

Mayor's Message



This week, I attended the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Annual Conference and meeting alongside Acting CEO Renae Littlejohn. There were presentations on statistics and data about global and national trends and the implications of these for local government. Lots of discussion too about our communities and how important they are to us in local government. The health, prosperity and connectedness of the communities we serve are vital and local government has a key role to play in ensuring that happens.

While the sessions are always extremely insightful, it is the connections we build and foster with colleagues at other councils that are important. It allows us to find common ground and use our collective voice to create change. I get so much energy from being in a group of people like this that are so passionate about the positive change we can do if we come together.

I also went on a tour at Wilsons Promontory last Tuesday that allowed me to see the Prom from a different perspective, and gave me a renewed appreciation for the beauty of our region and our wonderful tourism business. We really do live in a special part of the world. This year, as the Christmas holidays draw near, I'd encourage you to consider staying in South Gippsland and exploring your backyard. There is lots to do and see! To find out more, you can go to visitsouthgippsland.com.au

Speaking of things to do and see, last weekend I went on a walk along the Great Southern Rail Trail with my husband John and grandson. Part of our walk took us through the Black Spur section, which has changed a bit with the road realignment. However, it was absolutely amazing. It is phenomenal to look at the work they have had to do to get that road realigned and the space it has created underneath for users of the trail to enjoy. If you haven't already gone for a wander or ride along that stretch, I highly recommend it to you and ensure you take a moment to appreciate the work that has been done.

If you operate or are looking to start a business, please give our Economic Development team a call. At Council, we partner with the State Government to offer free workshops that will help you grow your business. Topics range from finance to social media marketing, so there is something for everyone. Plus, we have a Business Concierge who can give you personalised advice for your business.

If you want to find out more about all of the services they offer and register for any upcoming

workshops, please visit www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/business

The Mama Kin Six Week Singers performance on Friday 28 October still has tickets available. My husband and myself are both involved and I must be honest with you all, it has been extremely challenging, but a lot of fun. We have been listening to the songs at home to practice our harmonies. If you would like to come along and support your fellow community members, you can purchase tickets here: www.trybooking.com/CCXGF

Finally, I must make an apology. In last week's message I spoke about a fabulous deb ball I attended but named the organisation incorrectly. I would like to apologise to the Leongatha & District Netball Association and thank them for hosting such a wonderful evening.

Cr Mohya Davies – Mayor