



Doug Parkinson, MLC

Member for Wellington

Sunday, 5 March 2006

Experience Greek Hospitality First-hand at Estia Festival

Member for Wellington Doug Parkinson today encouraged Tasmanians to experience Greek culture and hospitality first-hand by getting involved in the 13th Annual Estia Greek Festival.

Speaking at the official launch and street festival in North Hobart, Mr Parkinson said that the 5 March to 29 April celebrations were more than just an opportunity for the Greek community to celebrate its rich cultural heritage.

“The Estia Festival also gives other Tasmanians a chance to experience Greek food and entertainment and I know it’s going to be a fantastic experience this year,” Mr Parkinson said.

“As is the nature of the Greek culture, every family member is encouraged to take part in the festival and there are many different events to cater for all ages this year.

“Young people are particularly important to the Greek community and they always play a major role in the festival – after all, it’s future generations that will continue to keep the Greek culture alive and raise awareness of its richness and diversity.”

Mr Parkinson said that Multicultural Tasmania, which is part of the Department of Premier and Cabinet, was supporting the Estia Festival again this year through an \$11,000 grant.

“Multicultural Tasmania’s grant programs aim to help and encourage migrants to get involved with the general community,” he said.

“It also supports projects that help all Tasmanians develop a respect and understanding of the rights of people from diverse cultural backgrounds.”

Mr Parkinson congratulated the Greek community and Estia organisers on organising another highly anticipated festival.

“Many of the organisers are volunteers and they have done a fabulous job and the festival will continue to be a fixture on Tasmania’s calendar of culture events,” he said.

Further information: Shaun Rigby on 62332451