

Gearing Up for the Great Victorian Bike Ride

Preparations are underway for the 2017 Great Victorian Bike Ride that will be hosted by Gippsland, starting in Tidal River and ending in Trafalgar this November through to December.

Community members are invited to an information session hosted by Bicycle Network Victoria in partnership with South Gippsland Shire Council in anticipation of the event.

The information session will provide:

- an overview of the event
- what you can expect when the ride comes to Foster
- how the community can participate in the ride.

The Foster community has the chance to provide an extensive range of activities to showcase their town as an overnight stay will occur at the Foster Showgrounds on Sunday 26 November.

Communities are an integral part of the ride as riders love the small-town welcomes and local hospitality.

South Gippsland Shire Mayor Councillor Ray Argento encouraged everyone to attend the information session.

"Having the 2017 Great Victorian Bike Ride include South Gippsland in the route is a great honour and I know we all can participate in making the ride a great success.

"In 2007, Foster was rated the favourite and most welcoming town by the riders, it would be fantastic if this could be achieved again in 2017.

"I hope everyone makes an effort to attend the upcoming information session so they can identify what they can do to support the ride," said the Mayor.

The information session will be held on Wednesday 14 June in the Football/Netball Club Social Rooms at the Foster Showgrounds from 6.00pm to 8.00pm.

Those wishing to attend the information session should contact Council's Tourism Development Officer Danielle Todaro on 5662 9200 or <u>daniellet@southgippsland.vic.gov.au</u>.

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For media enquiries, please contact the Communications team on 5662 9200 South Gippsland Shire Council, 9 Smith St. (Private Bag 4), Leongatha 3953 communications@southgippsland.vic.gov.au www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au