



**Doug Parkinson, MLC**

Member for Wellington

Sunday, 12 February 2006

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### **Best Bet For Cup Day**

Racegoers attending this year's Hobart Cup on Monday (13 February 2006) who may have celebrated too well are being urged to consider safe travel options on the way home.

The Chairman of the Road Safety Council and MLC for Wellington, Doug Parkinson, said as part of the State Government's Community Road Safety Partnerships program, the Glenorchy City Council's Road Safety Committee is supporting the Tasmanian Racing Club and Metro in an initiative to reduce drink-driving after Cup day.

This follows the overwhelming success of a similar venture at last year's Cup.

"Given that alcoholic drinks are a traditional part of race days it makes sense to plan ahead and make arrangements if you think you may be over the legal driving limit," he said.

"During the morning there will be a number of free Metro bus services operating from designated suburbs. These special services will transport racegoers directly to Elwick Racecourse.

“At the end of race day special bus services will depart Elwick Racecourse and return patrons safely home again. Those interested should call the Metro Hotline on 13 22 01 for more information.

“Testing units will be available at the Best Bets stand so that people can check their blood alcohol levels throughout the day to help them decide on their travel plans after the races.

“Quite apart from being intercepted by traffic police and any subsequent penalties, the consequences of drink-driving can be tragic – for the driver, passengers and other road users,” Mr Parkinson said. “The simple message is: If you plan to drink – don’t drive!” he said.

***Further information:*** Tony Scott 6336 2443 or 0417 051 255