

Mayor Message



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Hello South Gippsland.

Advocacy in Canberra

Last week, I travelled to Canberra with Deputy Mayor Councillor Gilligan, Councillor Hersey, Chief Executive Officer Allison Jones, and Tony Peterson Director Sustainable Infrastructure, to attend the Australian Local Government Assembly. While there we took the opportunity to meet with Ministers and government representatives to advocate for South Gippsland's needs. Discussions centred around Council's advocacy priorities which include – amongst others – roads, resilient coastal communities and disaster recovery infrastructure funding. We also lobbied strongly for the Australian government to fund the upgrade and ongoing maintenance of the Yankie Automated Weather Station.

The Deputy Mayor and I were fortunate to be Mary Aldred MP's first visitors at her office in Parliament House and had some very productive conversations. The trip also highlighted the significant progress Council has made in Canberra, with many government representatives acknowledging Council's efforts—particularly regarding coastal strategies and planning. Councillor Gilligan was invited to chair a Coastal Roundtable event during the visit, which was well received and testament to our strong leadership in this area.

Our main takeaway from the visit was that many other local governments are facing similar challenges, and it's important that we continue to engage and collaborate to address them together.

Community Grants

The first round of Council's Community Grants is now open until Sunday 31 August. These grants provide an opportunity for our local not-for-profit community organisations to access funding to carry out important projects, planning events or even purchase equipment. Helping our community level up through grants such as this is one of the most rewarding aspects of being part of Council. Don't miss this opportunity, find out more or apply here, www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/grants

Community Engagement

Council is seeking your feedback on two engagement opportunities.



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The **Korumburra Skate Park** is being delivered as part of the Korumburra Railway Precinct Project. The skate park is aimed at beginners and intermediate skaters and we are wanting to hear your thoughts on the proposed design. Council is hosting two community engagement sessions at the Korumburra Community Hub on Monday 14 July. The first session is tailored to skate park users and the second session will provide community members with the opportunity to view the designs and share more general feedback. If you're unable to make these sessions, you can provide a submission via an online survey.

Council has also proposed a **sale of land** known as Part 71 MacDonald Street, Leongatha, to the adjoining landowner. You are invited to make a submission regarding the proposed sale of land.

For more information or to provide your feedback on either of these engagement opportunities, visit yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au

Leongatha Rotary Changeover Dinner

Councillor Williams and I had the joy of attending the Leongatha Rotary Changeover Dinner. This was a fantastic night and not only recognised members that have made an outstanding contribution but saw six new members join the club.

The Rotary is always welcoming new members. If this is something that interest you, don't hesitate to reach out on their website, www.leongatharotary.org.au

Footloose

Finally, Footloose opening night is almost here! Don't forget to buy your tickets to what is bound to be a brilliant performance by the Leongatha Lyric Theatre. If you've seen the footage of the stage construction on Lyric Theatre's Facebook page, you'll know we're all in for a treat.

Thanks South Gippsland,
Cr John Schelling – Mayor