

# REPORT ON THE THIRD COASTAL WORKSHOP

19 October 2013

A wide-angle photograph of a coastal park event. In the foreground, a large green tree stands on a grassy slope. To the right, a wooden shelter with a corrugated metal roof is visible. In the background, a residential area with houses is built on a hillside overlooking a rocky beach and the ocean. The sky is clear blue, and a large, colorful kite is flying in the upper left. The text "COASTAL FUNSHOP" is overlaid in large white letters in the bottom left corner.

**COASTAL  
FUNSHOP**



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# TREASURING OUR COAST

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## The third Treasuring our Coast workshop has responded to community feedback and provided opportunities for people to get involved in the coast.

The series of Treasuring our Coast workshops were endorsed by Council at the General Council meeting on 26 July 2011. We are committed to delivering a series of workshops that focus discussion and interaction on coastal issues relevant to the City of Marion Strategic Plan, including looking at coastal matters using a sustainability approach (social, cultural, economic and environmental aspects).

### The aim of the workshops is to:

- Increase awareness of coastal issues and identify priorities for future work
- Engage the community and encourage active involvement in coastal issues
- Support collaboration between government and Council partners
- Support collaboration with community and between community groups
- Identify trends and seek ideas and priorities of participants

### The third workshop specifically focused on providing the community with:

- Interactive, fun learning activities for families and young people
- An opportunity to share what is special about Hallett Cove's unique coast
- Opportunities to take action resulting from knowledge/inspiration obtained at the event

### The secondary objectives of the event were to:

- Create a sense of place
- Model the delivery of a sustainable event

### Document purpose

This report provides a summary of the Coastal Funshop on 19 October 2013 and feedback that was received from participants. The report's purpose is:

- to facilitate communication to participants
- to provide input into the City of Marion's future community engagement on coastal and environmental matters
- to assist in the continual improvement of the delivery of City of Marion community events

This report provides transparency in the engagement process by showing the community what is being communicated across Council.

Interactive,  
fun learning  
activities  
for families and  
young people.

Opportunities to  
take action.

Create a sense  
of place.

# 2. COASTAL WORKSHOP #3

**The third Treasuring our Coast workshop was promoted as a Coastal Funshop. It was held at the Hallett Cove foreshore on Saturday 19 October, from 11am - 2pm.**

The event attracted approximately 350 people including:

- Local residents
- International visitors
- Local environmental groups
- Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges (Coast and Marine and NRM Education)
- Dr Philip Roetman
- Associate Professor Victor Gostin
- Georgina Williams Yambo Kartanya
- Karl 'Winda' Telfer Senior spiritual custodian of the Tjirbruki dreaming track
- City of Marion Elected Members and staff

## Coordination

The Coastal Workshop was overseen by a Steering Committee, which is responsible for guiding, coordinating, integrating and continuously improving the Treasuring our Coast workshops. The Steering Committee includes a number of City of Marion staff with environmental, cultural and community development roles. The City of Marion Environmental Sustainability team was the main point of contact for the workshop.

## Event background

At the first Treasuring our Coast workshop in April 2012, participants heard from experts how unique and special our Hallett Cove Coast is on an international scale. This workshop reinforced the need for collaboration in caring for our coast and people participated in a Coastal Visioning activity.

Participants at the second Treasuring our Coast workshop in August 2012 heard about the findings from the Hallett Cove Coastal Management Study and took part in a placemaking 'space-shaper' workshop. Designed to encourage people to think about, share and listen to others' values and aspirations for the Hallett Cove foreshore, the discussion that took place at this workshop fed into the development of the Master plan for this area.

Feedback collated from these two workshops offered ideas for future workshops including;

- an educational walk and talk on environment and geology
- preserve the uniqueness of the natural area and honour the Kurna people
- organising a community event, workshop on the beach; and
- sustainability as a central theme.

Conversations with local environmental groups and Elected Members indicated there was a desire to engage and recruit (for volunteer groups) younger people and families in coastal activities in the area.

