

PUTTY PEOPLE JANUARY 2023

Newsletter of the Putty Community Association, Inc.

UPCOMING EVENTS at the PUTTY HALL

**Saturday 7 Jan, 10 - noon MARKET
SOCIAL**

**Friday 20 Jan, 6pm FRIDAY NIGHT
DETOUR starts**

**Saturday 28 Jan, AUSTRALIA
DAY event at the Putty Hall - TBA**

Sat 18 Feb, 3pm PCA AGM at hall

**Sunday 19 Feb, MONASTERY
events restart - TBA**

Sat, 4 March 10 - 4pm TVLG Event

**CHECK THE PUTTY
CHRONICLES FOR DETAILS**

YEAR OF THE WATER RABBIT

Looking at the characteristics of the year more specifically, 2023 is the Year of the Water Rabbit following the Chinese calendar, which rotates in sixty year cycles



based on twelve earthly branches, each represented by an animal year, and five heavenly stems — wood, fire, earth, metal and water.

Scientist and astrologer, SarahYip, explains that, "The Chinese calendar follows a zodiac of twelve animals and these are combined with five elements. Together, this creates a sixty year system that repeats itself. The animals are rat, ox, tiger, rabbit, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, dog and pig. The elements include metal, water, wood, fire and earth."

FRIDAY NIGHT DETOUR - BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND STARTS FRIDAY 20 JANUARY 2023!

Stop by the Putty Hall for supper and a yarn from 6pm. The bar will open and there will be tasty home-cooked food to enjoy.

The menu for the first detour will have a South African flavour - Bokkie's South African Street Food will be serving their tasty "Bunny Chow," a very popular traditional take away meal made with Durban Lamb curry. Served with sambals, chutney and a side salad \$15, Ham & cheese, Cheese & Tomato and Cheese toasties \$5. Contact Lynn 0414 225 829.



RECENT PUTTY WEATHER EFFECTS IN PUTTY

BY TIM SPOONER

2022 has been by far the wettest year on record and has been a culmination of a recent spate of extreme weather events. 2017, 2018 and 2019 were all well below average rainfall with disastrous fires at the end of 2019 and early 2020, which left the land devoid of all undergrowth and soil cover.



This was followed by major flash flooding in February 2020, washing all the loose topsoil and fire debris into the road drainage systems and creeks, blocking them up and causing the roads to act as creeks in many cases. This eroded the road surface creating potholes and washaways.



The following two years consisted of continual exceptional rainfall with flash flooding in March and November 2021 and then in January, March and November in 2022. The high rainfall supersaturated the soil leading to many landslips and valley floors that were impossible to drive on without getting seriously bogged. The soil was even so saturated that paddocks at the tops of hills remained soggy for months.



We have now had one of the driest Decembers on my records, so what will 2023 present us with? No doubt whichever way it goes it is certain to be volatile due to the increasing effects of climate extremes.

PUTTY AND THREE OTHER HUNTER VALLEY RURAL FIRE BRIGADES HAVE RECEIVED THE LATEST FIRE TRUCKS.



On 20th December 22, Member for Upper Hunter Dave Layzell was joined by Minister for Emergency Services and Resilience Steph Cooke and Rural Fire Service staff and volunteers at Bulga Fire Control for the official handover of keys for four new trucks.

Putty, Bulga and Glennies Creek

Brigades each received a \$340,000 Category 1 Appliance and the Whittingham Brigade received a \$390,000 Category 13 bulk water appliance.

Putty Brigade Captain, Scott Ferguson, Senior Deputy Captain Kenn Mackett and Deputy Captain Ken Ferguson attended the handover of Putty Cat 1 on behalf of Putty Brigade. Dave Layzell said, "The \$1.4 million worth of new equipment is vital and that each of these new appliances are state-of-the-art, I am confident they will be invaluable to our volunteers, ensuring they have access to modern firefighting technology."

Manager of Community Risk for the RFS Hunter Area Command, Superintendent Paul Best, said. "The new trucks will enhance the protection each Brigade provides to the communities they protect. While the existing trucks have served our Brigades well, it's important that the newest and safest equipment is provided for our members to best serve communities."

Three Valleys Landcare Event

On Saturday 4 March 2023 Uncle Warren Taggart will do a presentation to our group to share his knowledge of First Nations land and culture in the Putty area. Contact Martha for further information on 0404 014 374.



MONASTERY GIFT WRAPPING GET TOGETHER

On Sunday 18 December Fa Anthony and the friends of the Monastery came to the Putty Hall where they wrapped gifts, donated by the Monastery and Putty residents, for the residents of the St John of God Healthcare at the Hawkesbury District Health Service.



As usual, the lunch was delicious and they even included a Secret Santa for the “wrappers.”



At the gift presentation at St John of God Healthcare (picture left), the Acting Chief Executive Officer, Belinda Mott said, “It is wonderful to have the support of St Shenouda Monastery and the Putty community and are grateful for your kindness. ...it did indeed bring a lot of smiles and Christmas joy.”

2022 IN REVIEW

BY FA ANTHONY

Hello people of Putty! On behalf of Bishop Daniel and all the monks of the monastery, I wanted to wish you all a blessed start to the New Year.

