



# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **Go slow when renovating - National Asbestos Awareness Month**

November is National Asbestos Awareness Month and the Huon Valley Council is urging homeowners, renovators and tradies to take the warnings about asbestos seriously when renovating or maintaining homes.

Adriana Taylor, Huon Valley Council Commissioner says Australia was among the largest consumers of asbestos-containing materials (ACM) in the world.

"Asbestos was used in the manufacture of a broad range of building and decorator products that can still be found in 1 in 3 brick, weatherboard, fibro and clad Australian homes.

"It can be in any home built or renovated before 1987; lurking under floor coverings including carpets, linoleum and vinyl tiles, behind wall and floor tiles, in cement floors, internal and external walls, ceilings and ceiling space (insulation), eaves, garages, roofs, around hot water pipes, fences, home extensions, garages, outdoor toilets, backyard and farm structures, chook sheds and even dog kennels.

"Asbestos was used everywhere. So, if you're a homeowner, renovator or tradie, and you don't know the risks, the products to look for or how to manage asbestos safely, you could be risking your life and the lives of others if you disturb asbestos - containing materials and release fibres into the air that can be inhaled," Commissioner Taylor said.

'Betty', the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute (ADRI) house will be in the Huonville Mitre 10 car park this Thursday, 16 November from 9.30am to 3pm.



Contact: Communications & Media Unit, Huon Valley Council  
Ph: (03) 6264 0314  
Email: [communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au](mailto:communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au)  
Web: [www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au](http://www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au)  
Facebook [www.facebook.com/HuonValley](http://www.facebook.com/HuonValley)

Betty is a purpose built, mobile model home designed to demonstrate where asbestos might be found in and around any Australian home built or renovated before 1987.

Her exterior resembles a typical fibro home but when opened up, she has extensive audio and visual information including a bathroom, kitchen, living room, man shed/garage and a dog house.

Betty's purpose is to educate all Australians about the dangers of asbestos so they think smart and think safe when renovating or conducting maintenance.

Huon Valley residents can learn what they need to know to manage it safely by visiting Betty at Mitre 10 and by visiting [asbestosawareness.com.au](http://asbestosawareness.com.au)

**For more information**  
**Adriana Taylor**  
**Huon Valley Council Commissioner**  
**Phone: (03) 6264 0300**



Contact: Communications & Media Unit, Huon Valley Council  
Ph: (03) 6264 0314  
Email: [communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au](mailto:communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au)  
Web: [www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au](http://www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au)  
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