

Mayor's Message



Jobs Expo

The South Gippsland Jobs Expo will be held on Thursday 16 March at Memorial Hall, Leongatha between 9.30am and 2.30pm.

This is a great opportunity for local employers and job seekers to connect. There have been over 100 job postings collated so far with varying levels of experience required. Part- or full-time and apprenticeship positions are available, so there is something for everyone.

There will be a free sausage sizzle and all attendees will receive a coffee voucher.

If you are a business who has a job vacancy to share, please share it with us by visiting www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/JobsExpo

Meet the Mayor and Deputy Mayor

Thank you to those who attended the Meet the Mayor and Deputy Mayor session this week. It was great to hear from so many in our community.

I am delighted that these sessions are proving so popular, and will prioritise those who haven't yet had an opportunity to meet with Deputy Mayor Cr Clare Williams and myself for future months.

It is our intention that this opportunity will be available again in March for more of our community to come along and have a chat with us. Keep your eyes on future editions of this column for more opportunities.

Events

I know I have mentioned events quite a bit the last few weeks, but I feel it is really important to highlight those that have brought us together and drawn people to our region.

Community connection is one of the major benefits of events. After a few years of isolation from others, being able to come together and celebrate what makes us special has been a real highlight and benefit for our community.

Councillors have been attending as many events as possible. We are not just sitting in a Chamber making decisions, we are part of our community.

Offshore Wind Advocacy

As you may be aware, a few months ago Council put in a submission on the Federal Government's offshore wind zone proposal.

Since then, the work has not stopped. We have continued to take opportunities to voice the concerns of our community and the expectations we have on any development of this nature.

Councillors and the Council Executive Team recently met with representatives from the Federal Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water recently, and took the opportunity to reiterate the views and concerns of Council and the South Gippsland community about offshore wind proposals. Councillors, Chief Executive Officer and the executive team have also been meeting with a wide range of proponents of the various wind farm projects. Throughout these meetings, the importance of genuine engagement with the South Gippsland community, the protection of our unique natural environment, and the importance of long term community benefit outcomes has been reiterated. I have also recently written to the Minister for Climate Change and Energy, the Hon Chris Bowen MP, seeking a face-to-face meeting to discuss the future of offshore wind in our region.

We are committed to advocating for great outcomes for South Gippsland in relation to employment and other benefits.

One Gippsland

I would like to share that I have been elected Deputy Chair of the One Gippsland Board. One Gippsland is the regional advocacy body for Gippsland, comprised of all six local government authorities, plus representatives from industry and government agencies.

This is a great privilege for me and will be great to be so involved in advocating for Gippsland as a whole.

Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor