# Berry Landcare

## Native species for fire-prone areas:

As a follow up to the February article on bushfires in our locality, we looked again at information available on what to plant in fire prone areas. It is interesting to note the terms used, such as“fire prone”, “fire resistant” and “fire retardant”. All plants, whether they are exotic or Australian, will burn when subjected to sufficient heat. However, those with leaves that have high levels of moisture or salt and lower levels of volatile oils are considered to be fire resistant. Such species can be planted as a wind break which can deflect heat and act as a barrier to flying sparks and embers. Species most frequently mentioned in the various lists are Acmena smithii (Lillypilly), Corymbia maculata (spotted gum), Elaeocarpus reticulatus (Blueberry ash), Ficus species (including Port Jackson, small leafed and sandpaper figs), Pittosporum undulatum, (Native Daphne), Myoporum species, Brachychiton acerifolius (Flame tree), Brachychiton populneum (Kurrajong), Glochidion ferdinandi (Cheese tree), Rapanea howittiana (Brush Muttonwood), Rapanea variabilis (Variable Muttonwood) and Pittosporum revolutum (Rough-fruiting pittosporum). Also included in these lists are Acacia mearnsii, Alectryon subcinereus, Banksia integrifolia, Cassine australis, Casuarina cunninghamia, Casuarina glauca, Ceratopetalum apetalum, Diospyros australis, Doryphora sassafras, Guioa semiglauca, Melia azedarach, Eupomatia laurina, Podocarpus elatus, Stenocarpus salignus and Streblus brunonianus. These species are all on the Berry Landcare Tree list and Berry residents are encouraged to plant them. Understory plants such as Lomandra or Dianella retain moisture and can retard fire. Plants to avoid are also listed and these include conifers, especially Cypress species and trees with rough fibrous bark, such as Turpentines, which are all regarded as ‘fire-prone”. Further information from Berrylandcre@gmail.com. One useful reference is the Australian Native Plants Society ([www.anpsa.org.au/gallery.html](http://www.anpsa.org.au/gallery.html)).

NSW Seniors Week: This year it is Wednesday 4 April to Sunday 15 April with the theme “*Let's Do More Together”*. Berry Landcare will celebrate with two activities, on Monday 9 April 9.30 to 11.30 am, a walk for Seniors and their friends through the Moeyan Hill reserve with identification of locally indigenous tree species and refreshments at the end, and on Wednesday 11 April 9.30 to 11.30 am a gathering in Mark Radium Park to explore the arboretum and talk about Landcare. RSVP for both events to Bill Pigott on 4464 3241 or Berrylandcare@gmail.com (so that we know if you are coming and make enough muffins and coffee).

## Working Bees for April 2018:

Times to suit end of Daylight Saving.

Alexandra Street Parkcare: 9-11 am Friday 20th: Gail Paton 44487915.

Bong Bong Road: Not Meeting: Julia Woinarski 4464 2084.

Broughton Vale: 9-11 am Sunday 1st : Kelvin Officer 0427 255417.

Bundewallah Bushcare: 3-5pm Sunday 29th : John Clark 44643911.

Camp Quality: 9-11am Sunday 15th: Hugh Sheil, hugh.sheil@realtimecom.com.au or Jeanne Highland 4464 1271.

Moeyan Hill: 2-4 pm Saturday 21st: Bill Pigott 44643241 or wpigott@bigpond.net.au.

Mount Coolangatta: Nola Barker. Mobile 040944-6418, nolajbarker@live.com.au. Time to be advised. Meet at end of Roxbrough Rd, Far Meadow.

Mark Radium Park: 9-11am Friday 27th: Rodney Cole 4464 1475.

Princess St. Parkcare: 9-11am Monday 23rd, Terry Oades 4464.3651.

Tindalls Lane: To be advised: Jim Jefferis 4464 2988.

**Plant identification service:** Please contact Harvey Blue 4464 1880 or Ian Parker, 4448 6359.

Visit our pages at:  <http://www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/berry-landcare> for more on Berry Landcare and late changes to working bee details. Information can also be found on Facebook.