

# Mayor's Message



Hello South Gippsland.

We are so lucky to have high quality events in our region, run by locals for locals and visitors. Like the Into the Woods show by Leongatha's Lyric Theatre – a wonderful show that has enthralled audiences over the past two weeks.

Many of these events would not happen if it wasn't for our amazing volunteers.

While we have one of the highest rates of volunteerism in Victoria, there are lots of Committees that are looking for new people to join in the fun. Make sure you reach out to one of your local Committees and see if you can offer a helping hand. It feels so good to volunteer!

## **July Council Meeting**

The July Council Meeting was held last Wednesday and had plenty of constructive discussion about a range of topics.

Our first item was endorsing the **Draft Coal Creek Community Park and Museum Strategic Plan** for community feedback. This process has involved the community the entire way along, but we want to make sure we've hit the mark. Whatever your feedback is, please make sure you submit it via the Your Say South Gippsland platform before Thursday 1 August: <https://yoursay.southgippsland.vic.gov.au>

In partnership with Latrobe City Council, a **Renewable Energy Impact and Readiness Study** was adopted. The Study will help position South Gippsland for the arrival of renewable energy projects that are set to be established off the Gippsland coast in the coming years. South Gippsland Shire Council has already set itself up as a constructive partner in this space, and it is fantastic to have a document that will continue this work.

We also endorsed a **change to the Council Meeting dates** for the next few months. With the Election Period dates being changed by the Victorian Government, it was important that we shuffled some dates around to make sure decisions can be made for as long as possible. The updated dates can be found on Council's website.

If you would like to watch the meeting, you can find it on Council's website:

[www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/live)

## **Network Outage Review**

A Victorian Government review into the operational response of the electricity network during the 13 February storm event has been progressing well. Now, there is an opportunity for our community to provide feedback on an Interim Report. You can do this by visiting: [www.engage.vic.gov.au/network-outage-review](http://www.engage.vic.gov.au/network-outage-review)

Feedback closes on Thursday 1 August 2024.

### **Addressing Community Concerns**

I have been contacted multiple times by members of our community regarding the increase in crime in our region. I understand and share your concerns.

It is important that we remain alert and report any suspicious happenings to the police as this is the only way that the crime will stop – if the police build a case against the perpetrators of crime.

While Council has no direct responsibility for taking action on these types of issues, we are in constant discussion with the local police.

Thank you,

**Cr Clare Williams – Mayor**