



**Greg Aplin MP**  
Member for Albury

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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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19 January 2018

### **ALBURY WELCOMES THE 2018 AUSTRALIAN DEAF GAMES**

Albury will welcome an influx of visitors with the 18<sup>th</sup> Australian Deaf Games official Opening Ceremony to be held at the Albury Entertainment Centre on Saturday 20 January.

Member for Albury, Greg Aplin said the event will provide a significant boost to local businesses in the region.

“The Australian Deaf Games is a wonderful community event, providing a unique opportunity for the deaf and hard of hearing community to compete at an elite level, while showcasing all that our region has to offer,” Mr Aplin said.

“The NSW Government is proud to have secured the 2018 and 2022 Australian Deaf Games via our tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW, with the events expected to attract more than 2,000 domestic and international overnight visitors and injecting over \$2.7 million into the local economy across the two Games.

“With the event being the pinnacle competition for deaf and hard of hearing sportsmen and sportswomen across the country, there will be plenty of families who choose to travel with competitors and enjoy an extended holiday in our spectacular region.

“The Australian Deaf Games provides a fantastic opportunity for local businesses, accommodation providers, restaurants and tourism operators to capitalise on the additional visitors and showcase why Albury is such a wonderful holiday destination.”

Mr Aplin said driving tourism growth in rural and regional NSW is one of the Government’s leading priorities, playing an important role in boosting the State’s overnight visitor economy.

“Regional events such as the Australian Deaf Games help to fuel the State’s overnight visitor economy, while placing our incredible rural and regional destinations front and centre,” Mr Aplin said.

“We look forward to a successful 2018 Games and showcasing some of the region’s best attractions.”

The 2018 Australian Deaf Games will be held from Saturday 20 January until Saturday 27 January in Albury Wodonga, with support from the NSW and Victorian governments and Albury and Wodonga Councils.

For further information, please visit [www.austdeafgames.org.au](http://www.austdeafgames.org.au).

**MEDIA: Greg Aplin 6021 3042 or 0428 600 343**