

PUTTY PEOPLE OCTOBER 2021

Newsletter of the Putty Community Association, Inc.



SINGLETON COUNCIL'S UPCOMING PUTTY ROAD REPAIRS

From Tim Spooner

Residents should be advised that the old bridge will be maintained during the construction of the new Gibbs Bridge, but that there will be ongoing construction activity from November to April 2022. Care should be taken when driving in this location.



Gibbs Bridge Replacement - \$1,300,000

Tenders have been reviewed and will go to the October Council meeting for endorsement. The Project is scheduled to start November 2021 and be completed in April 2022.

Putty Valley Landslip - \$2,600,000 - Project design and scope are being finalised with tenders to be called in January 2022. The Project is scheduled to commence in April 2022 and completed in September 2022

Putty Valley Road Sealing Project - \$1,000,000 Council has received a grant last week for the further sealing of Putty Valley Rd. The Project is scheduled to commence April 2022 and completed in September 2022.

GOODIES AND CHRISTMAS FOR THE PUTTY HALL

By Jane Robinson

The PCA Committee are nearing the completion of a “mega” grant application for upgrades to the Putty Hall, including bringing our disable facilities up to standard, constructing the much discussed and awaited outdoor conversation area, installation of the children’s playground equipment, roof repairs, painting the exterior of the Hall and a number of energy saving initiatives.

Yes, it is a bit of a wish list however it is worth doing if we can receive grant funding support to complete the work that will eventually need to be done over time. We will, of course, keep the Putty Community posted on progress.



We are hoping that this year we will actually be able to hold a **BIG Christmas Party at the Putty Hall on Saturday 11 December from 5pm with Santa** for the Children free BBQ, entertainment and perhaps even a special guest appearance by Pam and Geoff King so that we can farewell our dear friends in true Putty Style – stay tuned for confirmed details.

Where the **BIG** Things are.....

By Jane Robinson

Now here's a **BIG** idea..... in discussion regarding the Mega grant funding application, the PCA committee started brain storming ideas as to how we might "put Putty on the map" and our thoughts turned to BIG things : the BIG Merino, the BIG Prawn, The BIG Golden Guitar, the BIG Apple, Peach, Banana – you name it (fruit seems very well represented in the BIG things!) and we thought why not consider a BIG thing for Putty as a way of promoting positive Putty awareness.

Some of the suggestions that have emerged are the BIG.....

Wombat

Kangaroo

Echidna

Platypus



Certainly there are many other options but we are really interested in what you think about the idea and if you have any suggestions or preferences for Putty's BIG thing???? Maybe you have a suggestion of someone who could constructed a BIG thing for us?

Currently the idea is it would be located in the grounds of the Putty Hall, would be sign posted at the Putty Road turn off to Putty Valley Road and would provide merchandising opportunities that would see Putty residents with a never ending supply of Christmas gifts for our friends for many years to come. Please email us with your thoughts and feedback to pca@putty.nsw.au

THREE VALLEYS LANDCARE GROUP - AGM and talk

The Three Valleys Landcare AGM will be held on Saturday 30 October at 3pm at Martha's Place, 1300B Putty Valley Road Putty.

This will be followed by a talk from Carolyn Jenkinson from Local Land Services to let us know about what they're doing for us in Putty.



JIMMY DONOVAN

Putty farewells well known Local Character, Jimmy Donovan, who passed away peacefully on 6 September.

Horseman, cattleman, fencer - great all rounder, Jimmy could do anything in the bush. Seen frequently on the Putty Valley Road hauling cattle and horses, Jimmy would greet you with a huge grin and get out his snake bite kit while the traffic detoured around.

He loved his Kelpies and his music and every year he and Michelle would head north to enjoy the Tamworth Music Festival.



PHOTOGRAPHS FROM FACEBOOK

THE PUTTY RESILIENCE PROJECT UPDATE: “PUTTY GET READY” and IMPROVED MOBILE COVERAGE FOR PUTTY BY JANE ROBINSON

It's been another busy month for the PCA Committee as we supported the “Putty Get Ready” Online Gatherings in September to assist locals prepare for the hot weather (code for Fire Season) ahead. It was good to see so many new faces getting involved and to be able to support the Putty Community Resilience Project. We were very fortunate to have many emergency Services including RFS (Thanks Ken F and Andy!), SES, Singleton Police, Community First Responders and Red Cross online to support our rural community. Thank you to everyone who helped make the “Putty Get Ready” events a great success.

