

Common Thread 2020



- › Is a space for people to talk, share ideas and learn about sustainability
- › Connects and strengthens what already exists ... passions, solutions and resources
- › Promotes wellbeing, enhances resilience and reflects our community aspirations

Program structure

- › Seven events were held this calendar year from March to November.
- › After the first workshop, COVID required us to move online from May - August. In September and October hybrid events (live physical audience and live streamed to Facebook) were trialled.
- › Variety of formats including; online and in person events with a variety of presenters and indoor/outdoor events.
- › Each event includes elements to support/encourage people to take action.
- › All events were free of charge, except Nature journaling.
- › Regular programming was interrupted due to COVID and some events were rescheduled.
- › Promoted through a variety of channels including Green Thymes monthly e-newsletter, networks, social media and flyers.

Outcomes

- › On average 20-25 people attended each physical event.
- › Online events varied from 12 to 54 people viewing at one time.
- › 1020 views of replays of events.
- › 854 people subscribe to our Green Thymes e-newsletter and find out about Common Thread events.

- › Participant satisfaction with the events was generally very high.
- › Participants are active in making suggestions to improve the events and provide new topic ideas.

Testimonials

What people like

- › 'I enjoyed the tour - particularly the way it was presented with volunteer/employee/mayor. It gave us the experience of your community taking us into it.'
- › 'Jenny's knowledge and enthusiasm, encouraging all to have a go with step by step task.'
- › 'It was very well organised and professional session and thank you to all involved.'
- › 'Fantastic session. Well paced and simple easy to follow advice.'

People are taking the following actions.....

- › 'Thankyou for putting this on. Particularly useful currently as we have more time at home to implement some of the ideas.'
- › 'I feel more confident and inspired to plant some summer seeds.'
- › 'Buy and plant more local native plants to feed butterflies.'





Common Thread

› The program for 2020 included a range of topics and activities



March 2020 › Food Matters

- We started the year with a great session from Linda at the Food Embassy who talked about our current food system from an economic, environmental and health perspective.
- Participants were treated to a light supper of sustainable food and could bring something for the sharing table (seed sharing, produce sharing).
- This was a ‘taster’ session and participants were invited to register for a four week Food Matters course.

May 2020 › Declutter and get organised: sustainable solutions for your stuff (Zoom session)

- The first presenter, Bridget Johns of Be Simply Free, introduced the audience to key life organisation strategies and decluttering ideas.
- Allison Byrne, Waste Education Officer at City of Marion, followed up with a session on reducing, reusing and recycling waste.
- The webinar concluded with a Q&A and participants were sent a follow up email with relevant links and information.

August 2020 › Growing from Seed (Zoom session)

- John Butler of Heirloom Harvest shared the biology of growing from seed and included practical tips to achieve successful seedling germination and growth.

- Dani Austin, Community Gardens Coordinator of City of Marion, gave a brief overview of the benefits of community gardening, community gardens in Marion and how to get further information.
- The webinar concluded with a Q&A session and participants were emailed John’s presentation and other useful links.

September 2020 › Garden Design (hybrid event)

- Monina Gilbey, experienced garden designer of Green Gecko Studios, covered native garden design basics and tips for maintaining native gardens.
- This event was held at Marion Cultural Centre with a socially distanced audience, live streamed to facebook and recorded.

September 2020 › Warripari/Sturt River Twilight Discovery Walk

- 34 participants walked along the Sturt River trail from Oaklands Wetland to Finnis St for an hour and a half.
- At Oaklands reserve, Tom Buzzacot, Cultural Officer spoke about Kaurna culture and the history of a scar tree.
- Participants marvelled at the 400 year old River Red Gum as Jock Conlon, Biodiversity Officer, spoke about this ‘fauna hotel’.

- The rich history of the Marion Historic Village was summarised by Jess Mitchell, Environmental Engagement Officer, as the group passed Laurel Cottage.
- The event was a collaboration with Move It Marion, with Program Coordinator, Laura Perdue and volunteer, Jane, assisting to lead the walk.

October 2020 › Nature Journaling (hybrid event)

- Two hands-on workshops (1.5hrs duration) were held outdoors at Warriparinga as part of the Nature Festival.
- Jenny Deans, Cosmophylla garden services, introduced participants to some simple sketching exercises to imaginatively explore the wetlands.

November 2020 › Butterfly Gardening (hybrid event)

- Sam Ryan, Education Officer of Green Adelaide, showed a 15 minute, ‘Creating wildlife friendly garden’ video, followed by an informative talk on the life of butterflies.
- Bringing Back the Butterflies community group members, Steve and Debra, inspired the audience with their knowledge and the range of activities the group is involved in.
- This event was held at Marion Cultural Centre with a socially distanced audience, live streamed to facebook and recorded.