

# Mayor's Message



As I mentioned in last week's message, National Volunteer Week was held between 16 and 22 May and was a chance for us to celebrate our volunteers who do so much not only for Council, but for a range of organisations across our Shire. To celebrate the week, I popped into the Prom Country Visitor Information Centre in Foster to personally thank them for the work they do and present them with a certificate of appreciation. I'm sorry I couldn't see all of our amazing volunteers during this week, but please know you were in my thoughts.

Over the next five weeks or so, Council's Community Strengthening team are hitting the road to host one-on-one sessions with people and groups interested in the Community Grants program. At these sessions, the team will listen to your project idea and help support you to complete your application.

Community groups are encouraged to give the team a call on 5662 9200 to book their session. All others can pop in at any of the locations between 9.30am and 3.30pm on the dates specified. There is two a week schedule at this stage starting on Monday 6 June at Coal Creek.

For all the information on these sessions, please visit [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants)

Winter is often the season where we naively think that weeds will be dormant. However, that is not the case. While some of the more 'popular' and well-known weeds are not as active during this time, for example, ragwort and blackberries, other weeds take over. Gorse and Broom are the two most common winter weeds in South Gippsland, but I have a fun fact for you: Gorse could be eradicated in our region if we control it. How amazing is that?

If you are a landowner and notice a few weeds around the place, now may be the best time to get on top of them. For more information on how to best treat these weeds, there is some great information on Landcare's website [www.sgln.net.au](http://www.sgln.net.au)

I thought it may also be important to mention that myself and the other Councillors are holding a Community Day once per month. Community Days are generally held on the fourth Wednesday of the month and are designed to be a forum where the community can ask to have a conversation with the Councillors and the Councillors can ask questions and better understand the matter being presented.

If you would like more information on this or put in an expression of interest to be involved, please visit [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/communitydays](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/communitydays)

To end this week's message, I would just like to thank you for reading my weekly message, whether now is the first time, or it is something you read every week – thank you. It means a lot to me that people are taking an interest in what myself, the rest of the Councillor group, and Council are up to. Have a fantastic week everybody.

**Cr Mohya Davies – Mayor**