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Danger lurking in older houses

GLEN Innes Severn Council has partnered with the Asbestos Diseases Research Institute (ARDI) to launch a week-long campaign to raise awareness of the dangers of working with asbestos when renovating or maintaining homes.

Council is working in partnership with the Asbestos Education Committee (AEC) and ARDI to promote Asbestos Awareness Week in the local community.

Asbestos Awareness Week began on Monday and runs through until this Sunday, November 27. With the launch of the campaign, council is urg-

ing residents to 'Think Smart, Think Safe, Think asbestosawareness.com.au. It's not worth the risk'.

In launching the campaign, Professor Nico van Zandwijk, an international leader in asbestos disease research and director of ARDI, paid tribute to Glen Innes Severn Council for supporting the campaign.

"We're delighted that council has joined us in our appeal to homeowners, handymen and renovators, so they can learn about the dangers of working with asbestos and can protect themselves and their families from asbestos dust and fibres," Professor

Zandwijk said.

Glen Innes Severn Council Mayor Steve Toms said that asbestos awareness is a very important issue in our community.

"There are a lot of older houses in Glen Innes that are being continually restored," he said.

Cr Toms said people with houses built before 1985 should take special care when renovating.

"They should seek advice before handling anything with asbestos," he said.

"Asbestos is safe while in place, but once disturbed that is when the risk comes."



Thinking caps on: Glen Innes Severn Council mayor Steve Toms is warning renovators to be wary of asbestos.