

Message from the Administrator



Myself and fellow administrators were incredibly impressed when we met with several major local employers last week, including Burra Foods, Burra Steel and the operators of GBP Exports (Poowong Abattoir). They represent excellence in local enterprise and their businesses are a success story they have every reason to be extremely proud of.

These businesses make a very significant contribution to local employment and collectively provide jobs for around 380 people, making them amongst the South Gippsland region's largest private sector employers. Our message to them was simple: we are keen to work with them in the best interests of the local community to see them continue to grow and prosper.

We were also fortunate to have this week met with AGA Apprenticeships Plus (previously Gippsland Group Training). We heard from them about their incredible commitment to the region and their dedication to the apprentices they take on and place with local employers.

Eighty-eight per cent of apprentices that complete their training with AGA immediately find employment - usually with the employer they were placed with. This is an outstanding result and tells a powerful story about the quality of the training their apprentices receive and the high regard local employers have for those apprentices. They're working together to train and develop the next generation of tradies. Not only does this set young people up for a successful future, it also provides a willing, capable workforce that helps local businesses to prosper.

I was also delighted to take up an invitation to visit the Karmai Children's Centre in Korumburra where I met with Board and Management representatives to hear about their plans for the future. They are a seriously impressive group of community-minded people with a deep commitment to providing high quality children's services. Their facility is a great credit to their vision and tenacity. Their thinking about the future demonstrates how seriously they take their responsibilities to keep up with the needs of the local community they serve.

As we continue to build great relationships with local groups and individuals from right across the Shire I'd again like thank all those who have gone out of their way to support us. Our work is to further the best interests of improving social and economic opportunities for communities right across South Gippsland Shire and this support is vital to our success.

Christian Zahra

Administrator