The Steering Committee brought these ideas and feedback together to create a fun, interactive event aimed to engage young people and families. The activities and displays facilitated learning and discovery and provided opportunities for people to get involved in caring for our coast in an ongoing way.

## Event program

The Coastal Funshop started at 11am and finished at 2pm, with most of the activities available for people to try at any time. The official welcome commenced shortly after noon and the geology and Kurna heritage walk started after the welcome. Participants were informed of the location of different activities via enthusiastic announcements on the loud speaker and creative visual signs.

A description of each of the activities is provided below.

### Official Welcome

A Kurna Welcome to Country by Georgina Williams Yambo Kartanya started the official welcome, followed by Mayor Lewis welcoming people to event.

### Geology and Kurna Heritage walk

Geologist Associate Professor Victor Gostin and Karl 'Winda' Telfer (Senior spiritual custodian of the Tjirbruki dreaming track) guided participants on an hour long walk through the Hallett Cove Conservation Park, discussing the geological and Aboriginal significance of the area.

Assoc. Prof. Gostin highlighted features such as the ancient glacial erratics, the uplifted and folded rocks of Black Cliff and the cone structured sediment deposit called the Sugarloaf. These geological stories were supported and complimented by Karl's sharing of the Tjirbruki dreaming story that weaves its way across the Adelaide Plains. The cultural significance of local native plants was also discussed including how they are used by Kaurna people.

#### Coast FM interviews

Local radio station Coast FM hosted six live interviews with environmental group representatives, NRM Board staff, and Dr Philip Roetman. Their live music and presence contributed to the atmosphere of the day.

#### Giant leafy seadragon

Inside the spectacular, giant leafy seadragon, stories helped young children to connect with our environment through vibrant ecological storytelling. At the conclusion of each of the four storytelling sessions, children donned beautiful animal costumes and paraded around the reserve.

#### Discovering rock pools with Reef Watch

People were invited to explore the rock pools and learn from Reef Watch volunteers about the unique range of marine organisms found in the intertidal reef. Reef Watch uses several different reef survey techniques to gather information about reef health including fish, benthic and invertebrate surveys. A team of divers also took part in the day, exploring the subtidal areas of

the reef. Using multiple techniques creates a more comprehensive image of what is going on in our reefs.

#### Collaborative beach sculpture

Artist Sandy Elverd worked with community members to create ephemeral beach sculptures and sand mandalas along the beach edge of the reserve. A 'community pathway' was created, using found natural objects, along with a 'community circle' artwork. Some people made their own individual sand/beach artworks too. Any rubbish found on the beach was collected. The artist's intention was to connect people more strongly (and poetically) with the natural coastal environment. Families continued to add to, and engage with the sculptures, even after we packed up for the day.

#### Sustainable kite making workshop

Two artists guided children and adults in making one hundred exciting and spectacular kites that floated in the Hallett Cove breeze. This activity generated interaction with environment, supported individual creativity and facilitated discovery. All kites were made from compostable and sustainable materials in line with our objective to deliver a sustainable event.

#### Kite flying

The Adelaide Kite Flyers added to the atmosphere of the day with large, coastal themed kites along the sky view of the site. Children flew the sustainable kites they made in the workshop side by side with the Adelaide Kite Flyers, adding colour and spectacle to the occasion.





#### Street art mural creation

Artist Laura Wills worked with community members to begin the creation of a panorama-style Hallett Cove artwork, titled 'Hallett Code Mural'. People were invited to bring the drawing, on wooden panels, to life; to add contributions of their own, or to figure out the code created by the artist, in order to help realize different parts of the image. The artwork is to be installed at Hallett Cove Youth Centre, and visiting youth will be able to continue to work on the panels, and potentially expand the artwork further.

#### Connecting with nature

Dr Philip Roetman (University of SA) engaged in conversations with participants and community group members about new citizen science opportunities in the City of Marion. Citizen science projects provide fun and educational opportunities for the public to contribute to scientific research. Philip was enthused by the conversations, especially enjoying the stories about the natural environments of Marion and how important they are to residents.

