## Mayor's Message



What an enjoyable and refreshing week this week has been!

A range of events were held across the Shire for Australia Day. I was delighted to be able to attend nearly half of the events planned for the day alongside other Councillors, CEO Kerryn Ellis and other Council staff.

On the eve of Australia Day, I put my table tennis skills to work alongside Councillor Rae and my husband John at Loch. Councillor Darakai also tried his hand during the marathon.

Poowong Loch Cricket Club and Woodleigh table tennis players were holding a 24-hour table tennis marathon to celebrate Australia Day and raise funds. It was such a fun event to be part of and no doubt provided lots of laughs for those watching.

At the Leongatha Australia Day event, it was a pleasure to welcome a new Australian citizen – Jane Smith. On Australia Day, Jane was one of over 16,000 people nationally from over 150 countries to become an Australian citizen. I can imagine it would be a very special day to become a citizen of our beautiful country.

After Leongatha, it was on to Mirboo North where the official opening of the new pool facilities took place. The pool and surroundings look absolutely fantastic, a huge accomplishment by everyone involved to get this work done and enhance one of our beautiful outdoor pools. I can vouch that the pool and splash part were very refreshing!

I hope that, no matter how you chose to spend the day, that you were surrounded by those you love and did something that filled your heart with joy.

Over the next five months or so, we will have lots of engagement opportunities available for our community. In order to get involved and make your voice heard, I strongly encourage you to register for South Gippsland Shire Council's new online engagement platform *Your Say South Gippsland*.

When you register for the platform, you will receive regular updates on projects you follow and when new opportunities become available. This platform provides a dedicated space for collaboration between Council and you, our community. This is a priority of South Gippsland Shire Council, and through this platform, we believe that it is making it even easier for these opportunities to occur.

To register for the platform, please visit <u>yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au</u>

Cr Mohya Davies – Mayor