

# CEO's Message



Hello South Gippsland.

As South Gippsland Shire Council is now officially in the Election Period, I will be taking over our weekly column so you can all stay in the loop with what's happening in our region and at Council.

Firstly, I'd like to thank everyone who has put their hand up in the 2024 Council Election. There has been 17 people in total nominate as a candidate across our three wards – Coastal Promontory, Strzelecki and Tarwin Valley. Being a Councillor is a great honour and shows that the community has trust in you to represent them. It is definitely not a job to take lightly.

To help candidates better understand what the first few months of their Council term will be like, a pack will be sent out in the coming week. The Induction Program is a requirement from the State Government, and ensures incoming Councillors complete the required training to set them up for success in their term.

I look forward to working productively with the new Councillor group, and so does our organisation.

## **Election Information**

If you are looking for some extra details on the Council elections, Council has a dedicated webpage with some of the key information, including voting information, Council policies, how to spot misinformation and key dates. Please visit: [www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/election](http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/election)

The Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC) runs the Council elections and as such, is also a trusted source for information. There is a VEC office in Leongatha at 6-12 Smith Street (Carinos) if you would like to have a face-to-face chat. You can also browse their website: [www.vec.vic.gov.au](http://www.vec.vic.gov.au)

## **Changes to Reception**

From the end of September, South Gippsland Shire Council will be opening a new customer service counter at the Korumburra Community Hub.

To accommodate this change, opening times at our Leongatha office will be changed. The new hours will be:

- Leongatha: Monday and Wednesday – 10.00am to 3.00pm.
- Korumburra: Tuesday and Thursday – 10.00am to 3.00pm.
- Both counters will be closed on Fridays.

There is no change to our phone-based services, which will continue to be available Monday to Friday between 8.30am and 5.00pm. Council's website is also available.

For more information on the change, please visit:

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

### **What's Happening in South Gippsland**

The Visit South Gippsland website is your home for all things local events. We all know that South Gippsland is the place to be, and we are attracting some fabulous events to our region, as well as the events run by our hard-working volunteers.

Every weekend there is at least one local market, musical act, gallery opening and local gathering so you can have as busy a weekend as you like. Some upcoming events include the Mirboo North Market, SOS: The Australian ABBA Tribute Show at the Korumburra Italian Social Club, Out on the Weekend Goes Country at Coal Creek, Meeniyan Marty Gras, and the much-loved Halloween at Coal Creek.

You can browse the events here: [www.visitsouthgippsland.com.au/events](http://www.visitsouthgippsland.com.au/events)

It is also free to add your event to the Visit South Gippsland website, so please consider adding yours to the website to get the word out.

Thank you,

**Kerryn Ellis – Chief Executive Officer**