#### Social media photo competition

Participants were encouraged to take a photo of what they enjoy about Marion's coast and post it on the City of Marion's social media accounts on Facebook and Twitter using the hashtag: #marioncoast. The focus of this competition was on participation and sharing, as well as to highlight that the City of Marion is on social media. Thirty five photos were submitted into the competition with thirty three on Facebook and two on Twitter. Certain photos were also then shared or

retweeted on the relevant account. This competition was a great opportunity to engage the community in contributing to City of Marion's social media and it was very successful. Three winners were randomly drawn to receive a \$50 voucher for the Boatshed Café.

#### Facepainting

Two facepainters helped to create a fun atmosphere by offering free facepainting. Children enjoyed the opportunity to choose what they wanted painted on their face.

#### Chill out zone

A Cove Youth volunteer activated this space by providing free temporary tattoos. Bean bags and giant games provided an opportunity for people to relax or challenge someone to a game of chess.

#### Community environmental displays

Local environmental groups including Friends of Hallett Cove Conservation Park, Friends of Marino Conservation Park, Friends of Gulf St Vincent, Bush for Life and Friends of Lower Field River provided a range of information about local biodiversity and how their group cares for the environment. Volunteers were on hand to have conversations with participants and encourage people to attend a 'come and try' day for their group.

#### Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Management (NRM)

Staff from Natural Resources Adelaide and Mount Lofty Ranges Coast and Marine team and the Friends of Gulf St Vincent were on hand to talk about coast and marine activities including the Secchi disk water quality monitoring project.

NRM Education staff created an interactive display where children could play with a range of natural materials such as seed pods (sheoak and Banksia cones), small sticks, twigs, rocks, and leaves (such as the aromatic locally indigenous *Goodenia amplexans*). Children used their imaginations to build castles, dens, campfires, and fascinating patterns with complex stories behind them. The benefit of the activity was having children engage with natural elements that they may otherwise walk past. The activity was aimed at raising awareness for children and their parents that nature is a place to play and interact and through play and engagement comes an understanding and appreciation of nature.

#### FishWatch

Volunteers were on hand to answer questions and provide information on marine parks and recreational fishing. While parents were talking kids used their creativity and pencils to create an underwater scene.

#### Leafy seadragon action board and card making

Participants were invited to offer an action that they could do to care for our coast. To make this a visually stimulating and thought provoking activity people traced an outline of their hand, cut it out, wrote on it the future action they would take, and attach it to a large cardboard leafy sea dragon, alongside other actions. Kids could also get involved in this or they could paint or colour in a leafy sea dragon gift card.

Council information and Hallett Cove Master Plan display

Designs of the Hallett Cove foreshore Master Plan were a focal point and stimulated discussion between local residents. Staff provided information on the Coastal Walking Trail, Marion Historic Village Heritage Walk, Marion's Tourist Map, new Cove Civic Centre and other local hotspots. Participants could also have a chat to Council's Waste Education Officer to ask any curly questions about household waste.

#### Refreshments

Volunteers from the Hallett Cove Lions Club and Hallett Cove Rotary Clubs provided over 300 free healthy burgers to hungry participants.

Foodbank SA kindly donated three boxes of tangelos and five bags of apples to be handed out to the event. This initiative supported Council's healthy eating policy and was a good way to engage in conversations with participants. Foodbank SA provides the welfare sector with healthy, nutritious and affordable food and aim to be agents of social change in the long term.



# 3. WORKSHOP FEEDBACK



Participants were invited to contribute what they could do to care for our coast on a large cardboard leafy seadragon. Twenty four people participated in this activity and offered their actions to protect and enhance our coastal environment and community. The majority (66%) of the actions focused on picking up litter and the others mentioned were:

- carrying a dog-poo bag to clean up after the dog
- recognise the energy of the ocean
- rescue wildlife
- work together on shark protection
- have a weekend fitness club
- help the leafy sea dragons!
- treat the coast with respect
- teach my kids to respect the coast
- stop taking stuff home

Community groups, stallholders, artists and other organisations involved in the event participated in a follow up evaluation conversation. The majority agreed that being involved in the event was worthwhile for their group/organisation. It was a good opportunity to make connections and have conversations with participants. One environmental group was able to promote their work to Assoc. Prof. Gostin and subsequently he has indicated his future support for this cause. Assoc. Prof. Gostin is investigating potential opportunities to collaborate with a documentary producer present on the day.



