

Administrators' Message



Our 2020 statistics are in, and Council has had a very busy year in regard to building and planning permit applications and enquiries. We are so proud of all teams involved in getting these applications and enquiries actioned for our community. To share with you all, we have taken some statistics that we think you might be interested in and included them in this week's message.

Last year, Council received 544 planning permit applications, of which 455 were approved. We also saw a slight increase in building enquiries – 576 compared to 521 in 2019.

Across our Shire, 849 building permits were issued compared to 780 in 2019. However, it hasn't just been a steady year where the permits are issued equally every month. From November 1 2020 to January 31 2021, 227 building permits were issued. In the same period in 2019, only 149 permits were issued.

What we can take from this is the influx of people who want to call South Gippsland home. We are seeing people flock in droves to our part of the state, undoubtedly looking for a bit of a tree change.

Not only are people coming to our Shire and deciding to stay, we are seeing a lot of interest from local tourism magazines such as Broadsheet. We have been featured a number of times in this online publication, and we have been mentioned yet again in their article about the lesser-known wonders in Gippsland. In this article, it features Skull Rock, which is located off the coast of Wilsons Promontory. If you would like to read the full article, head over to:

<https://www.broadsheet.com.au/melbourne/travel/article/bookmark-eight-lesser-known-wonders-gippsland>

This week, we have welcomed back school and kindergarten students and teachers who are undoubtedly excited to be back in the classroom. After bouncing in and out of the classroom last year, we hope you are all looking forward to getting back into the swing of things. We wish you all well for the year ahead.

Julie Eisenbise, Christian Zahra AM and Rick Brown – Administrators