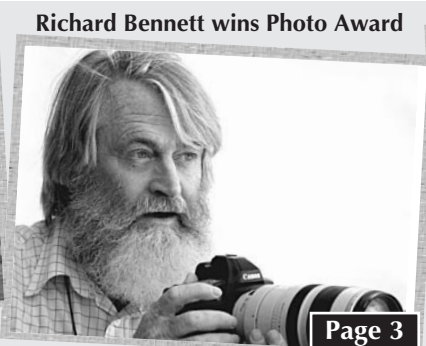


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Forest Festival helps community

Following the highly successful 2004 and 2005 events, the third annual Tasmanian Forest Festival was held on Sunday, 26 March, at Heritage Park in Geeveston.

A number of community groups and organisations were involved in this year's successful event, and they were recognised at a special morning tea held in Geeveston on Monday morning, May 1, where proceeds of the 2006 Tasmanian Forest Festival were distributed.

Chairman of the Tasmanian Forest Festival Committee, Mr Roger Browne, said, "This year's event was our biggest and best yet, and each year we make a number of donations to community, sporting and school groups - including one major donation to a significant project.

"In 2004, the Royal Hobart Hospital's Paediatric Unit netted a \$4000 windfall, and in 2005 we were delighted to be able to purchase a portable

defibrillator (valued at \$5000) in conjunction with the Geeveston Branch of the Lions Club for access by trained local emergency services employees and volunteers.

"This year our significant beneficiary is the soon to be established PCYC in Huonville, and we are delighted to hand over a cheque for \$5000 to the Huon PCYC, an amount which is well above what was expected," Mr Browne said.

Delighted with the presentation of funds, President of the Huon PCYC, Mr Jimmy Bell, said, "The PCYC are currently fundraising to develop one of the largest and diverse 'community hubs' in Tasmania and we were delighted to be involved in this year's Festival. Development of the Centre will

reach a major milestone later this year with the pouring of our slab."

Other community and sporting groups involved in making the Festival a success included the Huon 4WD Club, Geeveston District High School, Dover Ambulance, Geeveston Guides, Huonville Scouts, Huon Netball Association, the Kermadie Football Club, and the Variety Club. Each of these groups also received a portion of the remaining funds, based on their level of involvement in the event.

"The 2004 and 2005 events blew all our wildest expectations and the public gave us some very positive feedback with what they wanted," Mr Browne said. "The Festival is fast becoming a community owned event, with our very dedicated organising com-

mittee as the convenors. That's what makes this Festival unique. This morning we were delighted to be able to put around \$8000 back into the community.

"The Festival is organised by a team of locals and operated under the Forest and Heritage Centre at Geeveston. The Festival provides a fun family day out whilst incorporating education and

public awareness towards our sustainable timber industry.

"The Festival hosts a display of logging equipment, trucks and components used every day within the industry, showing links to businesses and the in-direct employment created. The inaugural Festival attracted approximately 3000 people, followed by 5000 in 2005, and an overwhelming

7000 at this year's event," Mr Browne said.

"This year's event featured many new and improved events and activities, including a live forestry machinery processing demonstration with state-of-the-art machinery, tree climbers, increased children's activities, along with chainsaw carving, a woodchopping carnival, and what is fast becoming Tasmania's

largest Truck Expo.

"We are already planning the 2007 event, with the date confirmed for Sunday, 25 March 2007. We have a number of new and very exciting activities in the pipeline and expect the event to continue to grow with the support and encouragement of our very generous sponsors," Mr Browne concluded.

(More photos on page 2).

Hansen Orchards promote fruit industry



Staff from Hansen Orchards at Grove attended the 24th Agfest Field Days, held at Quercus Rural Youth Park near Carrick between 4-6 May 2006, to promote the fruit industry. They offered samples of various apples to taste - and had bags of apples for sale. Numerous other Huon Valley businesses were also on-site at Agfest. It's one occasion in the year when many people from the Huon Valley and Channel regions travel north for the day (or weekend). Alicia and Sharon were pictured at Hansen Orchards' stall.



