

WACRA Climate Emergency Group (CEG)

CEG report for WACRA AGM 2021

Mission: Increase awareness of and take action with the community towards mitigating the effects of climate change.

Action taken and events attended by CEG members since AGM 1 Sept 2020

- **Submission** to the Climate Change (National Framework for Adaptation and Mitigation) Bill 2020 - 27 Nov 2020
- **Deputation** to Charles Sturt Council (CSC) meeting - 25 Jan 2021 addressing Budget and Strategic implications for CSC in declaring a climate emergency
- **Unley Voices 4 Climate Action (UV4CA) forum** - Tuesday 9 March 2020
Inaugural community forum to unite residents interested in taking action. Unley Council has now released its draft Climate and Energy Plan, now consulting with community for feedback. Opportunities for comment are on Council's website at <https://yoursay.unley.sa.gov.au/draft-climate-energy-plan>.
- **Red Cross Climate Ready Communities** (sponsored by Adapt West) - April
Training sessions teaching about local climate impacts and ways to take action to get your community ready. Two sessions 3.5 hrs each.
 - Kilburn: Kilburn Community Centre, Saturday 8 & 15 May
 - Brompton: 19 on Green, Saturday 19 & 26 JuneTo attend you can book online at <https://www.adaptwest.com.au/events>
- **Green Adelaide community forum** - Wednesday 7 April
Launch of Green Adelaide draft regional landscape plan 2021-26 as described. Your feedback via <https://yoursay.sa.gov.au/decisions/green-adelaide/about>
- **Plant propagation workshop** - Saturday 10 April
3 hour workshop organised by Pria Mitra (CEG & Rosetta Street Greening) for around six people on cutting, replanting and lots of info on caring for plants. Facilitated by Steve Fuller & Deirdre Knight, coordinators of Bring Back the Butterflies. WACRA members invited to attend future propagation workshops. Detailed workshops on establishing verges also planned by Steve and Deidre.

Upcoming events and projects in the pipeline

- **Verges Alive!**

Charles Sturt Council has developed a new [Community Verge Policy, Guidelines and Checklist](#) to encourage establishment of, revitalise and maintain your verge. This event was featured in a recent *Kaleidoscope* article, info on CSC website.

Official launch Sunday 23 May 2-4pm by Sophie Thompson at the Civic Centre

Mark Smith will also demonstrate the planter box and wicking bed system.

From today until 18 June \$10 Verge packs are available, collection only from CSC. Packs include 10 plants plus a booklet with verge designs and planting plans etc.

CEG will be there to support this Council initiative. It would be great to see WACRA members there.

Questions: Do you have a verge?

Do you know of a suitable street where neighbours might be keen to establish a verge? Do you have ideas for ways WACRA could be involved?

- **Trees** [Kate Denton]

Every year in August and September CCSC plants trees. You could request a tree be planted in your street or local park. A Council official would check the area then send you a letter recommending appropriate trees/plants for your selection. Council then plants the tree and adds it to the list under their care.

Fliers advertising this are available on the WACRA website (Local issues > Climate Emergency): <http://wacra.org.au/climate-emergency/>

- **'My tree' arts project** [Lara Lamnek]

A newsletter from KESAB will soon be going out to Adelaide primary schools inviting them to start a 'My tree' arts project where students could create an artwork about what tree means to them. A tree would be available for each child to grow. If not through the schools, a school holidays' workshop coinciding with Earth Day may be organised next April. Money has been donated and further funding is being sought for this project.

- **CCSC draft Annual Business Plan and Budget Summary for feedback**

CCSC provides ratepayers the opportunity to respond to the budget.

Submissions will be accepted until 5pm Wednesday 5 May 2021 either via email (council@charlessturt.sa.gov.au) or the online submission form at [CCS website > Your Say](#).

You could attend an informal community drop-in event at the Council **Monday 3 May 4.30-6pm** with the Mayor, key Council staff and elected members.

We encourage all members to read the budget and provide feedback!

CCS has one of the lowest canopy cover percentages in the country at less than 14%. It has declared a Climate Emergency **but only 0.3% of their \$114 million dollar budget has been allocated towards initiatives with a tree planting focus.**

A canopy cover of 16% by 2025 is a current stated goal of the Council. Not close to what is considered necessary for a healthy community.

If this concerns you please write to CCSC by 5 May.

Ideas on the side

Film event in 2022 at cinema or outdoors using bicycles and solar power to run them. (Possible films *2040* (produced in Australia), *The merchants of doubt* (US) and *Treading lightly* (SA).

Environmental art exhibition with SALA.