We were also delighted when Fr Anthony of St Shenouda Monastery and member of the Putty Community Resilience Project – Telstra Advocacy Project Team, received confirmation that **Telstra would be rebuilding the local Telstra communications tower to enable local access to the 4G mobile network, improve signal strength and extend failover battery life.** Divine intervention or just Telstra getting its act together – who knows but we will follow the progress of the new tower build very closely and look forward to improved coverage for all in the local area.

If you are interested in getting involved with the Putty Resilience Project please email pca@putty.nsw.au or Heidi Chappelow at hchappelow@singleton.nsw.gov.au.

AU REVOIR TO GEOFF AND PAM KING

Longtime residents, Geoff and Pam are moving on from Putty's idyllic life that they built here. They fell in love with their Putty property in the eighties and began coming up here as weekenders camping and finally built their beautiful home and gardens and, with Pam's green thumb, a variety of fragrant roses.

At the time Geoff, a builder, was working in Sydney as a consulting judge at a district court to settle building disputes, arbitration and conciliation. Around 2002 Matthew Lefevre asked Geoff to run a building project for the Putty Hall, which was in need of attention. He did the drawings, estimates, organised the building materials together with a lot of local input and support.

Margaret Ferguson remembers them as a caring couple heavily involved in the community. Geoff once commented that Pam enjoyed feeding people and her Devonshire teas were legendary, especially at the Putty Spring Fairs. He claimed that if she had been on the “Titanic” she would have been on the deck, handing out food as the ship went down. While Pam baked, Geoff kept adding features on their property - chook house, pool and he loved working in timber on his beautiful lathe. They held many BBQs and enjoyed opening their home to social events like June Malmberg's Harness group.



PHOTOGRAPH:
BARBARA KEARNS

They facilitated ANZAC and Remembrance Services at the Putty Hall for many years and Pam often made delicious ANZAC biscuits. Geoff served as President of the PCA and Pam was Secretary for several years. Both were active members of the Putty Rural Fire Brigade. We'll also miss Pam's monthly rainfall figures from the South.

Geoff and Pam have generously given to the community and we will miss them!



SES VISITS TO PUTTY

From Margaret Ferguson

Within the Emergency Management Plan, NSW SES undertakes flood planning as a legislative responsibility to determine how to best respond to floods as the combat agency.

Flood plans typically describe the risk to the community, outline roles and responsibilities for the NSW SES and supporting agencies and describe how the NSW SES will manage flood events. (Ref: EMPLAM Flood Planning) To formulate a response plan for Putty, members of the SES visited Putty recently and were shown by Ken and Kenn from the Putty Brigade where the bridges and roads throughout the valley were subject to flooding.

The information gathered will be used to determine the best method and safest way to supply essential items such as basic food, medication and fuel to residents when flood waters cause isolation.

CAROLYN HENLEY'S INCIDENT

Carolyn was attending to her colt, who kicked back at her forcing her knee the wrong way which resulted in her crushing the knee joint, snapping the muscle and tearing the ligaments in her calf.

Although in a lot of pain, she managed to drag herself onto her dressage arena. Lying helplessly on the ground she heard Geoff and Pam, who just happened to be visiting her. They called an ambulance and Carolyn was taken to hospital.

After a couple of MRIs, the hospital put a plate in her wrist as well as replacing a damaged plate in her elbow. There may be more to do with her knee but at least she's hobbling around on one crutch with a big smile on her face.



HUNTER HARNESS DRIVING CLUB AT PUTTY

From June Malmberg

We are hoping to run the Hunter Harness Driving Club event on Saturday and Sunday 30th and 31st October.

Horses and carriages will be on the road on both days, travelling towards and along Box Gap Road on Saturday and towards Kookaburra Way on Sunday.

Escort vehicles will be accompanying the drive. There will be a BBQ at the huts on Saturday night. Visitors welcome - BYO meat.



READERS - Please share your old memories, photographs of Putty!

THE WAY WE WERE - Memories from Yesteryear

A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY - PUTTY'S OWN POST OFFICE

Russell Griffin ran the Putty Post Office from his place opposite the Putty Hall in January 2011 for eight months. It was a really convenient service for the Putty community however because of the additional insurances expenses, he was unable to continue with the service.



