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MEDIA RELEASE

Strathalbyn Pool's 50th celebrated in style

4 February 2019

There was an air of excitement and a great turnout on Saturday, 2 February when Strathalbyn's swimming fraternity gathered with the wider community to celebrate a significant milestone – the 50th Anniversary since the opening of the Strathalbyn Community Swimming Pool.

Entry to the pool was just 50 cents in acknowledgement of this celebration, with activities to suit revellers including music, BBQ, face painting, photo booth and games on hand to keep the party going.

Official speeches from Alexandrina Mayor Keith Parkes and YMCA South Australia Chief Executive Officer, Haydn Robins, reflected on what the pool has brought to the town and its people since its construction in 1968-69.

In his official speech, Mayor Parkes acknowledged Strathalbyn's swimming history and the volunteers that have been involved over the years.

"The town has a long history of swimming prowess which goes back beyond the 50 years, but we celebrate this Olympic size pool today, which has taught generations of Strath kids how to swim and stay safe in the water.

"Over the years, a number of volunteers have been pivotal to the success and popularity of the pool, undertaking maintenance and conducting swimming classes," he said.

Prior to the event, Mr Robins spoke with pride about the facility and the partnership between the YMCA and Alexandrina Council.

"The Strathalbyn Community Pool is a fantastic regional outdoor pool and the YMCA is proud of the work we do at the centre, working in partnership with the Alexandrina Council over the last six years to deliver a great service for local residents and visitors to the area. The 50th birthday celebration is a great chance for us to put this fantastic facility on show and celebrate with the community," he said.

The anniversary celebration also served as a reunion for past members of the Strathalbyn Swimming Club. The club was first formed in 1935, and in 2017 became the Great Southern Swimming Club.

The Strathalbyn Pool opens seasonally and remains open until 14 April 2019 before closing for the winter, visit www.alexandrina.sa.gov.au/strathpool