Mayor's Message South Gippsland Shire Council

This week we will all have the opportunity to remember those that have served in war and pay tribute to them this ANZAC Day. While we must be thankful for the opportunities and safety their sacrifice provide us with year round it is always humbling to see the community together on the day to acknowledge our past.

ANZAC Day not only recognises the anniversary of the landing of Gallipoli in 1915 but it is the day on which we remember all Australians who served and made the ultimate sacrifice in war and on operational service.

We can only try to imagine some of the conditions these brave individuals endured and we will be forever indebted to them for ensuring Australia remains a great nation for us to call home.

This year marks the close of the ANZAC Centenary for 2014 to 2018 where 100 years have been observed since our involvement in World War I. The Centenary honours the service of our original ANZACs and the generations of Australian servicemen and women who have defended our values and freedoms since.

The Centenary has been an opportunity for all of us to start important conversations that continue long after the centenary concludes. In doing so we all play our part in ensuring the legacy lives on for future generations.

The spirit of ANZAC still has relevance to our national identify today and it should be recognised with great pride that we are well known for our courage and mateship. These qualities are something we should all admire and continue to strive towards in building our future.

I hope that all of our community members take the time to reflect on the brave men and women who dedicated their efforts to ensure our nation remained a place of peace and prosperity. A number of local events are happening at RSLs and cenotaphs across South Gippsland which creates the perfect opportunity to take a moment and thank them for their service.

I will be recognising ANZAC Day by attending the dawn service in Korumburra with Deputy Mayor Councillor Brown and will follow on to the Leongatha service starting at the RSL for the march through to the cenotaph. I look forward to seeing many of you there to reflect and thank all of our community members who are organising these significant events.

Cr Lorraine Brunt Mayor