Whilst many of the environmental groups didn't receive direct 'sign ups' on the day, many people were interested in their work and indicated they might attend their 'come and try' days.

Dr Philip Roetman received a number of community 'sign ups' to be involved in his citizen science project and he found it was a great day to connect with the local community.

For one individual, the community pathway artwork on the beach facilitated a connection with their family, the community and the beach. After the event this person contacted the artist to thank her for the 'moving and profound' experience.

About 350 people attended the event and whilst many were local residents, there were also some international students and people who had travelled from outside of the City of Marion specifically for the event. Most people planned to come to the event, however, a few were visiting the reserve for other reasons, but still joined in the activities. The majority of participants were families with young children.

Feedback from many participants indicated that it was a successful event and that most people would like to see it occur again.

#### What worked well

Everyone enjoyed the venue and the atmosphere on the day. One person commented that it was 'one of the loveliest events I've been to'. Other positive comments on the day included; 'Marion Council is the best council to work with, the events they run are great and their dedication to the arts is fantastic'.

Many people appreciated the diversity of activities and information available. They felt that the event was well organised and went for an appropriate length of time.

#### Suggestions for future Council events

Suggestions for the promotion of future events include installing a large promotional banner on site 3-4 weeks prior to the event to target those who use the reserve.

The event attracted a number of families and young children but the age group from 8-17 years old was notably absent. Future workshops could focus on developing activities and promotional strategies to better engage with this demographic.

'one of the loveliest events I've been to'

'Marion Council is the best council to work with, the events they run are great and their dedication to the arts is fantastic'

# 4. CONCLUDING REMARKS



## **The third Treasuring our Coast workshop met its objectives to provide the community with :**

- Interactive, fun learning activities for families and young people
- An opportunity to share what is special about Hallett Cove's unique coast
- Opportunities to take action resulting from knowledge/inspiration obtained at the event.

The workshop also met its secondary objectives to:

- Create a sense of place
- Deliver a sustainable event.

Through achieving these objectives the workshop also assisted to:

- Increase awareness of coastal issues and identify priorities for future work
- Engage the community and encourage active involvement in coastal issues
- Support collaboration between government and Council partners
- Support collaboration with community and between community groups
- Identify trends and seek ideas and priorities of participants.

At this stage no further workshops are planned for the Treasuring our Coast series. Opportunities for community engagement and involvement in the coast will be made available through the implementation of the Hallett Cove Master Plan and Biophilic Cities project.



# APPENDIX

## Friends of Gulf St Vincent

The Friends of Gulf St Vincent, in collaboration with the Adelaide and Mount Lofty NRM Board, have a project up and running now, to monitor water quality using Secchi discs. The Secchi disc is a relatively simple and inexpensive way to measure water clarity – the black and white disc is lowered into the water until it is no longer visible. This distance is the Secchi depth.

The Friends of Gulf St Vincent is a not-for-profit community group concerned about the condition and health of this unique body of water.

Our aim is to foster a unified community approach to the protection and wise use of the Gulf St Vincent.

[www.friendsofgulfstvincent.org.au](http://www.friendsofgulfstvincent.org.au)

Contact: Rob Bosley on 0447 285 565 or via email [bybeach@adam.com.au](mailto:bybeach@adam.com.au)

## Bush for Life

This program helps people to take practical steps to conserve our Bushland. Participate in workshops, adopt a bushcare site or join a Bush Action Team. The local bush for life site is at Hallett Headland Reserve.

