

Celebrating our community is a key highlight of being a local Councillors at South Gippsland Shire.

With Australia Day coming up, there will be a host of events happening around South Gippsland where our community can come together. The events are coordinated by many hard-working community groups and supported by Council.

- Leongatha – Citizenship Ceremony, BBQ and Activities – McIndoe Park, Turner Street 8.30am to 10.30am.
- Kongwak – Australia Day Breakfast – Kongwak Public Hall 8.30am to 10.30am.
- Meeniyah – Australia Day Breakfast Activities – Meeniyah Hall 9.00am to 11.00am.
- Venus Bay – Australia Day Breakfast – Venus Bay Surf Lifesaving Club 9.00am to 12.00pm.
- Mirboo North – Australia Day Celebration and Morning Tea – Walter J Tuck Recreation Reserve, Strzelecki Highway 10.30am.
- Welshpool – Australia Day Family Day – Welshpool Park 11.00am to 2.00pm.
- Mirboo North – Australia Day at the Pool – Mirboo North Pool 11.00am to 7.00pm.
- Tarwin Lower – Australia Day BBQ – Tarwin River Boat Ramp 12.00pm to 2.00pm.
- Korumburra – Australia Day BBQ and Activities – Coleman Park 12.30pm to 3.00pm.
- Foster – Australia Day Celebrations – Outside the Museum, Main Street 1.00pm to 3.00pm.
- Dumbalk – Australia Day BBQ – Dumbalk Memorial Park 6.00pm to 9.30pm.

For more information on any of these events, please visit

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday

The Australia Day Awards Ceremony is being held on Wednesday 18 January 2023. This is a great opportunity to highlight the amazing contributions of some of our community members and fabulous events held throughout the previous year. All are welcome to attend from 6.30pm at the Meeniyah Town Hall. Light refreshments will be provided.

Coastal Strategy

Two weeks remaining for public input on the South Gippsland Coastal Strategy Discussion Paper. To round out the engagement period, there will be four additional pop-ups held in Toora,

Venus Bay, Tarwin Lower, and Stony Creek.

As there has been throughout the entire engagement period, you can also share your feedback and ideas at <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/coastal-strategy>

I encourage you to get involved, even if you don't live on the coast. We know our coastal areas are important to many in our community and as such, we need to hear from everyone. Our economic prosperity comes from all across our region, and that includes our coast.

Feedback on this closes Tuesday 31 January.

Fire Restrictions

Fire restrictions begin on Monday 16 January at 1.00am. We have seen some extremely wet weather followed by days of sunshine, causing growth. This growth means the threat of fire is very real this season. The CFA have some fantastic resources including detail on what to do and not to do during the fire danger period. You can find these at: www.cfa.vic.gov.au/can

Municipal Monitor's Report

The findings of our Municipal Monitor Ms Prue Digby, have been presented to the Minister for Local Government.

I'm proud to say that South Gippsland Shire has received excellent feedback and been commended for our approach, whilst serving the community through local government.

The report is further recognition for the work all Councillors have put in since day one to be strong and engaged representatives of the South Gippsland community. Councillors have made a commitment to serve others and actively engage with our community.

It also recognises the staff and the intensive induction program formulated for Councillors.

The importance of having strong relationships between Councillors and Council staff, ensuring all of us are passionate about serving South Gippsland cannot be understated.

Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor