## Administrators' Message



A few weeks ago, we were fortunate to be part of the official sod turning for the extension of the Great Southern Rail Trail. This is a pivotal project that has been given significant investment by not only Council but also the Victorian Government through Sport and Recreation Victoria and Regional Development Victoria.

This extension is a very important project for our region, with a 36 kilometre stretch between Leongatha and Nyora being added to extend the rail trail to more than 100 kilometres. It is a great opportunity for a number of our local communities who will have access to one of Victoria's great walking destinations and reap the benefits of increased tourists walking past their front door.

It hasn't been an easy road to get to this point. A number of reports, assessments and surveys have been completed to get the project over the line.

To accompany this extensive build, the Leongatha Railway Station Project was passed unanimously at the last Council meeting. This project will see the revitalisation of a part of Leongatha that has been a topic of discussion for many years. More parking will be created in the area and pedestrian bridges built to link the precinct back to the town centre. It will be great to see the finished product.

Monday 8 March was International Women's Day. This year's theme was #ChooseToChallenge where women were encouraged to challenge and call out gender bias and inequality. Everyone, not just women, can help create an inclusive world. At Council, we are really proud of the impact we help women have on our community. We have featured some of them in our collage posted on our Facebook page. If you haven't seen it already, go check it out: <a href="https://www.facebook.com.au/southgippslandshirecouncil">www.facebook.com.au/southgippslandshirecouncil</a>

Our Facebook page is a great place to keep up to date on what is happening with Council. We also have a fortnightly newsletter called In The Know that can be sent directly to your inbox. To sign up, head to <a href="https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au">www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au</a>

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