



MEDIA RELEASE

22 JUNE 2009

WORK BEGINS ON COMMUNITY CENTRE

It is a vision that has been a long time coming for Judbury and other communities along the upper reaches of Huon River, but after nearly nine years of talking and planning, work has finally started on construction of the new Upper Huon Community Centre.

To be based at picturesque Calvert Park on the banks of the Huon River, the new community centre is expected to become the focal point for the Judbury, Glen Huon and Lonnvale communities.

Jointly funded by the Huon Valley Council, the Australian Government, and the Tasmanian Government through Sport and Recreation Tasmania, the new centre will include a large function room that will be used for community meetings, dinners, wedding receptions, playgroup and growers markets, along with recreational activities such as bowls, yoga, aerobics and kinder-gym. The centre will also include a kitchen for onsite catering.

A prominent feature of the new centre will be an open-air deck offering uninterrupted views of the Huon River. It will provide an ideal setting for picnics and barbecues and is expected to be popular with locals and visitors.

The new community centre will replace the current hall, whose poor condition and outdated design no longer meets the needs of the community. The decision to build a new community centre instead of renovating the current hall was taken following extensive consultation with local communities over a number of years by the Huon Valley Council and the Judbury Progress Association. The community expressed a desire to have a new centre built rather than update the existing building. The current hall will be demolished and removed once the new community centre is completed, to allow improved access and parking for the park and adjacent facilities.

Preparation of the building site required the removal of a time capsule buried by teachers and students from the local school as part of the 1988 Australian bicentenary celebrations. Judbury Progress Association President and Huon Valley Councillor, Ian Paul, is asking for any students and teachers from the original internment to come forward and help decide what to do with the time capsule.

“The original idea was that the time capsule would be buried for 100 years and then dug up and opened in 2088. Unfortunately we had to remove it when clearing the site. The time capsule is still sealed and has not been opened and we intend to consult with the original teachers, students and the community as to how we proceed. We could bury the time capsule as part of the opening ceremony of the new centre but nothing will be decided until we have spoken with those involved in 1988,” Cr Paul said.

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Contact: Jonathon Campbell, Huon Valley Council Community Relations Officer

Ph: 6264 0314

Mobile: 0428 318 868

Email: jcampbell@huonvalley.tas.gov.au



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The new community centre will be officially opened later in the year. Any students and teachers from the original burying of the time capsule in 1988 can contact Ian Paul on 6266 0215 or Chris Emmett on 6266 0140.



Work began recently on construction of the Upper Huon Community Centre



The new Upper Huon Community Centre will offer uninterrupted views of the Huon River from the centre's open air deck



When completed, the Upper Huon Community Centre will look similar to this artist's impression of the finished building.

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For additional comments, please contact:

Geoff Cockerill – General Manager, Huon Valley Council. Ph: 6264 0300

Daniel Smee – Manager, Community Services, Huon Valley Council. Ph: 6264 0300

Contact: Jonathon Campbell, Huon Valley Council Community Relations Officer

Ph: 6264 0314

Mobile: 0428 318 868

Email: jcampbell@huonvalley.tas.gov.au