

Mayor's Message



Hello South Gippsland.

What an amazing night we had in Meeniyan for the South Gippsland Australia Day Awards!

With a full hall and plenty of amazing people and events to celebrate, it was a night I won't forget for some time.

I would like to once again congratulate:

- 2024 South Gippsland Citizen of the Year Kathryn Smith.
- 2024 Young Citizen of the Year Laila Witeveen.
- 2024 Community Event of the Year Southern Lights Festival.

The calibre of every nomination this year was spectacular. We are so lucky to have these people and events in South Gippsland.

This Friday for Australia Day, there are 12 events happening across our Shire. If you are looking for something to do, why not head along to one of the following towns to join in the celebrations:

- Dumbalk.
- Foster.
- Kongwak.
- Korumburra.
- Leongatha.
- Meeniyan.
- Mirboo North x2.
- Pound Creek.
- Tarwin Lower.
- Venus Bay.
- Welshpool.

To view all the details about these events, please visit: www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiaday

Events

There's plenty more than Australia Day events happening in South Gippsland.

Why not travel down to Fish Creek and see what is on offer in the ArtCubes, which will be moving soon? Fish Creek has had a really high calibre of artists rolling through since October 2023, including students from the Kindergarten and Primary School. They also have a 'community cube' where anyone can come and create their very own piece of art – which might just be the perfect thing to help bring out the kids' creative side.

To view all the events happening around South Gippsland, please visit:

<https://visitsouthgippsland.com.au>

If you are an event organiser, you can also pop in a request to add your event to that page – a great option if you would like to expand those who come along to your event.

Catch up with a Councillor

Councillors Scott Rae, Sarah Gilligan, Mohya Davies and myself will be on the road providing opportunities for the community to come and say 'hello' on Wednesday 24 January 2024. Here is where we will be:

- 9.00am to 10.30am – Port Welshpool Old Ferry Terminal.
- 10.30am to 1.15pm – Drive around looking at landslips and lunch at Welshpool Pub.
- 1.15pm to 2.15pm – Foster Library.
- 2.30pm to 3.30pm – Lance Moon Park, Yanakie.
- 4.00pm to 5.00pm – Gurneys Cider.

This is a great opportunity to let us know what your community is up to and have a chat about any concerns you have.

Community Engagement

The time has come. Feedback is now open on a new direction for **Coal Creek Community Park and Museum**. Have a read of the Discussion Paper to learn about the Park's rich history, purpose and three potential pathways for the future – a revitalisation approach, transformation into a new sustainable tourist attraction, or ceasing current operations. Make sure you get involved and tell your friends and family about it – it is important we hear from as many people as possible.

There is also an opportunity for feedback on a proposed **Planning Scheme Amendment C129sgip**. This amendment proposes to implement the collective recommendations from the South Gippsland Planning Scheme Review 2023. Feedback is open now until Friday 16 February 2024 at 5.00pm.

To view any current or past engagement run by Council, please visit:

<https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

Cr Clare Williams – Mayor