

# Administrators' Message



At Council this week, we have seen a number of projects take the spotlight. One of which being the new Jumbunna Road Shared Pathway.

This important project linked the Korumburra Secondary College to the town centre of Korumburra and makes the commute safer for students. It also is a great asset to the rest of the community, who can use the footpath for exercise.

Although this project seems really simple, it took extensive engineering and design to make it work best for the community. Additional land also had to be purchased to accommodate for the pathway. All projects require cooperation between a number of stakeholders, and this was no different. Not only did Council and the designer, Beveridge Williams, have to collaborate but also the construction company, A1 Civil, property owners along the stretch, the Korumburra Round Table, Korumburra Business Association, and Korumburra Secondary College.

Congratulations and thank you to all those involved in the project. It is a shining example of what can be achieved when we all work well together.

Administrator Brown represented all Administrators at the official sod turning for the extension of the Great Southern Rail Trail. This is such an exciting project for our community. It will see a 36 kilometre stretch added to the rail trail between Leongatha and Nyora. Once complete, the rail trail will extend over 100 kilometres through some of South Gippsland's most impressive rural and coastal views, allowing tourists and fitness-loving locals the chance to stop in at an array of towns. The future may still hold additional extensions to the Great Southern Rail Trail, with talks already starting between South Gippsland Shire Council and neighbouring councils to see what may be next. Some of you may be wondering why this project is important. It is important for our local economy. This trail brings tourists to our region that stop in for a cuppa and even stay a night or two. It is a great selling point for our region, and we should all be proud of it.

The Community Support Package, which we provided to help support our residents throughout COVID-19, has allowed us to deliver a number of programs one of which was a flu immunisation program. The program, that is ordinarily run at the cost to the businesses and organisations who choose Council to administer the jobs, was offered for free last year

under the Community Support Package. Our team had to think quickly on their feet, planning an immunisation program in the midst of the COVID-19 outbreak in Victoria. This received positive feedback from our community, which was briefed to Administrators this week. It is always great to hear that the projects we are doing are making a difference.

We also saw a couple of our local students given scholarships by Gardiner Dairy Foundation. Kiara McJames-Court from Pound Creek and Hugh Nicoll from Fish Creek were given the Doug Weir scholarship and Niel Black scholarship respectively. These scholarships are awarded annually to students who have shown commitment to leadership and personal development and who intend to return to regional areas once they have completed their studies. Winners must also have demonstrated sound academic achievement and contributed to their community. Congratulations to these young South Gippslanders. We wish you all the best in your future endeavours.

Unfortunately, we are heading back into lockdown. Hopefully it is just for the five days announced and everything can re-open again on Thursday. Please make sure you stay abreast of all the latest exposure sites and advice on the Department of Health and Humans Services website: [www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus)

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