



## PRESS RELEASE

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THIS Sunday's Balfour Burn presents people with a unique challenge.

Even though it's just a 400m run, the steep hill climb up Balfour Street gives people the chance to test their endurance.

Stamina, heart and endurance are traits that elite wheelchair athlete Dom Monypenny has plenty of.

Last year he wheeled himself up the 30 per cent incline without assistance in just over six minutes.

A paraplegic, Mr Monypenny lost the use of his legs after a 30m rock-climbing fall in Launceston's Cataract Gorge in 1996. Like many adults requiring mobility support, Mr Monypenny uses the services of StGiles Seating Clinic and says he is proud to be patron of an event that supports the 77 year old organisation.

This Sunday he could be the only wheelie, or wheelchair athlete, prepared to put his body to the test on Balfour Street.

Basketball wheelies at Devonport thought they might have a try, but say they don't believe they can take on the hill or Dom," StGiles engagement manager Danielle Blewett said.

"Each year we've tried to get (elite wheelies) Kurt Furnley or Louise Sauvage but they're both caught in intensive training during March," Ms Blewett said.

"In some ways it doesn't matter for Dom. Its Dom challenge to himself and it's an inspiration for the rest of us.

"We'd like the rest of the community to take a leaf from Dom's book and challenge themselves for a moment's discomfort which might help them understand a little more what it's like every day for a person with a disability.

"Balfour Street is an amazing climb for anyone."

You can register from 9am behind Sporties Hotel this Sunday. The first run up Balfour Street is 11am and the event concludes at 2pm.

[www.stgiles.org.au/balfour-burn-2015](http://www.stgiles.org.au/balfour-burn-2015)