

Mayor Message



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Hello South Gippsland.

I would like to start by congratulating both Leongatha Lyric Theatre and South Gippsland Dance Eisteddfod on their recent, brilliant performances. Footloose and the Annual Eisteddfod both enjoyed fantastic turnouts and glowing feedback – a true testament to the high standard of performing arts in South Gippsland.

Parliamentary Inquiry

Last week, I was given the opportunity to represent South Gippsland alongside Manager Governance and Integrity, Rhys Matulis at the *Parliamentary Inquiry into Fraud and Corruption Control – Local Government*. Our attendance provided a great opportunity to join the ongoing discussion about transparency, accountability, and integrity in local government. We are appreciative of the chance to contribute to this conversation and would like to continue seeing stronger coordination between councils and agencies that can offer hands-on support to help us fulfil our responsibilities.

Attending events such as these are a great experience and I'm grateful to be given these platforms.

Dinner on the Mount 2025

I had the pleasure of attending Mount Eccles Hall annual Dinner on the Mount. This is a major fund-raising event for the hall, with proceeds from this year going towards a new roof on the facility. The night was a great success, with approximately 80 people in attendance, delicious food and such generosity from the community. The committee should be extremely proud of what they achieved.

Rural Councils Victoria Annual Forum

Councillor Scott Rae represented South Gippsland at the Rural Councils Victoria *Annual Forum* in Yarrawonga last week. Rural Councils Victoria was established to coordinate the network of rural councils in their efforts to better understand, articulate and address the issues affecting them. South Gippsland is one of 34 member councils. The forum discussed managing the complex challenges of housing, childcare and financial sustainability – among a range of other topics. Thank you Councillor Rae for attending and ensuring our Council is aligned with those that face similar challenges.



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New Exhibition at Coal Creek

A new exhibition has opened at Coal Creek; 'Finders Keepers' by Rachel Warren showcases mixed media and the joy of collecting. The pieces combine colour and texture and are truly unique. Pop down to Coal Creek and have a look if you get a chance.

Finally, you may have noticed the ArtCubes have moved to Leongatha and are receiving a fresh new design. International artist, TWOONE is painting a new mural on each of the cubes exterior walls, alongside local, young artist mentees until Friday 8 August. If you have a moment to check out this work, I'd love to hear your feedback.

Enjoy your week South Gippsland,
Cr John Schelling – Mayor