SPECIAL OCCASIONS AT PUTTY SCHOOL

By Margaret Ferguson

The year of 1898 brought with it exciting changes for the school children of Putty. A new school building had replaced the old timber and bark hut, the school status was raised to be a Public School and Mr Arthur C Barwick had arrived as their teacher.

A system of prize-giving based on attainments was initiated by Mr A. Barwick soon after his arrival. Before the Christmas holidays in 1901, his students assembled to receive their prizes which were distributed by Mr and Mrs Barwick who made sure every child received a prize.

At the beginning of the prize giving, the children sang the old Scottish melody, "Ye Banks and Braes o' Bonny Doon," and afterwards, a "Holiday Song." Mr. Barwick's students were from the Café, Cobcroft, Ellis, Gibbs, Hall, Harris, Jackson, Laycock, McTaggart, Medhurst, Merrick, Ridge and Turnbull families.

Arthur Barwick continued to teach the children until the end of 1907. In January 1908, about fifty residents of Putty gathered at "Ferndale" to bid him farewell as he left Putty to take charge of the public school at Warkworth. He was held in high esteem by the community. Teachers continued to come and go, staying from one to four years. Mr. James A Martin was the teacher when the (third) school building was moved to the site above Turnbull Creek. Mr. W S A Harris followed and then Mr. Britt, who seemed to have a lot of difficulty in finding his new post.

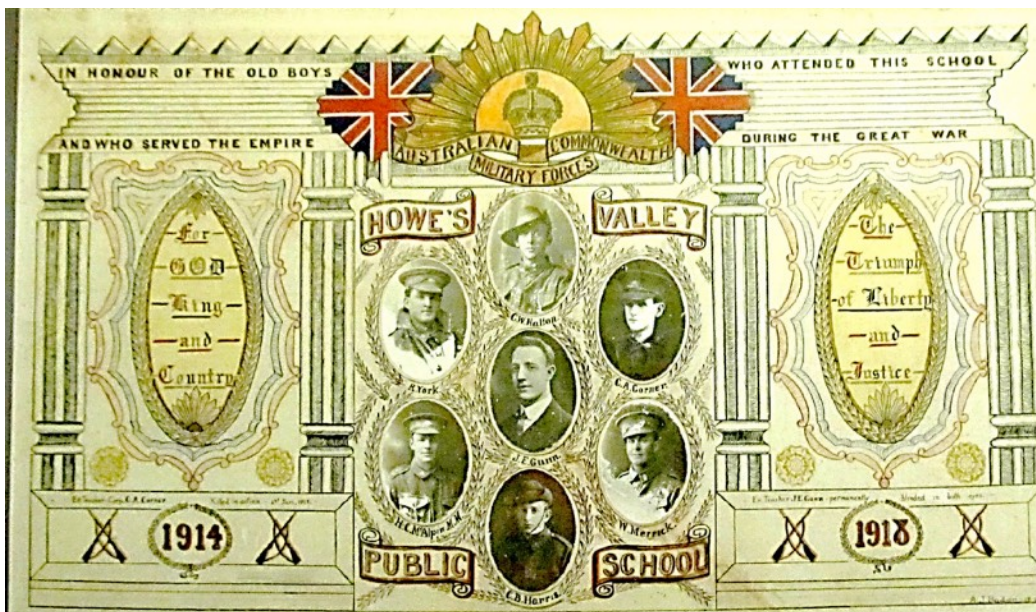
NOT UP TO PUTTY! From the Northern Times, 3rd November 1916

Mr. Britt, of the West Wallsend Public School, was advised of his transfer to PUTTEE a few days ago. He thought it was near Wollombi, but when he reached that village, none of the residents had ever heard of such a place. Some of them even thought that he was "leg-pulling." So, he wired to the department demanding to know the location of the place with such an outrageous name. The answer came that it was near Mudgee. Now Mr. Britt has to make another search.

Near Mudgee? Australians in the bush do have a different way of explaining distance. Mudgee is 280 Km away from Putty and three and a half hours drive by car today. Hopefully Mr. Britt did asked further directions before going to Mudgee as he eventually found PUTTEE and stayed until March 1919. During his stay, a special ceremony was held at Putty School in honour of the local men and women who had volunteered to serve in the Great War.

