

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

**NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA**

DATE: MONDAY 3 DECEMBER 2012

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors

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## **Funding secured for Active programs in 2013**

Funding has been secured from the Tasmanian Government, Launceston City Council and the University of Tasmania to ensure Active Launceston continues in 2013.

Active Launceston started in 2008 and provides free physical activity opportunities for all community members.

Active Launceston manager Lucy Byrne said that the funding announcement was welcomed by all involved.

“We are relieved that ongoing funding has been committed to this fantastic partnership. Active Launceston really does have the power to help people improve their health and wellbeing,” she said.

UTAS Pro-Vice Chancellor (regional development) Janelle Allison will oversee the management of the initiative in the next funding round and said that UTAS is pleased to confirm its ongoing commitment to Active Launceston.

“Not only is it an important community engagement, but it is also an important initiative in the collaboration across a number of organisations concerned to improve health outcomes through keeping active.”

The Mayor of Launceston, Alderman Albert Van Zetten, was equally enthusiastic about finding more ways to get people moving.

“Council is proud to support this partnership as we strongly believe that Active Launceston programs and events provide a much-needed service to our community.”

Health minister Michelle O’Byrne has shown an ongoing commitment to the project since its inception.

“Active Launceston is an evidence-based initiative that works within a preventative health care model,” she said.

“It is a local success story and will help to reduce the burden on future health budgets by getting community members more active.”

Active Launceston is a community-driven partnership with the vision of improving the health and wellbeing of the Launceston community through physical activity.

Active Launceston’s mission is to mobilise the community to increase their participation in physical activity by filling gaps in provision, reducing barriers and targeting those with the highest need.

For more information go to [www.activelaunceston.com.au](http://www.activelaunceston.com.au) or phone 6324 4027.

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