

# Administrators' Message



At our Council Meeting in October 2020, we endorsed a business case for an addition to the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program by Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association (AVCGA) – Port Welshpool Flotilla. The Port Welshpool Marine Search and Rescue Hub project involved the demolition of the existing buildings and the construction of new, modern, purpose-built infrastructure including a kit-based building and adjacent storage shed. This project has now been completed – an amazing result for our community.

This project is a terrific example of Council working in partnership with a key community organisation in the Coast Guard, and we are delighted to see this project come to fruition.

We wish to thank the Australian Volunteer Coast Guard Association – Port Welshpool Flotilla for their hard work in getting this project completed so promptly in what has been a rather tumultuous time, due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions that go with that. These developments ensure the safety of those who want to get out on the water when we can.

This week has not seen a lot of great news from a COVID-19 restrictions perspective. While there was something immediately positive in there for families that playgrounds will reopen and in-home childcare can resume for authorised workers, there is hope that regional Victorians will be given some freedoms in the coming week which will be announced when the Premier receives the relevant advice. Until that time, the five reasons to leave your home still apply and you still need an authorised worker permit if you need to leave your home for work. All the details can be found at [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au)

One thing many of us can do now to help inch towards lesser restrictions is going out and getting vaccinated. In South Gippsland, there is a vaccination hub in Leongatha where you can book a vaccine appointment. The Council staff and community members who have been through that facility and have commended the smooth process and friendly staff. You can book your vaccine appointment at [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/book-your-vaccine-appointment](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/book-your-vaccine-appointment)

We understand that the COVID-19 pandemic has had a massive impact on us all, and some are dealing with these challenges better than others. For those who may be struggling, help is available. You are not alone. Services such as Lifeline (13 11 14), beyondblue (1300 224 636) and Kids Helpline (1800 551 800) are fantastic and available to support you. You can also book an appointment with your GP to talk about your concerns and get further help.

We also strongly encourage you to jump on the phone to a loved one to keep yourself social. Isolation is something we are all doing physically for the health of our community, but that does not mean we can't give our loved one's a call. A great family event could be a Zoom Trivia Night where you can all get involved and have some light-hearted fun.

**Julie Eisenbise, Christian Zahra AM and Rick Brown – Administrators**