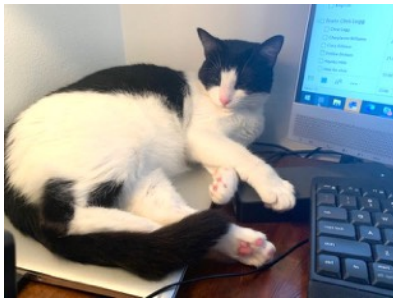
UNVEILING ROLL OF HONOR. Singleton Argus, 10th August 1918

The unveiling' of The Roll of Honour took place at the Putty Public School on Wednesday afternoon, 7th August, 1918. There was a fair attendance of residents. The teacher (Mr J. Britt) spoke on the principle of a Roll of Honour, and Australia's duty to those who have volunteered. Our motto should be "Dinna forget" and our Rolls of Honour are an eternal reminder, "Lest We Forget." The ceremony of unveiling was performed by Mrs Britt, while the pupils sang "Hail Australia." The Roll contains the name and photo of each old boy recruit. At the top is a scroll, a shield, and Flags of the Allies with a sun rising on the sea, the whole forming a pleasing picture. The work was executed by Mr Mel. Anderson, of Singleton, and is very creditable. The teacher thanked the maker and those present who assisted at the unveiling ceremony, and the proceedings terminated with the National Anthem.



Authors note:

Mr. Mel Anderson was a well-known painter and decorator who used stencils and other decorating designs in his work. Unfortunately, the Putty Roll of Honour cannot be located but from the description of the Putty roll this one is similar. It was as drawn by Mr. A.J. Badior not the same person who made the Putty Honour Roll.



LIVING YOUR BEST LIFE

FROM JANE ROBINSON

Living your best life – what does that mean? Well it means something different for each one of us – helpful answer right? How do you know if you are living your best life? You think about it and are intentional in your actions and reactions.

10 Practical Ways to Live Your Best Life

1. Focus

Whatever you do, focus. If you swim, swim. If you study, study. Multitasking is a myth. It's not possible to do more than one thing at a time well. Focused work is the least tiresome and the most productive type of work.

2. Take Responsibility for Taking Action

Taking action can feel scary. We fear failure, but we can also fear success. It can be easy to feel too busy to achieve your intentions. However, you have the choice to take action and live your best life or stay the same. It's up to you, so take responsibility to take action.

3. Live in the Present

Every day is a new opportunity to live your best life. We so often get stuck because we put things off. We can think, "When I've lost 10kgs I'll go swimming," or "When I feel more confident I'll look for a new job." How about starting from where you are? How about using what you already have?

We often put off taking action until we have the newest phone/camera/game/course/book/shoes as if they are the keys to happiness. In the process, we forget about what we already have.

Grab the camera that you have, put on your old running shoes. Go and do something interesting today with what you've got. Fancier gadgets, better clothes, or a slimmer body won't make you better.

Action will.

4. Declutter

This applies to the environment you live in as well as the people you spend time with. Ask yourself do these items bring me "joy"? If your answer is yes, you keep the item. If you hesitate or say no, you donate it or give it away. Simple.

This also applies to people. If there are people in your life that make you feel bad, drain your energy, and don't bring you joy, let go of them. Instead, spend time with the people and activities that give you energy and make you feel good.

5. Relish the Simple Things

When we're busy, we can forget to appreciate what we have. Take time to focus on the simple things. Even when you're feeling low, there's always something to be grateful for.

In positive psychology research, gratitude is strongly and consistently associated with greater happiness. Be deliberate in being grateful for what you do have, rather than resentful of what you don't.

6. Journaling

Journaling is simply writing your thoughts down. Apparently this not only helps you get your thoughts in order, but it can also help ease symptoms of depression and manage stress and anxiety. Journaling can help you manage your thoughts and feelings and productively cope with life.

Be curious and keep learning. Ask more questions and keep pushing yourself to step outside of your comfort zone and learn.

What are you interested in or curious about? Perhaps it's learning more about where you live, or reading up on a particular topic?

7. Make Someone's Day

Being kind to others makes them feel good, and it also releases chemicals in your body that make you feel good. Think about a time you gave someone a gift that they loved. How did you feel?

