

Dear Sir,

## **SAFETY IN OUR CITY...**

Statistically, Hobart is a really safe city. Unfortunately, statistics do not always address the concerns people have. *Business owners and operators in Hobart are concerned at the perceived level of violence and disorderly behaviour in the CBD and particularly our Malls.*

The police do not keep statistics on the incidence of graffiti in our city, but who can disagree that the amount of graffiti appearing on our city buildings, signs and other structures is getting worse. Despite the efforts to date, it is becoming more and more obvious.

*The people who use our city are also concerned at anti social behaviour in the Mall and the Bus Mall.* It is acknowledged that Council, Tasmania Police and other stakeholders are working co-operatively to address these problems. However, it must be said that there has been much discussion but there has not been any great improvement and people remain concerned.

*Just think of the difficulties stall holders setting up for Salamanca Market on Saturday mornings have when intoxicated people are leaving night clubs at the same time. Just think of the reputation that our city has when the stories of violence in and around Salamanca on a Friday and Saturday night appear in the local media.*

*Everyone has talked about the problems*, all the players including the police, the licensing authorities and the venue operators have pledged to fix the problem, but it still happens. Someone needs to take a leadership role and develop strategies and performance measures so that we can make sure things are being done to address the problems of anti social behaviour. *I have the drive to make sure the issue is addressed. I am listening and I will ACT.*