[www.treesforlife.org.au/bushland/about-bush-life-program](http://www.treesforlife.org.au/bushland/about-bush-life-program)

Contact: Randall Bates on 0407 606 578 or email [randallb@treesforlife.org.au](mailto:randallb@treesforlife.org.au)

## Reef Watch

Reef Watch is a unique and exciting program where recreational divers and other volunteers gather data about the health of the oceans. Volunteer involvement develops community awareness about the state of marine ecosystems and triggers action for their protection.

Reef Watch aims to gather and disseminate quality information on the status of our marine environment. We do this with the input of many of South Australia's top marine scientists and educators along with the help of hundreds of volunteers.

Reef Watch uses a PADI-accredited training program that provides recreational scuba divers with the necessary skills to gather valuable information about the marine environment. Intertidal volunteers also contribute to the growing body of information being used for the better management of human impacts on Australia's temperate reefs.

This information is used by Reef Watch to increase community awareness of marine environmental issues and is also available to government bodies, research institutions and schools.

[www.conservation.sa.gov.au/reefwatch-home/getting-involved](http://www.conservation.sa.gov.au/reefwatch-home/getting-involved)

Contact: Reef Watch on 82235155 or via email on [intertidal@ccsa.asn.au](mailto:intertidal@ccsa.asn.au)

## Fishwatch

To help protect and maintain our fish stocks for the future it is important that fishing rules and regulations are observed, both by commercial and recreational fishers. Fishwatch facilitates this by being a 24-hour service for the public to report illegal fishing activities, and other services outlined below.

The Fishwatch staff can also provide information about, and help with:

- Rules and regulations for recreational fishers (eg size limits, bag and boat limits, closed seasons).
- Licensing and registration services and information for commercial fishers (eg prior reporting, change of master, de-registration of a vessel).
- Fish kill (mass fish die-off).
- Marine pests such as Oriental weatherloach – a significant and noxious listed species in South Australia, and introduced seaweed.
- Marine debris from aquaculture sites.

[www.pir.sa.gov.au/fisheries/fishwatch](http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/fisheries/fishwatch)

# APPENDIX

## Friends of Marino Conservation Park

The Friends of Marino Conservation Park assist the staff of Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources to protect the Park's remnant coastal heath vegetation, and to return the remainder of the Park to a natural condition, by controlling weeds and replanting appropriate species.

Working bees are held on the second Thursday of the month and last Sunday of the month at 9am. Meet at Nimboya Road carpark.

[www.communitywebs.org/FriendsMarinoCP/contact](http://www.communitywebs.org/FriendsMarinoCP/contact)

Contact: Alan Wilson via email at [waughson2@bigpond.com](mailto:waughson2@bigpond.com)

## Creating Biophilic Cities through Citizen Science

The City of Marion is partnering with Dr Philip Roetman from the University of South Australia on a project that aims to make Marion a more 'biophilic' (nature loving) city. The project will engage members of the Marion community to take action as 'citizen scientists' to better understand how people engage with nature and how we can enhance the biodiversity of our city.

[www.unisa.edu.au/citizenscience](http://www.unisa.edu.au/citizenscience)

Contact Philip on 8387 5227 or via email at [philip.roetman@unisa.edu.au](mailto:philip.roetman@unisa.edu.au)

## Friends of Hallett Cove Conservation Park

The Friends of Hallett Cove Conservation Park are a group of people enthusiastic about the conservation and promotion of the park. They are involved in activities including: revegetation, seed collection, guided walks, weed removal and community education, plant identification and geological tours for school and community groups.

Working bees are held every Thursday morning from 9am – 12 noon.

[www.communitywebs.org/HCCP/friends](http://www.communitywebs.org/HCCP/friends)

Contact: 8381 8029

## Friends of Lower Field River

A landcare group established by Hallett Cove residents to protect and care for the lower portion of the Field River and its environs. Includes Cormorant Reserve, the river's estuary and Hallett Cove Beach and nearby sand dunes.

[www.fieldriver.org](http://www.fieldriver.org)

Contact: 8387 5227