

Mayor's Message



Hello South Gippsland.

I would like to start this week's message by congratulating Colin Mitchell and Yvonne Morrison for receiving a Medal of the Order of Australia. Both of these amazing South Gippslanders have made an impact beyond our region, inspiring others to do fabulous things.

I would also like to congratulate the winners of the South Gippsland Australia Day Photography Competition – Jodie Bennett-Wood (open category) and Carter Armstrong (under 15s category). There were some spectacular images submitted this year, so thank you to everyone who took the time to submit their photos.

Australia Day 2024

Councillors were out-and-about on Friday 26 January celebrating Australia Day with our communities. There were 12 events across our beautiful Shire, and Councillors attended multiple events each. I attended Leongatha, Mirboo North and Tarwin Lower which were great celebrations of our people and even our new citizens.

These opportunities to come together feel so important to help foster strong connections. As Councillors, we feel so honoured to be representing such an amazing region.

We are all so lucky to have people and groups who organise and run these events for us all to enjoy. Thank you to everyone involved in making them happen.

Events

It was a privilege to officially open Coal Creek's new exhibition – Interpretations on Thursday 25 January. The exhibition features the work of artists who live and take inspiration from South Gippsland. I really encourage you to head along and experience this exhibition and explore the Park.

The colourful ArtCubes have finished up their residence at Fish Creek and made the move to Meeniyan on Friday. To check out their line up of talented artists, please visit: <https://visitsouthgippsland.com.au>

If you are an event organiser, make sure you head over to the Visit South Gippsland page and add your event. It is a great way to expand the reach of your event.

Community Engagement

On Friday 26 January, a pop-up for the Coal Creek Community Park and Museum engagement was held at Tarwin Lower. Council staff and consultants supporting the engagement came along to listen to those with feedback on Coal Creek.

There was lots of great discussion and plenty of ideas that can be considered.

If you weren't in Tarwin Lower and want an opportunity to provide your feedback, you can do so online at the link below or by coming along to another pop-up. There are two remaining at the:

- Prom Country Farmers Market, Foster: Saturday 17 February 9.00am to 12.00pm.
- Mirboo North Market: Saturday 24 February 9.00am to 12.00pm.

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

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

Cr Clare Williams – Mayor