



Congratulations to Australia Day Award Winners

South Gippsland Shire Council would like to congratulate all nominees and recipients for last night's Australia Day Awards Ceremony.

The event recognised individuals and community groups that make an outstanding contribution to the South Gippsland community.

Nominees and recipients were awarded in four categories:

- South Gippsland Citizen of the Year
- South Gippsland Event of the Year
- South Gippsland Achievement Award for a person with a Disability
- South Gippsland Youth Community Contribution

The successful applicants included 2016 Citizen of the Year Maxine Kiel, 2016 Event of the Year 19th Gippsland Scouts Corroboree and Achievement Award for a person with a Disability Steven Canning.

The South Gippsland Youth Community Contribution was deemed non-competitive; all nominees Gemma Martin, Lachlan O'Connor, Matt Perks, Paige Biggs, Rebekah Vagg and Samuel McCarthy were recognised.

The Australia Day Honour Board in Council Chambers has been updated with the Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year recipients.

South Gippsland Shire Mayor Councillor Bob Newton congratulated all nominees for their contribution.

"All nominees should be extremely proud of their involvement in the community, as it has not gone unnoticed. Thank you to our nominators who made the effort to recognise these outstanding individuals.

"It is never an easy task selecting the recipient for each Australia Day award as all nominations are to an impeccable standard. The Australia Day Awards Committee takes pride in assessing each nomination and learning of the exceptional work of our community members.

As part of her acceptance speech 2016 Citizen of the Year Maxine Kiel acknowledged the hard work of all members in the community and drew quotes from the film Pearl Harbour.

"There is nothing stronger than the heart of a volunteer," said Ms Kiel.

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