Southern Gippsland Sustainability Festival A Major Success

The Southern Gippsland Sustainability Festival was a great event with over 45 exhibitors and an estimated 2,500 people in attendance over the weekend.

Attendees were provided valuable information on sustainable practices including battery solar systems, cheese making, living plastic free, revegetation, sustainable building and renovations.

Twenty seven submissions were made to the Recycled Art Competition that required artists to create their pieces with 80 per cent recycled materials.

South Gippsland Shire Mayor, Cr. Bob Newton presented winners of the Recycled Art Competition as follows:

- Open Winners Major Prize to Sally Gorman for 'Pete the Pelican'
- Secondary Award to Lily Gorman for 'Lighten on Littering'
- Primary Award to Mack Gorman for 'Oily the Octopus'
- People's Choice Award to South Gippsland Specialist School for 'Like Diamonds, Plastic is Forever'

Art work is still on display at Coal Creek Gallery until 18 April 2016 for individuals to view.

Live entertainment was also provided from the South Gippsland Concert Band and Bass Coast Pickers.

South Gippsland Shire Council's Sustainability Officer Kate Thomas said it was great to see the festival have another year of success.

"We were really pleased with the turn out on the day; it was a family friendly event and kids loved getting their faces painted and participating in the amazing race against waste and circus skills"

"South Gippsland Shire Council would thank everyone involved who contributed to the success of the festival," said Mrs Thomas"

The festival's Major Sponsor, Gippsland Renewable Energy and Technologies (gREat) Director Len McGrath was delighted to see such a strong response from the community in regards to sustainability.

The Southern Gippsland Sustainability Festival is a collaborative partnership event between South Gippsland Shire Council and Bass Coast Shire Council and the venue alternates annually with next year being held in Bass Coast. **PR1829 4/4/16**