Current Fires and Incidents' on the Rural Fire Service Website at [www.rfs.nsw.gov.au](http://www.rfs.nsw.gov.au)

### **PUTTY VALLEY ROADS ACTION GROUP**



Driving into the sun, through the dust on Lindemans Corner courtesy of Debbie Payne

Tim Spooner announced at the AGM that the Council had notified him that they are getting quotes to widen the road near Chris Lindeman's house by cutting out some of the rock.

For the latest news from the Putty Valley Roads Action Group see their new Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Putty-Valley-Roads-Action-Group-PVRAG/598985326846957>

The Action Group meets most Tuesday evenings at Putty Hall. Contact Fr. Max [max@transcareer.com.au](mailto:max@transcareer.com.au) or 6579 7168

### **LANDCARE**

The invasion of Sticky Nightshade in Putty Valley was reported in the May 2013 Putty People. Since then, the spread of Sticky Nightshade has increased dramatically.

If measures are not taken by property owners to control this invasive weed, results could be devastating for grazing stock.



Sticky Nightshade is an annual or short lived perennial. The prickles prevent stock from feeding through it and will stop you from walking through it. Measures to control this weed is by spraying with Grazon or Metsulphuron before the plants fruit. Single plants can be chipped out. The plants are due to fruit now and seeds will be spread by birds attract to the red fruit.

Metsulphuron is available at a reduced price though Landcare. Contact Ken Ferguson.

### NBN SATELLITE

The NBN Satellite is full and no new satellite connections will be available until late 2015 when new and supposedly faster satellites will be launched. The overcrowding of the present satellite system is giving poor service and the Federal Government say they are trying to find a solution. More mobile towers may free up some space.

### CHAINSAW ACCIDENT

Jimmy Stokes is back working at the mill but with his arm in a removable plaster cast. A warning to all – if Jimmy can have an accident with a chainsaw then it can happen to anyone.

### BIRTH OF CODY COLEMAN

Congratulations to Nikky and Rodney Coleman on the birth of their baby boy Coby, brother for Georgia and Bailey. Born 17th February weighing 8lb 11oz.

### NEWS BRIEF

Maurie King is recovering well in Hawkesbury Hospital after the operation to repair his weakened femur, close to his hip. Perhaps the photo card taken by Martha Babineau of all his friends after the AGM cheered him up.

### WATTLE CUTTING

Wattle trees have traditionally been cleared off the valley hillsides to enable more grass to grow to feed cattle. Wattles are cut down around Easter, just before the first frost and never after the third. By then the sap has stopped rising and the plant has gone dormant for winter, ready to shoot again in spring.

### ELECTORAL ROLE UPDATE

If you have recently moved to Putty or retired to your farm here please update the electoral role. The more people registered to vote in this area the better government services we will receive, including roads. We may even get enough people registered to have a polling booth!!

[www.aec.gov.au](http://www.aec.gov.au)

### PUTTY RAINFALL JANUARY 2014

	South	Fairview	North
Feb 2014	61mm	67mm	50mm
Feb 2013	180mm	200mm	254mm
10yr Avg	mm	112mm	
2014 to date	87mm	83mm	
2013 to date		392mm	
10 year ave	200mm	198mm	

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

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 know if they have to come to Putty to water their gardens.

### OUR 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)
- **Putty Rainfall Charts** from 2005 – 2013 at [www.putty.nsw.au/weather](http://www.putty.nsw.au/weather).
- **Articles** are posted on Voice at [www.putty.nsw.au/voice](http://www.putty.nsw.au/voice)

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

### NEWSLETTER CONTACTS:

Martha Babineau – Ph: 6579 7000 or email [marthababineau@yahoo.com](mailto:marthababineau@yahoo.com)

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### FRIDAY NIGHT DETOUR

Every Friday 6-10pm at Putty Hall



Stop by at the Putty Hall for supper and a yarn. Bar open and 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

Every Saturday 8.30am – 1pm.

All help appreciated. Contact Tim on 6579 7047 if you have any queries or can offer any materials or particular skills. No working bee on March 15.

### PRAYERS AND BIBLE STUDIES

Putty Hall, with resident Anglican priest Fr. Max. Our Lady of the Valley services for 2014 will be held

**2nd Sunday of the Month:**

Eucharist at 8:30; Prayer and Bible Study 9:30; Sunday School 11:00

**4th Sunday of the Month**

Eucharist at 9:30; Sunday School 11:00  
All denominations welcome. Ph: 6579 7168

### BACK TO PUTTY WEEKEND

**Saturday & Sunday 15-16 March**

Past residents and their families are invited back to Putty to catch up with old friends, meet current residents and see what has been done to the Putty Hall. Register at the hall on Friday night or Saturday. A group of people are bringing a picnic lunch and will meet at the hall on Saturday. Tea and coffee will be available. A dinner will be held at the hall on Saturday evening. Some of the old houses will be open. Billet accommodation will be available. Call 6579 7047 for more information.

### SINGLETON COUNCIL MEETING

**Monday 17 March at Putty Hall**

5.00pm - Councillors arrive. Tea served.

5.30pm - Council meeting commences

7.30pm approx - Meeting concludes, bar open

8.00pm - Two course dinner

Locals are invited to attend and stay for dinner but bookings are essential on 6579 7047.

Locals can address council - rules:

- Max 5 minutes talking time
- Must nominate subject and speaker(s) one week prior to meeting to Tim Spooner on 6579 7047 and he will advise Council.
- No more than two speakers on one subject.

### ANZAC DAY CEREMONY

**Friday 25 April at 10am**

This year marks 100 years since Australia's involvement in World War I. The ceremony will be followed by morning tea.

### PLEKTRA MANDOLIN CONCERT

**Sunday 27 April at 2pm**

The Plektra Mandolin Ensemble performs a mixture of classical mandolin music and music composed by Stephen Lalor. They first performed at Putty in 2010 before going to Germany for Eurofest, where they will be going again later in the year. Local musician Martha Babineau is one of the performers. Bring a picnic lunch or buy a snack at the hall.

### EARTH HOUR

**Saturday 29 March 8.30 – 9.30pm**

For those with power, join lots of others and turn your lights and electric appliances off.

### 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.

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

#### Catering

**Susan Cuthbert**

**0425 319 152**

Effortless Catering 'makes throwing a party easy'. Catering for all occasions, weddings, 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> birthdays etc

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