This week it has been one year since the monks of Putty were first properly introduced to the Putty community. Ever since then it has a great journey of being involved with the community and being part of the activities that the community puts together.

We want to thank each person individually for being so loving and accepting. It certainly has been a great opportunity for us to get to know most of you on a personal level. The people of Putty have become a second family for us.

Throughout the year we had the pleasure of being part of most of the Putty events, from the Putty fair to the Putty Markets and Putty Christmas party. I even had an invitation from Marg to the RFS women's get together. We also had people getting involved in our fortnightly activities - now they are active members that we can't have the activities without!

Each time we invited people to run a workshop or bring their kids to the fair, without fail they wanted to come again and join in any Putty events. They have all felt the love and warmth within our Putty community.

We look forward to another year of exciting activities and of getting to know you more.

BRONZE ORANGE STINK BUGS

Stink bugs are classified in the order Hemiptera, family Pentatomidae and are commonly known as stink bugs. The Bronze Orange Stink Bugs can be very damaging to citrus fruit as they suck the goodness out of stems and feed on the fruit. Their liquid is highly caustic and will also burn skin and eyes on contact and can cause allergies. However they do not bite.



Stink bugs have few predators and although some birds, insects and reptiles are known to eat them, they do not consume them in large enough numbers to decrease their populations.

The bugs develop via incomplete metamorphosis, a process that involves three stages – **eggs, nymphs and adults.**

Nymphs are wingless and complete five instars (stages) of growth and development. Each instar takes about one week to complete.

Bronze Orange Stink Bugs can be eradicated by physically removing them from an infested tree, preferably in winter before they multiply. Protective

clothing, goggles, long rubber gloves should be worn before physically removing them from trees.

Another method is to **use a garden hose** if the infestation isn't too large **or they can be vacuumed OFF.** Collect them in a plastic bag or just drop them into a bucket of water and dishwashing liquid or methylated spirits to kill them. You could also use something like a small paint brush to brush the bugs off and into the bucket. As an alternative, you can put the soapy liquid into a spray bottle and liberally spray the entire tree. Make sure you don't do this on a hot day because it may damage an already stressed tree.

LOCAL LAND SERVICES - Information

YOUR RATES AT WORK

It's been another big year filled with challenges that affected many landholders and communities across the state. Through biosecurity threats, animal health alerts and emergency responses, we're proud to be the boots on the ground delivering advice and services to you and your community.

Across the state in 2021-22 we:

- protected almost 59,000,000 ha of land through coordinated pest animal control programs
- conducted over 3,000 on-farm disease investigations
- protected more than 210,000 ha of land against priority weeds
- conducted over 1,000 plant pest disease inspections
- had 279 staff assisting with flood emergency responses

Your rates that are collected each year are 100% returned to you through these services, which helps us help you when you need it most.

Even though you may not have livestock, your property will have benefited from our services including our coordinated pest and weed control programs.

Free training available for vertebrate pest control

Landholders must be accredited to use and collect baits to take part in Local Land Services control programs. Vertebrate Pesticides Induction Training can now be done online, saving you time and money.

The free online course means that you can now get the same quality training from the convenience of your own home. The course takes roughly two hours to complete, and once finished, a certificate valid for five years will be emailed to participants straight away.

Free training available for vertebrate pest control - continued

The course takes landholders through their legal responsibilities, safety requirements and practical considerations for the effective use of baits and pesticides on feral pests. You'll be equipped with the latest information to carry out an effective baiting program on your properties.

For more information, or to access the free Vertebrate Pesticide Induction Training, visit www.ils.nsw.gov.au/VPIT or contact your local Biosecurity Officer.

MEMORIES OF YESTERYEAR



This was the house (since relocated) across the road from the Putty Hall next to Stan Floyd's house (now Russell's property).

Left: Stan Floyd, not sure of the others though - maybe you can let me know.



PUTTY RAINFALL in DECEMBER

	FAIRVIEW	NORTH
December 2022	15.60mm	33.00mm
December 2021	99.50mm	146.00mm
December 10 yr av	78.45mm	100.00mm

Year to date

December 2022	1,473.15mm	1786.00mm
December 2021	982.40mm	1314.00mm
10 year av	839.50mm.	968.00mm

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

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 although lately, it doesn't really matter
too much.

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.

Putty Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/187211862469717/?ref=share>

Trades & Services Directory

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

PCA

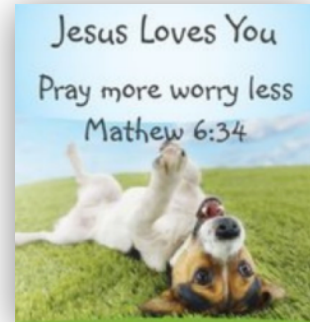
This has several links including one to the
membership form.

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

Post your pictures and stories!

ADVERTISING: pca@putty.nsw.au

PRAYER, BIBLE STUDY



Our Lady of the Valley Prayer and
Meditation Meeting is on the 4th Sunday of
the month at 10am at Pilgrim's Rest.

**For more information,
please call Jane Robinson-Eggert on
0407 953 353**

TRADES AND SERVICES

PUTTY PEOPLE ADVERTISING

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

FULL POWER

OFF THE GRID SOLAR SYSTEMS

0455 120 544



NEWSLETTER CONTACT

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

Martha Babineau, phone 0404 014 374