

Cr. Hersey Message



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Hello South Gippsland,

Reflecting on the past four years, as I have served on the South Gippsland Shire Council, it's incredible to see the transformation of an organisation that was once in 'survival mode' to a thriving, high-functioning local government organisation.

Today, our Council plays an active role, not only within Gippsland but also at the Victorian and national levels. I believe this success is largely due to a shift in focus—looking outward to opportunities, whilst collaborating actively with other levels of government and stakeholders.

Council's role at its core is about service to others, which can only be achieved through being outward focused.

As a result of strong advocacy and collaboration, South Gippsland has attracted significant state and federal investment in recent times, which directly benefits our residents and ratepayers, strengthens our community and provides local infrastructure improvements.

As we continue to change, we can expect to welcome and encourage more private enterprise to invest and grow in our region. Council can play its part in fostering investment locally. New investment will create more jobs, boost the local economy, and make South Gippsland an even better place to live, work and enjoy.

As Council continues to serve you, your input is invaluable. By participating and offering constructive feedback and opportunities to collaborate, together we can shape a brighter future for South Gippsland.

Farming Family Fun Day

On Sunday, the Family Fun Day at Meeniyar Recreation Reserve brought our community together to support the mental health and wellbeing of our farming families. Farming comes with unique challenges, and this year's dry conditions across Victoria have added further pressure. If you or someone you know needs support, please visit our website for information on available grants, counselling services, and other resources.

www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/drought-support



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council

On Friday 10 October, I will be attending the MAV October State Council Meeting, where South Gippsland Shire Council is putting forward two motions – one regarding the voluntary handback and transfer of Crown land assets, and another addressing Coastal Hazard Overlays. I'm proud to serve as South Gippsland's MAV Delegate, representing our region on matters that shape the future of local government.

Open Studio Art Trail

Over the weekend, the Art Connect Open Studio Art Trail began, showcasing the incredible talent of local artists across South Gippsland. Council is proud to support events like this that celebrate creativity and strengthen our arts community. Over the next two weekends – from 11 to 19 October – everyone is invited to explore over 20 studios, meet the artists in their creative spaces and even take a piece of South Gippsland's creativity home. You can explore the trail and plan your visit at www.artconnectsouthgippslandinc.com.

Eat Drink Play Gippsland

Looking ahead, we're excited to welcome Eat Drink Play Gippsland to South Gippsland on Saturday 18 October at the Leongatha Railway Precinct. This major event highlights the best of Gippsland's food, drink, and entertainment – and it's a fantastic opportunity to support local businesses and boost tourism. Tickets are still available. Visit eatdrinkplaygippsland.com.au to book.

National Police Remembrance Day

Last week, we recognised National Police Remembrance Day by lighting up Council's main office in blue. This simple but powerful gesture pays tribute to the officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. We honour their service and the safety they've helped uphold in our region and across the country.

Thank you to Mayor Schelling for the opportunity to share my message with our community this week.

Nathan

Councillor Nathan Hersey