



MEDIA RELEASE

30 June 2023

Celebrating our Elders in NAIDOC Week 2023

Huon Valley Council is proud to celebrate NAIDOC Week 2023 (2 – 9 July 2023).

This year's theme is **For Our Elders** – recognising the prominent role Aboriginal Elders have played and continue to play in our communities and families, paving the way for future generations.

To celebrate NAIDOC Week, the Huonville Hub will host a series of arts and cultural events, starting on Monday 3 July 2023 and continuing throughout the month of July.

These events include:

- a developing exhibition of weaving and artworks produced by local students in collaboration with Melukerdee artist Bron Dillon,
- colouring-in station,
- a series of '*For Our Elders*' short films

There will also be an immersive ARTBOX installation located next to the Hub, outside in the green space.

Entitled '*parrabah - listening, learning and reflecting for our Elders*', this work has been created by multidisciplinary artist Alex Moss and students at St James Catholic School in Cygnet.

A community 'Celebration Event' in August will conclude our NAIDOC celebrations, with a showcase of the artwork created as well as Aboriginal foods, music, dancing and an outdoors Welcome to Country and smoking ceremony.

Huon Valley Council Mayor Sally Doyle says NAIDOC Week will be a time to celebrate the community coming together.



"We acknowledge, recognise and pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the South East Nation, the Melukerdee people of the Huon River and the Lyluequonny people of the Far South. We recognise their continuing connection to our land, water and culture," she said.

"We honour their special contribution, the culture and teachings of our Aboriginal Elders and all they do for our Huon Valley community."

"I encourage everyone to visit the Hub and ARTBOX during July to experience and enjoy these important stories."

To find out more about HVC's NAIDOC Week 2023 program contact Simone Darcy, Arts & Culture Officer on (03) 6264 9447.

For media interviews: Mayor Sally Doyle (03) 6264 0300