Think about small, thoughtful gestures: a genuine compliment, opening the door, offering to help someone. All these things can make a big difference in someone's day.

8. Look After Your Body

Eat what nourishes you, including plenty of vegetables and fruit and food that's natural and unprocessed. Drink plenty of water. Exercise because you like it (yes really!). Reject the idea that you have to push yourself really hard at exercise, and instead try out a variety of things – for example, walking the dog, gardening, yoga, swimming, or dancing. Find what you enjoy so you'll be motivated to do it more.

9. Manage Your Inner Critic

Most people have an inner critic that tells them they are not good enough, that they're a fraud, and that they are going to be found out. This happens especially when we step out of our comfort zone and change things. Next time the critic butts in, acknowledge what's happening and call it out. Whatever it is telling you, list all the reasons it's wrong.

10. Be Prepared to Change the Plan

You may have set intentions to live your best life. However, life is not linear, nor does it work in lists. You must expect to be flexible and change the plan as life throws things at you. The end game remains the same: to live your best life. It's just the route to get there that will inevitably change.

Live each day like it counts, and remember, it's your choice. Your best life is unique to you. Don't compare yourself to others – focus on living *your* best life, and enjoy the learning, exploration, and all the experiences along the way.

ALPHABETICAL WORKOUT - GET OUT AND CHALLENGE YOURSELF!!

A Star Jumps x 15	J Bicycles x 50	S High Knees x 50
B Crunches x 30	K Clamshells x 40	T Mountain Climbers x 50
C Jump Squats x 20	L Side Plank x 30	U Squats x 25
D Bridge x 60 seconds	M Single Leg Squats x 20	V Leg Lifts (side) x 40
E Jump Lunges x 30	N Bent Leg Jack Knives x 20	W Leg Lifts (on back) x 40
F Plank x 30 seconds	O Jumping Jacks x 50	X Leg Lifts (on stomach) x 40
G Lunges x 30	P Straight Leg Jack Knives x 20	Y Supermans x 30
H Sit Ups x 25	Q Cross Country Skiers x 50	Z Donkey Kicks x 30
I Side Lunges x 30	R Scissor Kicks x 50	

**KANGAROO SANCTUARY, ALICE SPRINGS****Zoom meetings are just modern seances**

*There's someone who wants to join us.
Elizabeth are you there? We can't see you.
Can you hear us? Make a sound if you can
hear us. Is anyone else with you?*

PUTTY RAINFALL September

	SOUTH	FAIRVIEW	NORTH
Sep 2021	66.50mm	18.50mm	31.00mm
Sep 2020	24.50mm	45.50mm	51.00mm
Sep 10 yr average.		34.80mm	51.00mm

Year to date

Sep 2021	728.75mm	635.15mm	822.00mm
Sep 2020		616.65mm	820.00mm
10 yr av		555.90mm	

Recordings were taken at Fairview-Putty Central (with reference to www.bom.gov.au)

"The Top Place" Putty Valley Road .. North
 "Fairview" Putty Valley Road .. Central
 "The Grange" Burnt Arm Road .. South

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 VALLEY ONLINE

Putty's Community Website contains many interesting links including:

Putty People

<https://putty.nsw.au/putty-people>

where you will also find Putty events and links to newspapers local and national.

Trades & Services Directory

<https://putty.nsw.au/whereis/>

PCA

This has several links including one to the membership form.

<https://putty.nsw.au/pca/membership/>

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

PRAYER, BIBLE STUDY

Due to the current COVID-19 Pandemic and social distancing practices all in person services have been cancelled for the foreseeable future.

We will be doing services via Zoom meeting so if you would like to receive the Zoom meeting link invitation please email jane directly on jane.robinson@ku.com.au

Every Blessing in this difficult times and remember the first Easter taught us that; Life never ends and Love never dies.

TRADES AND SERVICES

PUTTY PEOPLE ADVERTISING

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

HANDYMAN CARPENTER PAINTER

REASONABLE RATES

NEIL

0419 658 300

FULL POWER

OFF THE GRID SOLAR SYSTEMS

0455 120 544



MUSIC TEACHER

Accredited piano / keyboard + mandolin teacher gives lessons in the safety and convenience of your home.
 Phone Martha 0404 014 374

NEWSLETTER CONTACT

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

Martha Babineau, phone 6579 7000