

Mayor's Message



Hello South Gippsland.

This week has seen some horrific weather hit our region once again. Strong winds, high tides, some heavy rain and power outages meant South Gippslanders from all corners were likely impacted in some way. I hope you all are okay. I'd like to thank the Council staff and first responders who were out at all hours clearing roads so our roads and community can be accessible and safe.

The start of September marks a new season, and two events over the past week celebrated this.

The Leongatha Daffodil and Floral Show took place from Thursday 29 August to Saturday 31 August. Organised by the Leongatha Horticultural Society, the Show is in its 66th year and encompasses many varieties of flowers, fruit, vegetables, natives, and floral art and photography. Congratulations to Sue Thompson on her John Pascoe Fawcner Award, and the organising committee for continuing this wonderful tradition.

Sunday 1 September was the New Season, New Hope planting in Mirboo North. The event was organised by the Christian churches in the town and included a tree planting in Baromi Park followed by an afternoon tea. The new tree symbolises new beginnings, regrowth and recovery for Mirboo North. It is important that the town continues to take these opportunities to come together.

Gippsland Business Awards 2024

On Friday evening, the winners of the 2024 Gippsland Business Awards were announced.

Congratulations to our South Gippsland finalists:

- Fleming Berries – Food and Wine Producers category.
- Jessica Greaves Graphic Design – Business and Professional Services category.
- Leongatha Kitchens and Bathrooms – Mechanical Trades and Construction category.

We are privileged to have amazing businesses that choose South Gippsland as their home, with many of these never receiving any formal recognition of their impact on our region. I'd like to extend a warm thank you to everyone who runs a business and contributes to our region.

Cape to Cape Resilience Plan

The draft Cape to Cape Resilience Plan is now available for review and feedback. Prepared by the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action the Plan incorporates the findings from previous public consultation sessions and provides an outline of how coastal townships in South Gippsland and

Bass Coast can prepare for future coastal hazards. I strongly encourage everyone to head online to review the Plan and provide feedback. It is important that we all continue to make our voices heard.

Feedback closes on Sunday 22 September 2024. Provide yours here: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/cape-cape-resilience-project>

Update on Baths Road Reserve and Mirboo North Pool

In some exciting news, after significant work by Council and contractors, the main tracks in the Baths Road Reserve are getting very close to opening. The 13 February storm event ravaged the Reserve, and it is great to see that soon, locals will be able to enjoy it once again. Once reopened, please obey all signage and stick to the open tracks for your safety.

The Mirboo North Pool is a much-loved community meeting place, especially in the warmer months. Council has now appointed a contractor who will conduct the works at the Pool. It is still unclear how long repairs will take, but more information on this will be provided by Council.

Cr Clare Williams – Mayor