

Mayor Message



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Hello South Gippsland.

I hope this message finds you well. Last week, we had the pleasure of hearing from Councillor Bron Beach. I really enjoy sharing this platform with my fellow councillors as it's an opportunity for everyone to share their passions and interests with our community.

ANZAC Day

A couple weeks back, my fellow Councillors and I had the honour of attending ANZAC Day services around the region. ANZAC Day is a solemn occasion where we pay our respects to everyone who has served our country. I attended the dawn service in Leongatha and the afternoon service at Mount Eccles. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to our local RSLs, who keep the ANZAC Day tradition alive and prevalent in our community.

In particular, I would like to highlight the Leongatha RSL, which is sponsoring two Year 10 students from Leongatha to walk the Kokoda Track in 2026. This incredible opportunity was announced at the Leongatha ANZAC Commemoration Service by Gary Blackwood, one of the initiative's founders. This once-in-a-lifetime experience will undoubtedly be a profound journey for these students.

CEO Appointment

I am also very pleased that Allison Jones was appointed Council's new Chief Executive Officer last week. Ms. Jones brings a wealth of leadership experience in local government and will provide deep insights into both the challenges and opportunities ahead of us. This appointment marks the beginning of an exciting new chapter for our organisation. My fellow Councillors and I look forward to continuing to work with Ms. Jones for the betterment of this community.

Register for Kinder in 2026

Registrations for kindergarten in 2026 are now open. You can register via the council's website, and I encourage you to do so by 30 June to secure your preferred kindergarten.
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/kinder



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Candlelight Vigil

On Wednesday, Council is hosting a Candlelight Vigil in solidarity of those who have died or been affected by domestic or family violence. This important event symbolises our region's zero tolerance toward domestic and family violence. I urge our community to show up in support and reverence of this occasion. Please join us on Wednesday, 7 May at 6.30pm, on the grassed area between our office at 9 Smith Street, Leongatha, and Memorial Hall.

Gippsland Dairy Industry Strategy

Dairy Australia is seeking feedback on the recently released draft Gippsland Dairy Industry Strategy. I really want to encourage our farmers and those with connections to South Gippsland's dairy industry to take a look and provide feedback.

2025 Latrobe Health Services: Gippsland Business Awards

Now is the time to cast your nominations for the 2025 Latrobe Health Services Gippsland Business Awards. Small businesses need our support, so if you're grateful for the coffee shop staff who remember your name and regular coffee order, or love the products in a particular store, show your support and nominate them.

Mirboo North Lions Club 20 Year Anniversary

Last Saturday night, Di and I had the privilege of attending the Mirboo North Lions Club 20 Year Anniversary at the Grand Ridge Hotel. It was a great celebration with three of the original members (Aaron, Leatha and Chirs) in attendance. Congratulations to all of the volunteers at the Mirboo North Lion Club who have continued to support our community for so many years.

Take care,

Cr John Schelling – Mayor