# BERRY LANDCARE

**Plant Communities:**

The RMS has used the Identified Plant Communities along the new road works for re-establishing landscape. Typically Illawarra Gully Wet Forest, River Bank Forest, Warm Temperate Layered Forest and Grassland communities. These are identified in the “New South Wales Vegetation Classification and Assessment”. The NSWVCA scheme is pertinent to environmental assessments including the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act that directs local, regional and state planning.

A visual assessment of the area along the Princes Highway from Berry to the Nowra Bridge reveals distinct changes in the species growing in the area. One obvious change is of the large gum from Blackbutt and Woolybutt to Spotted Gum at Jaspers Brush. Another is the presence or absence of Turpentine trees. Soil types are significant to the species that grow thereon.

The geological map shows the highway skirting along the boundary of the Quaternary Alluvial (Qal on map) soils and the Permian Berry Siltstone (Psb on map) clays of the lower escarpment. The alluvial soils are acidic and the main trees are Swamp Oaks. An examination of a contour map reveals this boundary corresponds with the 10 metre contour.

An understanding of prehistory sea levels is also revealing. At 18,000 years ago it was 120m below the present level. 8,000 ya it was 2m above and settled at the present level 6,000 years ago. Broughton Creek flood plain is geologically brand new. “Glaciologists now agree that we are heading for sea-level rises of at least 5 metres” (New Scientist 1 Aug 2015). What changes will our children see and how will it affect the flora of the Coastal Plain?

**Working Bees for September 2015:**

Bong Bong Road: 9-11am Sunday 13th September : Julia Woinarski 4464 2084.

Bundewallah Bushcare: 2-4pm Sunday 27th September : John Clark 44643911.

Camp Quality: 9-11am Sunday 20th September : Jeanne Highland 4464 1271.

Mount Coolangatta: 1-3 pm Saturday 19th September at end of Roxbrough Rd, Far Meadow.

Be on time to get a lift to site : Myke Cunningham 0418 297 435 or mcunningham@pci.cx.

Mark Radium Park: 9-10am Friday 25th September : Rodney Cole 4464 1475.

Princess Street: 10:00-12:00am Tuesday 22nd September : John Cullity 44643327.

Tindalls Lane: 2-4 pm Sunday 13th September : Harvey Blue 4464 1880 or Jim Jefferis 4464 2988.

**Visit our pages at: http://www.landcare.nsw.gov.au/groups/berry-landcare for more on Berry Landcare.**