



**South Gippsland
Shire Council**

2026 South Gippsland Australia Day Photography Competition Winners

South Gippsland Shire Council would like to congratulate the winners of this year's Australia Day Photography Competition:

Best Image (under 15): Stephen Rawling for the image 'Nature's fireworks – Bottlebrush'.

Best Image (open section): Ian Osborne for the image 'Sunrise'.

This year there were over 80 entries for the competition with many photographers reflecting the theme 'Australia Day: South Gippsland - Our home'. Photographing one's own community and sharing the results not only helps to foster a sense of pride and creativity, but it also helps to celebrate our local beauty and strengthens community connections.

A video announcing the winners, and showcasing entries, can be viewed at:

<https://vimeo.com/1157442448/9396de9eae>

Quote attributable to South Gippsland Shire Mayor, Nathan Hersey:

"Australia Day is always a wonderful opportunity to recognise the spirit and creativity of our community, and this year's Photography Competition has showcased that beautifully.

"The calibre of entries was outstanding, and each photograph reflected a unique perspective of what makes our region special. Congratulations to Stephen and Ian and thank you to everyone who shared their talent with us."

PR3035 23/01/2026