

## Mirboo North Pool – More Than Just a Place to Swim!

Earlier this week South Gippsland Shire Council CEO, Tim Tamlin met Mary Baker, one of the Friends of the Mirboo North Pool, to chat about Friday night's movie night and the progress of the facility's refurbishment.

With the pool teeming with locals and visitors alike, it was the perfect time to see how important the pool is to the Mirboo North community.

Tim was enthusiastic about the works that are proposed at the pool. "This is such a fantastic location. It's a real jewel in the crown of our recreation assets," he said. "At the moment we're working with the companies that tendered for the project to see if we can align their plans with our budget so we can get on with the works that will ensure the pool is enjoyed for decades to come.

"This afternoon was an opportunity to talk to Mary about how we can promote the pool project to candidates in the upcoming Federal election. This is a great facility. The plans are drawn up. The companies that want the job know our timelines. The Council budget is committed. For the major parties this is a chance to capitalise on all the work that Council and the community have done over several years.

"I have spoken to the ALP candidate for Monash Jessica O'Donnell about the pool and will be speaking to Russell Broadbent about it over the next few days.

"The pool was successful in attracting Pick My Project funding and at this stage of the electoral cycle I am quietly confident that we could get one or both parties to commit to funding the budget shortfall that we're trying to manage. A lot of that will be up to the community making it known to the candidates that the pool is a significant piece of local infrastructure.

"To highlight that significance it is worth noting that the pool is hosting a movie night on Friday. I'm sure that there'll be scores of people here to see Ralph Breaks the Internet!"

Mary was keen to let people know that the community fundraising drive is still going on. "If people want to contribute to the pool fund they can email the Mirboo North and District Community Foundation at admin@mirboodistrictfoundation.org.au

"Between the Mirboo North community, the Council, Pick My Project and – hopefully – the election candidates we can get this done. Let's get it done right and done in one hit," Mary said.

## PR2345 31/01/19