## Mayor's Message



Hello South Gippsland.

The April Council Meeting was held this week, with conversations about planning, community engagement and more. If you missed the meeting, I strongly encourage you to listen back by visiting: <a href="https://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live">www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live</a>

One of the main things from this meeting was the decision to commence community consultation on our Proposed 2024/25 Budget and Long Term Financial Plan. We believe as a Councillor group that this Proposed Budget captures the themes of feedback we've heard throughout our term and strikes a balance between that and the funds available. We also wanted to focus on investing in initiatives that will benefit our community into the future.

To provide your feedback on the Proposed 2024/25 Budget and Long Term Financial Plan, please visit: <u>https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au</u>

Council also hosted a visit from St Laurence O'Toole Primary School in Leongatha on Thursday which provided the students with an introduction to the role of local government. I enjoyed partnering with Council staff to deliver an interactive session that left the participants with a greater understanding of what happens at Council. Thank you to everyone who organised and took part in the day, especially the grade fives and sixes. Every day we can teach younger generations something new is a good day!

## **Events**

What a weekend it was! With the Coal Creek 50<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations on Saturday and the official opening of Leongatha's Rail Trail Community Market on Sunday, I feel a renewed sense of joy being part of our South Gippsland community. Both events are the culmination of many months' worth of work and highlight the importance of community connection.

If you need any ideas on what to do in South Gippsland, check out the Visit South Gippsland website: <a href="https://www.visitsouthgippsland.com.au">www.visitsouthgippsland.com.au</a>

## We'd Love to Hear from You

Hearing from our community is really important for us as a Councillor group. It helps us better understand the opportunities and challenges facing our community and consider what we can do to help.

All Councillors are more than happy to talk to any community member regardless of where in South Gippsland they live. Our contact details are publicly available on the South Gippsland Shire Council website. We look forward to hearing from you.

Cr Clare Williams – Mayor