

Mayor Message



*South Gippsland
Shire Council*

Our community is shaped and strengthened by the many locals who step up, volunteer and contribute to South Gippsland. I'm often reminded that we truly are a community filled with people who care for others. The past week has been just another reminder to me of how our people give so much. Thank you to everyone who gives time, energy and resources to support others!

Prepare

Watching the recent disasters unfold across Australia, reminds us that being prepared is extremely important. Having a plan and knowing what to do in an emergency can make a huge difference.

It's also easy to keep updated with fire danger ratings, storm warnings and incidents that could impact you, using the VicEmergency app and website.

These resources provide a centralised location for all Victorians to access timely emergency information about bushfires, storms, floods, heatwaves and more. The VicEmergency Hotline (1800 226 226) also provides information to help the community before, during, and after weather events.

If you haven't already done so, I encourage you to download the VicEmergency app and save the hotline number in your phone.

Property Numbers

It's also important that emergency services can easily identify your property quickly. Please make sure your property number is clearly visible from the roadside, to better assist our emergency services. If you live in a rural area, you can obtain a property number by contacting Council's Rates team on 5662 9200.

Thank you to our local emergency services for attending calls and keeping us all safe.

Need for Feed

I have been encouraged by the support from our community in organising and donating towards the Need for Feed programme, with a collection point in Korumburra.

I would like to thank all who have generously donated and the volunteers who have played a part in organising the trucks and feed for affected communities across Victoria. Thank you!



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South Gippsland Australia Day Awards

On Wednesday, South Gippsland celebrated the nominees and recipients of the 2026 South Gippsland Australia Day Awards. I would like to congratulate Valerie Wilson (Citizen of the Year), Erica Begg and Rhiannon Rawlins (Young Citizens of the Year), and the Loch Food and Wine Festival (Event of the Year) on your awards. There is always a strong field of nominees in all categories, and I thoroughly enjoy celebrating the people and events that make South Gippsland so special.

Thank you to everyone who came along to share the night with us and celebrate the nominees and winners. It was excellent to have Councillors Brad Snell, John Schelling and Scott Rae attend as well as Mary Alred MP who all participated in the celebrations.

Australia Day Events

Across South Gippsland there are over 10 events happening for Australia Day, so there are plenty of opportunities to celebrate with your community.

To find out what's happening, you can visit
www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/australiadayevents.

Thank you.