

Mayor's Message



After six weeks of intense practice and some late nights at home working on our harmonies, my husband John and I participated in the Mama Kin Sound of Your Town event. Thank you to everyone who came along on the night and supported us all; Mama Kin, Tommy Spender and Virginia Botts for making us sound fabulous; and of course, thank you to my fellow Six Week Singers for all of your hard work and a great performance.

The Cup Day 'long' weekend was a hit for petrol heads with Biketoberfest in Leongatha on Saturday and the Tarwin Lower Mechanics Institute's Automotive Show on Sunday. Despite the questionable weather on Saturday in particular, both of these events had a massive turnout of both locals and visitors. Events like this bring a boost to our businesses and our region, so thank you to all those who were involved in organising these events.

Last Thursday, CEO Kerryn Ellis and myself met with the Gippsland Southern Health Service's Chair Athina Georgiou and interim CEO Chris Trotman to talk about ideas and ways our organisations can work together. We were able to talk discuss shared challenges such as housing shortages, mental health service provisions and employment attraction. Our ability to work collaboratively for the health benefit of South Gippsland is vital and highlighted in our Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan. Thank you Athina and Chris for hosting us and for the open, flowing discussion.

On Friday I attended the Myli Annual General Meeting along with Councillor Darakai. This is the first AGM since they became a not-for-profit organisation. It was a great opportunity to highlight the work they are doing to expand their offering not only in South Gippsland, but in neighbouring councils as well including Bass Coast, Baw Baw and soon, Cardinia. Libraries are continuing to change the services they offer, so it really is more than just a place to borrow books.

On Saturday 5 November, I joined with the Toora Lions Club to celebrate their 50th anniversary. Many of us have been helped by the Lions in some way, weather that be a bucket of chips at an event or something more personal. For clubs to survive, they need a powerful and committed group of people who believe entirely in their mission and attract new members. Congratulations to Toora for this great achievement.

Council's Green Waste Amnesty is now open until 31 December 2022. This is a great opportunity for you to clean up your property and reduce the fire hazards at your place. Simply

load your trailer or back of your ute and take it to one of Council's transfer stations to be disposed of free of charge.

Unlike kerbside green waste, some plant species are not allowed to be disposed of during this amnesty. For all the details, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/greenwasteamnesty

The draft Domestic Animal Management Plan feedback window has now closed. I would like to personally thank everyone who has participated in the rounds of engagement. We have been encouraged by the amount of feedback received on this extremely important topic. It has been and will continue to be invaluable to us in developing Plans that reflect the sentiment and expectations of our community.

With the wet weather, our farmers are really doing it tough. Trying to move livestock is tearing up paddocks and really making things difficult. Hopefully with some warmer days forecast, the water will subside and our paddocks will recover a bit.

Cr Mohya Davies – Mayor