

# Mayor Message



*South Gippsland  
Shire Council*

Hello South Gippsland,

## **Remembrance Day**

I'd like to begin by acknowledging Remembrance Day and the many services held across our Shire. These moments of reflection are deeply important, and I thank everyone who participated in honouring those who have served.

## **Have Your Say on Council Initiatives**

Over the last couple of weeks, Council hosted a series of in-person community engagement sessions in Leongatha, Korumburra, Foster, and Tarwin Lower. These sessions were a great success, and it was fantastic to hear directly from our community. Thank you to everyone who took time out of their day to attend and share their thoughts.

Community feedback is still open for the 2026/27 Budget submissions, the draft Governance Rules, and the draft Community Engagement Strategy and Policy. Submissions close Friday 21 November, so if you haven't yet had your say, I encourage you to visit <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/> and share your feedback.

## **Garage Sale Trail**

We've also kicked off the Garage Sale Trail – a nationwide event promoting sustainable shopping. It runs over two weekends: 8–9 November and 15–16 November, with over 30 garage sales happening across South Gippsland. Be sure to map out your trail and take part in one of the biggest reuse events in the country.

## **Walk Against Family Violence**

I would like to invite the community to join in walking against family violence as part of the 16 Days of Activism campaign. We will be walking from 12.30pm on Wednesday 26 November, starting at Memorial Hall in Leongatha.

## **Leongatha and Korumburra Railway Precincts Project – Official Opening**

Another event is the official opening of the Leongatha and Korumburra Railway Precinct, happening on Friday 14 November at 11.00am at the Leongatha Railway Precinct. This \$6 million project has transformed railway land at both Leongatha and Korumburra into vibrant public spaces, and I welcome everyone to come celebrate this big milestone for South Gippsland.



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## November Citizenship Ceremony

In addition to exciting events, please come along to our November Citizenship Ceremony on Wednesday 12 November from 6.00pm at Memorial Hall, Leongatha. We'll be welcoming 17 new conferees on the night.

## Roaming ArtCubes

You may have noticed the ArtCubes have recently left Leongatha. They're now roaming the Shire and can be found at Fleet Wines Leongatha, Toora, and Venus Bay. Be sure to check them out and enjoy the creativity on display.

## National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress

This week, I'm attending the Australian Local Government Association's National Local Roads, Transport and Infrastructure Congress in Bendigo alongside Council's Manager Infrastructure Delivery, Jareth Goss. It's a valuable opportunity to connect with other local government leaders, decision-makers, and suppliers who can support Council's initiatives and innovations.

## 2025 Mayoral Election

I also encourage everyone to tune into our upcoming Council Meeting on Wednesday 19 November, which includes the Mayoral Election. This annual process determines who will serve as Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the coming year, and it's an important moment in Council's governance calendar.

## 2026 Australia of the Year

Finally, I'd like to congratulate Susan Moore, a dedicated wildlife carer from Venus Bay, who has been nominated for the 2026 Australian of the Year Local Hero Award. Being nominated is a tremendous honour, and Susan's contribution to our community is truly inspiring.

Take care.

**Mayor John Schelling**