15th Masters Games come to a spectacular close

18 October 2014

After a week of fun, friendship and healthy competition, the 15th Alice Springs Masters Games will finish on a rock and roll high with tonight’s Closing Ceremony at Anzac Oval.

“Alice Springs has absolutely been buzzing for the past week with more than 3800 competitors enjoying what has become affectionately known as the Friendly Games,” said Minister for Sport, Recreation and Racing Matt Conlan.

“The atmosphere has been incredible and it has been fantastic to see such camaraderie and friendship on show throughout the week which is what the Games are all about.

“It’s also been great to see all the regulars that come back Games after Games after Games – some who have been coming since the very beginning back in 1986.

“This year we introduced a number of new initiatives to help promote the Games which have been a big hit. Hundreds of people have been able to watch some of the colour and excitement of the Games through our daily video highlights on the Big Screen in the Todd Mall and our social media coverage of the Games have also proved popular.

“More than 34,000 people were reached by official Facebook posts about the Games, and almost 4000 people read the Games’ daily newspaper The Friendly Times online. So the word has definitely spread around the country about the Friendly Games.

“It’s also been great to see local businesses support the Games with special events and entertainment each night. The Games impact on our town is huge with more than $8 million injected into the local economy throughout the week.

“On the field, it’s been a Games to remember with well over 100 records broken throughout the week – 90 of those in the pool which is just amazing.

“The Games couldn’t occur without our fantastic volunteers who work so hard behind the scenes and I’d like to thank all 580 of them for their efforts on making our Games the Friendly Games once again.
“Tonight, the Games will end on a rock and roll high with Peter Byrne presenting his internationally acclaimed Neil Diamond tribute show, Forever Diamond, supported by rock sensations Chocolate Starfish and coverband The Cast.

“After a hugely successful week, I’ve no doubt it will be the party of the year with a crowd of around 6000 expected to dance the night away.

“I hope everyone has enjoyed the Masters Games and I’ll see everyone back in Alice Springs for the 16th Masters Games from October 8 to 15, 2016.”

Minister Conlan will officially declare the 15th Masters Games closed at tonight’s Closing Ceremony.