

Mayor Message



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Hello South Gippsland,

Tom McIntosh South Gippsland visit

Last week, Councillor Williams and I had the opportunity to meet with Tom McIntosh MP, who announced \$250,000 funding to upgrade the lighting at the Leongatha Recreation Reserve — a welcome investment in our local infrastructure. Council will contribute \$50,000 towards the project and aims to deliver the works alongside the planned lighting upgrade at Nyora Recreation Reserve.

While in South Gippsland, Councillor Gilligan and I had the opportunity to take Tom on a brief tour of Tarwin Lower and Venus Bay, highlighting key locations such as the Salt Marsh and Tarwin Lower Recreation Reserve. It was a great chance to connect with the local community and showcase some of the unique parts of our region. Building and maintaining strong relationships with our Members of Parliament is essential to help secure the funding and support South Gippsland needs.

AFL Victoria Strategy

I recently attended the launch of AFL Victoria's Regional Football and Netball Facility Strategy in Drouin. This long-term plan, developed in collaboration with sporting groups, local leagues, councils, and government, aims to improve infrastructure for grassroots sport across the region — a great step forward for our sporting communities.

Learning about planning

Councillors Finlay, Rae, Hersey, and Snell participated in the A to Z of Planning course last week, delivered by the Planning Institute of Australia. It provided them with the opportunity to deep dive into planning processes and the complexities involved in shaping our towns and communities.

Have your say on the location of a new public toilet in Nyora

Community consultation is now open for feedback on the location of a new toilet block in Nyora. Submissions are welcome until Sunday 12 October, and I encourage residents to have their say.



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While on the topic of Nyora, I'd like to acknowledge the establishment of the Nyora Progress Association. Strong local leadership is essential to any locality and with growth and development rapidly approaching this area, now is the time to step up for the community. Thank you to those who have decided to get involved.

<https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

Happy Birthday Avis Tilley

Last week, I went to the Austral Hotel in Korumburra to celebrate Avis Tilley's 100th birthday alongside Councillors Hersey and Kennedy. For those of you who haven't had the pleasure of meeting Avis, she is a committed local woman who has given an awful lot to the Korumburra community. A big happy birthday to you.

Finals season

Congratulations to all our local sporting clubs competing in finals. A special shout-out to Foster's senior football team for their outstanding performance a couple of weekends ago, and to the Leongatha Parrots for their tremendous wins last weekend. I'd also like to acknowledge Korumburra-Bena's A Grade netball side for a fantastic win. Well done to all teams.

2025 World Athletics Championships

I'd also like to extend my congratulations to Eleanor Patterson for finishing fifth in the women's high jump final at the World Athletics Championships. Representing our region on the world stage is a remarkable achievement, and we're incredibly proud of her continued success.

School holidays in South Gippsland

Finally, with spring school holidays now underway, I encourage everyone to get out and enjoy the natural beauty of South Gippsland. It's also a great time to support our local businesses by shopping local. There are plenty of school holiday ideas and itineraries on the Visit South Gippsland website.

<https://visitsouthgippsland.com.au/>



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Please remember that school holidays bring increased traffic on our rural roads. As Rural Road Safety Month draws to a close, let's all commit to driving safely and responsibly – not just on rural roads, but everywhere.

Stay safe and enjoy the week ahead.

Mayor John Schelling