



**Doug Parkinson, MLC**

Member for Wellington

Saturday, 18 December 2004

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## **New Town Oval Lights Up!**

Member for Wellington Doug Parkinson today announced a \$36,000 grant to significantly upgrade lighting at the New Town Oval.

Mr Parkinson said the lighting would be a boost for a number of different community sporting activities, including football, cycling and athletics.

"The New Town Oval is home to the St Virgils Old Scholars Football Club, the New Town Cricket Club and the annual Bikes'n'Spikes Athletics and Cycling Carnival.

"The ground is used every week of the year either for weekend games or training.

"Full use of the ground, however, has been hampered by the standard of the lighting.

"This has been a particular problem for football training during winter.

"The upgrade will be of great benefit to the sporting organisations that use this facility, and will ensure that New Town Oval remains an important sporting hub for the local community."

Mr Parkinson said the State Government was committed to improving sport and recreation infrastructure around Tasmania.

"It is essential that all Tasmanians have access to good sport and recreation facilities so that they can enjoy the many benefits of a healthy active lifestyle."

Mr Parkinson said the Hobart City Council had agreed to complete the lighting upgrade on the Government's behalf.

*This program is part of the State Government's commitment to progressing Tasmania Together Goals/Benchmarks Goal 5 – to develop an approach to health and wellbeing that focuses on preventing poor health and encouraging healthy lifestyles.*

### **ATTN NEWS EDITORS / CHIEFS OF STAFF**

Mr Parkinson will be available to discuss this project today.

Representatives of the St Virgils Football Club and the Bikes 'n' Spikes Carnival will be in attendance and available for interview. New Town Cricket Club is also playing a first XI match at the ground today.

**WHERE: New Town Oval – near the synthetic practice wickets. Enter off St John's Avenue.**

**WHEN: 12 noon TODAY (Saturday 18 December 2004).**

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**Further information:** Tasmanian Government Communications Unit

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