

Mayor's Message



Hello South Gippsland.

I want to start this week's message with a thank you to those who came out Wednesday night and stood with us as we remembered those we have lost due to family and domestic violence. This issue is something we are hearing a lot about at the moment, with reports of a woman being killed, on average, every four days by a current or former intimate partner. All the Gippsland local government areas are in the top 30 of Victorian Councils in regards to prevalence of family violence. We all need to continue to stand up against this behaviour, because even one life lost is one life too many.

Thank you also to those who attended the Jobs Expo on Thursday – it was great to see so many people speaking with potential employers and exploring the opportunities on offer – and to those who submitted feedback on the Proposed 2024/25 Budget and Long Term Financial Plan. It is always terrific to see our community support events and provide their thoughts on what we are doing here at Council.

Container Deposit Scheme

This week, Council announced that the Container Deposit Scheme collection points at the Foster, Korumburra, Mirboo North, Walkerville and Venus Bay Transfer Stations closed on 30 April. The Scheme was undertaken as a trial by the Transfer Station operator, who were happy to support the Scheme as long as it was manageable. Due to a number of reasons such as ongoing difficulties with the collection of deposited containers, this decision had to be made by the operator. The Koonwarra Transfer Station will continue to operate on a trial basis until at least the end of May.

There are still five collection points across South Gippsland that remain open. To see the collection points, please visit: www.returnit.com.au/vic

ArtCubes

Our beautiful ArtCubes have recently moved from Meenyan to Tarwin Lower for the next few months. We are excited to see the program of magnificent, talented local artists that fill these Cubes with colour and life soon. For more details, please visit: www.visitsouthgippsland.com.au/artcubes

Fire Restrictions

On Wednesday 1 May, fire restrictions were lifted in South Gippsland and some other Gippsland regions. Thank you to the CFA volunteers who have kept our region safe this fire season.

Did You Know...

Have something you want to bring up with all Councillors? Did you know that you can book in to present to Councillors on our Community Days? The Community Day is held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Or, you can contact any of the Councillors with the contact details on Council's website:

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Candidate Information Sessions

With an election to be held later this year, there are a number of Candidate Information Sessions planned by multiple organisations. A session will be held in Sale on Thursday 9 May by Women for Election.

Keep an eye out for more sessions as they are announced.

Exciting News

I am so excited to announce that I have been voted in as the Australian Local Government Women's Association – Victoria (ALGWA) President. I look forward to using this opportunity to continue to show South Gippsland is a leader in local government and how we can work together with other Councils to achieve collective goals.

Cr Clare Williams – Mayor