

# Mayor's Message



Plenty of locals celebrated the AFL Grand Final, but with eyes on the players and the ball, some might not realise we had one of our own local champions on the field. Congratulations to Matt Stevic, who is an AFL umpiring hailing from Leongatha. At the AFL Grand Final, he umpired his 11<sup>th</sup> final. Thank you and congratulations Matt for your significant contribution to the much-loved game of AFL and congratulations to the Pies on the win!

## **Be Prepared for all Weather**

With fires in many parts of Gippsland and some heavy, consistent rain, it's a reminder to be prepared. My thoughts are with everyone who has been affected by the weather, and our neighbours in Wellington and Baw Baw Shires that have been hit hard by severe bushfires around Rawson, Loch Sport and Briagolong in particular. Council has sent staff to East Gippsland to assist with the emergency situations.

We need to be prepared for fire, flood and anything else that comes our way. By monitoring the current emergencies through the VicEmergency app and making sure you have plans in place for all situations and importantly in the season ahead, please make sure you have a Bushfire Survival Plan.

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) through their local brigades, often offer workshops where support is available to create your own Bushfire Survival Plan. Usually these are held in the lead up to the declared fire season, so make sure you keep up to date with your local CFA or visit the following website for more details and helpful resources: [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)

## **South Gippsland Australia Day Awards**

Do you know someone who deserves recognition for their valuable contributions to our region?

Please make a nomination for the 2024 South Gippsland Australia Day Awards. This year's categories are: Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year which made a triumphant return last year after the pandemic.

All nominees will be recognised at an Awards Ceremony that will be held on Wednesday 17 January 6.30pm at the Meeniyan Hall. The achievements of all nominees will also be featured in local newspapers, on Council's website and on their Facebook page.

Nominations close Wednesday 8 November. For more information on each category and to submit a nomination, please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday)

## **Workshop Opportunities**

Event Registration and Attendee Management Training will be available on Saturday 21 October from 9.30am to 12.30pm at the Council Chambers in Leongatha, where you will learn how to use event management platforms such as Eventbrite, and marketing your event.

An Advanced Grant Writing Workshop is being held on Thursday 2 November from 5.30pm to 8.00pm again at the Council Chambers in Leongatha.

To register for either of these events, or to follow Council to be notified of future events, please visit:

<https://bit.ly/sgsc-eventbrite>

If you operate a business and want to find a workshop, you can visit:

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

**Cr Nathan Hersey – Mayor**