

Message from the Acting CEO



One of the things I've been trying to do while I find my feet in this new role is to spend some time at all our various worksites. I've been working from the Leongatha depot a bit, trying to get a feel for the various crews and what they do. I have to say, I couldn't have been more proud after seeing how well they all worked during the recent stormy weather.

I know it's easy to assume that when you drive your kids to school or when your milk is waiting for the tanker that the roads will be clear and safe. This doesn't just magically happen though. Over the past week we had reports of 90 trees down across the Shire. In response, we've had crews out day and night so that the risk and inconvenience to our community was kept to a minimum. A bit like the umpire at the footy – you know that the process is working well when you don't really notice it. It is a credit to all those Council crews (and the SES and CFA volunteers) who were out in the wind and rain so that most people could get where they needed to be on time and without incident.

Last week I had the opportunity to attend the Korumburra Business Association meeting. This was a great chance to speak to those who are driving Korumburra's reinvigoration about how Council can work with them. We all have a great deal to gain from Korumburra's continued vibrancy. I spoke to those at the meeting about my hopes for the new supermarket and the community hub. There is much to look forward to in Korumburra if a few strategic pieces fall into place.

This week I'm off to the Leongatha Business Association meeting. Like Korumburra's Business Association, this is a really energised group with great plans for how their town can build on the foundations that it has and be an even better place in the future. News of the substantial development plans off Shingler Street are sure to be on the agenda, as will the works for Bair Street, which should kick off next month.

If we can get the Bair Street work done, the Korumburra supermarket talks back on the table, the Korumburra community hub designs finalised and attract funding for the Great Southern Rail Trail extension then I think we have an exciting year or two ahead of us.

Bryan Sword

Acting CEO