Tammy Price and Terry Edwards (Forest Industries Association of Tasmania). (P.S.)

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Weather Watch

as at Tuesday, 9th May 2006 from www.eldersweather.com.au

Hobart				
Thursday 13°C <small>Possible Shower</small>	Friday 13°C <small>Clearing Shower</small>	Saturday 14°C <small>Late Shower</small>	Sunday 12°C <small>Clearing Shower</small>	
RECENTLY	Rainfall	Min. Temp.	Max. Temp.	RAINFALL
Monday Sunday	0.0mm 0.8mm	4.3°C 5.7°C	14°C 14.9°C	May Year to date
Grove				
Thursday 14°C <small>Possible Shower</small>	Friday 13°C <small>Clearing Shower</small>	Saturday 15°C <small>Late Shower</small>	Sunday 15°C <small>Clearing Shower</small>	
RECENTLY	Rainfall	Min. Temp.	Max. Temp.	RAINFALL
Monday Sunday	1.6mm 1.6mm	-0.6°C 2.8°C	15°C 14.2°C	May Year to date
Geeveston				
Thursday 13°C <small>Possible Shower</small>	Friday 13°C <small>Clearing Shower</small>	Saturday 14°C <small>Late Shower</small>	Sunday 14°C <small>Clearing Shower</small>	
RECENTLY	Rainfall	Min. Temp.	Max. Temp.	RAINFALL
Monday Sunday	3.2mm 1.8mm	2.6°C 3.7°C	14.0°C 13.1°C	May Year to date
Dover				
Thursday 13°C <small>Possible Shower</small>	Friday 13°C <small>Clearing Shower</small>	Saturday 14°C <small>Late Shower</small>	Sunday 14°C <small>Clearing Shower</small>	
RECENTLY	Rainfall	Min. Temp.	Max. Temp.	RAINFALL
Monday Sunday	3.0mm 1.4mm	1.2°C 5.0°C	15°C 14.4°C	May Year to date

Forest Festival funds help community



Some of the community groups who received funding — committee representatives and community leaders (including the Mayor and Deputy Mayor). (P.S.)



Some of the Forest Festival sponsors who attended the presentation ceremony. (P.S.)



Some committee members at the presentation — Jonathan Price, Roger Browne, Tammy Price, Harry Price, Alan Ashbarry, Dick Geeves, Mandy Lovell. (P.S.)



Liz and Kerry Hodge of Dover Ambulance. (P.S.)



Jimmy Bell. (P.S.)

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Austism Awareness in Huon Valley



As part of National Autism Awareness Week which starts on Mother's Day (Sunday, 14th May) local Ranelagh artist Victoria Prenskey presented this contemporary painting titled "A Child Apart" - an acrylic and oil on canvas measuring 30 centimetres by 40 centimetres — to Leanne Banfield, Teacher Learning Support Leader, Huon Cluster Support, at the launch of the inaugural "Autism Awareness Art Show." The painting will be on display at the Huon LINC from Monday 8th May. The Art Show, depicting a selection of artistic interpretations from students throughout the Huon, will be on display at the Huon LINC during Autism Awareness Week May 14th to 21st, with the view to creating awareness of the affects of Autism on families within the community. (P.S.)

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Printed and published by Robert Donald Yeates, 3351 Huon Highway, Franklin for Huon Newspaper Company, at their offices, 3351 Huon Highway, Franklin TAS 7113. Responsibility for election comment is accepted by Robert Donald Yeates, Huon Valley News, 3351 Huon Highway, Franklin.
70 cents (recommended and maximum price only).
Registered by Australia Post.
Print Post Publication PP734012/00001.

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Signed letters may also be sent by **Fax:** (03) 6266 3133
Email: hvn_moates@bigpond.com

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