



Parkinson's NSW

News Release

Contact:

Steve Rosa – Executive Tourism Manager
Phone: 02 4871 2888
Email: tuliptime@wsc.nsw.gov.au

EMBARGO

22 February 2011

2011 TULIP TIME TO SUPPORT PARKINSONS

Wingecarribee Shire Mayor, Clr. Ken Halstead, today announced that **Parkinson's NSW**, is the charity partner for the Southern Highlands **2011 Tulip Time Festival**, which this year will celebrate its 51st Anniversary as one of Australia's leading flora events, and one of the only remaining Charity Based flora festivals in NSW.

Mayor Halstead said "The partnership between Tulip Time and Parkinson's NSW will ensure that the 2011 Tulip Time Festival will continue to be positioned as one of regional Australia's 'must attend' community springtime events. Last years record braking 50th Golden Anniversary of Tulip Time has set the benchmark for the next 50 years. This year's partnership with Parkinson's NSW will greatly assist our efforts to ensure its sustainability and attractiveness as a community event whilst also providing valuable exposure and financial benefits to a volunteer based network such as Parkinson's NSW."

CEO of Parkinson's NSW, Miriam Dixon highlighted that "there is a real synergy between Parkinson's NSW and Tulip Time. The tulip is the worldwide symbol of Parkinson's disease and is a symbol of hope for a cure. The Tulip is a strong, straight upright and sturdy flower. The petals of the flower are symmetrically divided to represent the two sides of the brain. A special red & white Parkinson's Tulip was cultivated in 1981 by a Dutch horticulturist to honour the work of Dr James Parkinson with the Shaking Palsy disease. Parkinson's NSW and Tulip Time is the Tulip Twosome!"

Parkinson's NSW mission is - To enhance the quality of life of all people living with Parkinson's.

Parkinson's NSW Incorporated is a non-profit, community-based organisation established in 1976

to provide information and support to people living with Parkinson's disease, their partners, carers and families. Parkinson's NSW seeks to make a positive contribution to the provision of treatment and professional support services for people with Parkinson's disease. They also provide in-service training and education for health professionals.

The 2011 Tulip Time Festival will run for 14 days from 20 Sept until 3 Oct, throughout the Southern Highlands. An exciting program of events and activities are planned and will be under pinned with the key message of 'hope & strength'. A central colour theme of purple will adorn the streets, businesses and gardens of this year's festival. Well known Australian entertainer & Parkinson's fundraising & events consultant Marty Rhone (mega hit "Denim & Lace") is working closely with the Tulip Time Committee to introduce a number of new events to this years Tulip Time program such as 'Performing for Parkinson's'- Dinner/Dance, 'Playing for Parkinson's'- Music in the Gardens, 'Picnic for Parkinson's', 'Pitching for Parkinson's'– Golf Tournament to name a few.

Ends

Photo & Interview Opportunity With Miriam Dixon, CEO, Parkinson's NSW & Marty Rhone

Mittagong RSL, Bessemer Street, Mittagong 2575

10.30am Tuesday 22 February 2011. Morning Tea will be served after the launch.