

Administrators' Message



As Administrators, we have recently reflected that we have now been at Council for two full years. It has definitely been an honour to serve the community – a community that is so unique and welcomed us warmly. We have taken the time to reflect on what we set out to do and what changes have been made, some very big visible changes and some less visible but equally important. It is so heart-warming to look back on what we have been able to accomplish in partnership with the local community.

This October, South Gippsland will have the opportunity to bring back a democratically-elected Council. While we have been in office, we have been committed to ensuring we leave a legacy of Good Governance for the next Council and into the future. Despite the challenges of COVID-19 and recently the storms that have impacted our community, we have worked tirelessly on refining policies and adopting strategies that set South Gippsland in good stead for the future. Throughout our term we have been lucky enough to have community members who have supported us in so many ways including offering their time and constructive ideas to ensure Council can move forward.

It is wonderful to see Bair Street getting tantalisingly close to completion with some beautiful greenery being planted recently which really brings all the hard work together. We also have some amazing updates in Korumburra with the Hub tender being approved, the new supermarket site negotiated and the new streetscapes to come that will see a revitalisation of the town. Foster Stadium is progressing well and so is the Mirboo North Outdoor Pool, which is almost ready for a swim. We are seeing some brilliant projects coming to a head in a number of our towns. However, it is not only these towns that benefit, it is the wider South Gippsland community that benefit from the upgrades, grants and funding for these projects. There is so much happening on top of our response to the storm even from June and everything else running in the background across the organisation. For that, we cannot thank Council staff and our contractors enough.

It is great to see events continuing on such as the Things to do in and around the Boo and a number of arts events like the Big Art, Small Halls workshops. Although both of these have been interrupted and rescheduled due to COVID-19 lockdowns, we continue to find ways to host events that connect our community. For more information on these events please visit

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

There is so much to be thankful for, and to look back on with pride and joy. However, we understand that not everyone is facing happy times right now. We encourage everyone to stay safe and seek assistance if you are struggling during this challenging time. Many of us have faced our own challenges in the past two years, and some are still facing them. Help your neighbour, your family member, your friend if they need. A simple gesture could mean more than you know. We are a strong community here in South Gippsland and that strength is never more prominent than in times of need. Spring will be with us before we know it, and with it will hopefully come festivals and celebrations that we can all look forward to. Stay safe and well and be kind South Gippsland.

Julie Eisenbise, Christian Zahra AM and Rick Brown – Administrators