

# Mayor's Message



## **Youth Council Expressions of Interest**

South Gippsland Shire Council is calling for young people to join the South Gippsland Youth Council. This is a fantastic opportunity for local people aged 14 to 24 who live, work and study in the Shire to represent their peers. Council will support committee members to develop and deliver projects and campaigns, giving the youth of South Gippsland a powerful voice.

To find out more and complete an Expression of Interest, please visit:

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/youth](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/youth)

## **May Council Meeting**

Our May Council Meeting will be held Wednesday 17 May at 2.00pm in Leongatha.

This month, we have brought forward the consideration of the successful Community Grants recipients.

Council will also consider a number of reports and a planning application.

To view the meeting live, or when it suits you, please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live)

Thank you to those who showed an interest in the proposed Budget and Long-Term Financial Plan through our open engagement process. It is encouraging to see people taking up opportunities to share their thoughts, opportunities and concerns with us.

## **Volunteer Week**

National Volunteer Week is held every year in May to celebrate and thank those who volunteer.

In South Gippsland, we have a long history of strong volunteerism, and our community is underpinned by a broad force of volunteer organisations. I personally want to acknowledge the volunteers, for all they do to keep our towns and communities strong, healthy and enjoyable places to live.

While volunteering is part of our bone structure in South Gippsland, I know many of our organisations are still in need of more volunteers. Even if you can only commit to one day a month, it does make a difference, and you will find you get back much more value in friendship and goodwill than you put in.

## **IDAHOBIT Day**

**Wednesday 17 May** we will be raising a rainbow flag at **10.30am** to acknowledge the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT Day).

This day aims to raise awareness and shine a spotlight on the discrimination unfortunately faced by some within our community.

Council is committed to supporting the diversity and inclusion of all people in our community and ensuring South Gippsland is a place for everyone to live, work and enjoy coming to.

### **Street Tree Planting**

The annual street tree planting program started at the beginning of May and will see approximately 500 trees planted across South Gippsland. These trees will be planted on bare nature strips, or those where trees have been damaged or lost.

If you would like a tree planted on your nature strip, you can request a tree by calling **5662 9200**.

### **Meet the Mayor**

The next Meet the Mayor date is scheduled for Friday 9 June between 9.00am and 2.00pm. Members of the community are welcome to arrange a 20-minute meeting time to be held in Leongatha by emailing [OfficeoftheCEO@southgippsland.vic.gov.au](mailto:OfficeoftheCEO@southgippsland.vic.gov.au)

Meeting times are booked up quickly and as in the past, priority will be given to those who have not previously had a meeting through this opportunity.

### **Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor**