

MEDIA RELEASE

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Know your Council – the staff

Councils in Australia form the third tier of government, along with the Commonwealth and State governments. They are a vital part of everyday life. To help answer any questions about what a council actually does - here's a snapshot of your local government presence - the Huon Valley Council.

The name of the Huon is derived from Jean-Michel Huon de Kermadec, an 18th-century French explorer who was 2nd in command to Antoine Bruni d'Entrecasteaux, who navigated the area. The Huon Valley, Huonville, Huon River, Huon Pine, Port Huon, Glen Huon and the electoral division of Huon are all named for him. The former Municipality of Esperance was named for his ship.

In 1993 the Municipalities of Esperance, Huon and Port Cygnet were amalgamated to form the Huon Valley Council.

The Huon Valley Council employs more than 175 staff. Of these, 143 are local. They work and LIVE in the Valley. That's 143 people who are part of your communities and know the issues that face them. They are your neighbours, your friends, your volunteers and your team mates. Their families live here, their kids go to local schools, and in some cases this link goes back many generations. Their passion for the Valley, and for the work they do for council is substantial and highly-valued.

Council management considers staff their most valuable asset. They deliver vital day-to-day services to the Valley's 15,000 residents over 5,000 square kilometres including daycare, medical centres, rural health, sporting centres, youth services, building maintenance, animal control, planning, environmental health, natural resource management, waste transfer stations, not to mention road maintenance, or the design and construction of new bridges.

Our staff are out there every working day, helping, advising and interacting with residents. We value their contribution, just as you do.



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There have been some incidents of members of the public remonstrating with staff about the Board of Inquiry. Please remember that the staff member/s you see and deal with **are not** being investigated and have not been accused of anything untoward.

The Huon Valley Council staff provide you and your families with vital day-to-day services, and no matter the outcome of the Inquiry, that is what they will continue to do into the future as they have done since 1993.



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