# Mayor's Message



# **LGPRO Awards**

South Gippsland Shire Council has won an LGPro Specialist Award in the 'Corporate and Community Planning' category. The award was for the 'Shaping South Gippsland' project which was used to develop our four-year Council Plan.

Importantly, the award also provides confirmation that we are moving in the right direction and is further encouragement that Council's somewhat turbulent past is now firmly behind us. There's a lot more to be done of course but Councillors, and Council staff, remain committed to engaging with our community and to making sure the actions within our Council Plan are achieved. There's more to do, together.

#### **ArtCubes**

South Gippsland's ArtCubes will soon be on the move, following a successful launch at Coal Creek. The ArtCubes are relocatable exhibition spaces that have been created from refurbished shipping containers and are completely self-sufficient.

Council is pleased that this initiative will provide opportunity for local artists and creatives who can use the ArtCubes as work and or display spaces.

The ArtCubes will soon be heading to Loch, just in time for the Food and Wine Festival, before heading on to Mirboo North, Fish Creek and then Meeniyan. Keep an eye out for the Cubes near you and checkout the installations and have a chat to the resident artists.

# **Volunteer Week**

Councillors were pleased to attend two morning teas last week to acknowledge and thank Council's hard-working volunteers. Volunteering is important to all communities and in South Gippsland we are fortunate to have volunteering rates that are higher than both the state and national average. Our communities just wouldn't be the same without our volunteers, thank you!

# **Grant Writing Workshop**

Council's next round of community grants opens on 1 July. To help with preparation of a community grant application – or any grant application – Council is hosting a Grant Writing Workshop on Thursday 15 June in Leongatha. This is a great opportunity for anyone who would like to learn more about grants and how to identify funding opportunities. It will also help you to define your grant objective, budget and how it can be evaluated. To find out more go to: <a href="https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants">www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants</a>

#### **Sandy Point Visit**

Last week I travelled to Sandy Point, along with Councillors and Council staff, to meet with members or the Sandy Point community. It was an opportunity to listen to community thoughts and to learn more about the Sandy Point community. Thank you to everyone that met with us for making the time and for the courtesy that was shown.

### **Small Business Networking Dinner**

A Small Business Networking Dinner will be held on Tuesday 20 June in Leongatha. Sponsored by the NBN, the dinner aims to bring local small business owners and operators together for an evening to chat, learn and collaborate. A special guest speaker will also be sharing an important message around business cyber security. Tickets can be booked at: https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/business

#### **Meet the Mayor and Deputy Mayor**

Next month we will once again be holding a Meet the Mayor and Deputy Mayor catch up in Leongatha.

These meetings are twenty minute chats where you can discuss an issue or idea. Our next catch up will be on Friday 9 June. To book a spot, please email: <a href="mailto:officeoftheceo@southgippsland.vic.gov.au">officeoftheceo@southgippsland.vic.gov.au</a>.

**Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor**