Activities for 16 Days of Activism

South Gippsland Shire Council is inviting the community to come together this November and December as part of the annual 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign, a movement calling for action to prevent gender and family violence and promote respect, equality and safety for all.

Running from 25 November to 10 December, the campaign will bring together schools, service providers and community through a range of activities designed to spark conversations and promote respect.

A key feature of this year's campaign is the Growing Respect Together community art initiative, which encourages community members to create orange flowers as a symbol of respect, hope, and a shared commitment to ending gender-based violence. Community members can create flowers using any craft medium and flowers can be displayed at home, school or work, or be contributed to community displays across South Gippsland.

Council's Open Spaces team will also be planting orange flowers in the planter boxes in front of Memorial Hall to mark 16 Days of Activism.

Key Campaign Events

Community Art Workshop: Respect Is…

Facilitated by local artist Beatrice Imbert, community members are invited to contribute to a collaborative art installation with the theme 'Planting Seeds of Hope', which will explore respect, hope and positive change.

- When: Friday 20 November, 10.00am to 12.00pm or 4.00pm to 6.00pm.
- Where: Coal Creek, 12 Silkstone Road, Korumburra.

Walk Against Family Violence

Schools, community members, service providers and local organisations are invited to come together and walk from Memorial Hall to the Leongatha Railway Precinct to demonstrate a shared commitment to ending family violence and supporting victim survivors.

South Gippsland Shire Council has partnered with local schools Leongatha Secondary College, Leongatha Primary School, and Leongatha Specialist School for this event.

- When: Wednesday 25 November from 12.30pm.
- Where: Meet at the front of Memorial Hall, McCartin Street, Leongatha.

Respect Is… Closing Morning Tea

An opportunity for participants and community members to come together and reflect on the installation and celebrate the collective contribution made throughout the campaign.

- When: Tuesday 1 December at 10.30am.
- Where: Coal Creek, 12 Silkstone Road, Korumburra.

If you or anyone you know needs support, call 1800 RESPECT or visit www.1800respect.org.au.

Quotes attributable to South Gippsland Shire Mayor, Nathan Hersey:
"A community that is free from violence, starts with respect. Violence and abuse are never appropriate and should not be tolerated. There is simply no excuse. Violence and abuse can leave lasting scars. Choose kindness, respect, and compassion with one another and be reminded that we are all human and deserve to be treated as such.

I encourage our community members to get involved in this year's 16 Days of Activism campaign, by attending events, creating an orange flower through the Growing Respect Together initiative, and joining conversations that promote respect, equality, and the prevention of violence. Together, we can help create a South Gippsland where everyone is safe, respected, and valued."

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