

# Deputy Mayor's Message



Dear Residents,

Councillor Catch Ups have proved to be a great additional touchpoint with our community where concerns and ideas can be shared face-to-face. The main topics we have been hearing about include planning matters, roads and local infrastructure. Much of this discussion is reiterating matters raised with Councillors throughout our term so far. We heard loud and clear from our community during the recent Council Plan and Community Vision engagement that our community have ideas and visions. It is vital that you continue to come forward and let us know what is happening and how you think Council can continue to improve. Communication is the best way to ensure we, as elected representatives, continue to bring your thoughts and concerns to the table when we make decisions.

Some of these matters, while they don't solely sit with Council to action, form part of our advocacy priorities. Having these priorities allows us to communicate more clearly with our State and Federal representatives on what is important to our locals. One place where these are always talked about is at the One Gippsland meeting.

One Gippsland is the peak regional advocacy body representing Gippsland, and last week I was pleased to attend one of their meetings to hear how Gippsland councils are working productively to have a united voice on issues that matter to our region. It was an honour to have the opportunity to attend this meeting while acting as Mayor for the past few weeks.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the Snap Send Solve app, which is an extremely useful tool. It allows you to take a photo of something that needs fixing and submit it straight to our depot teams to action. For example, if you notice a pothole in your road or a broken piece of play equipment, you can use the app to let us know. You can download it to your phone through either the Google Play or Apple App Store or you can visit their website [www.snapsendsolve.com](http://www.snapsendsolve.com)

Community Grants Round One for 2022/23 is closing at the end of August. Grants are available in the following categories:

- Minor Projects and Equipment (up to \$5,000).
- Major Projects and Equipment (up to \$10,000).

- Planning and Development Reports (up to \$10,000).
- Festivals and Events (up to \$10,000).

More information on the grants and how to apply can be found on Council's website [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants). If you need assistance with your submission, you can contact Sophie Bolding on 5662 9200 or by emailing [grants@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:grants@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

Next week, Mayor Davies will return to her role as Mayor and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for sharing this space with me over the past four weeks. I have thoroughly enjoyed keeping you all up to date on what's happening at Council and how you can engage with us as your Council representatives.

As we continue to work for South Gippsland, thank you for your input and adding to the fabric of our community.

If you would like to reach out to me, please feel free either by phone or email at any time.

**Cr Nathan Hersey – Deputy Mayor**