Clubs form heart of a community

NEWS that Alice Springs has lost its martial arts centre due to a downturn in volunteers and members with the time to keep it running is sad.

This signals not just a loss of a sport to our town, but a community movement with real benefits to this region.

Martial arts requires discipline and commitment, a new way of focusing young minds and giving youth an outlet to express themselves in a safe and administered environment.

Yes, it really does keep potential troublemakers off the street.

The closure of this valued community and sport activity should sound warning bells for other organisations and the community in general.

We prosper as a community because of the great work and efforts of our volunteer base. It is the work of volunteers which make great events like the Finke Desert Race, Henley-On-Todd and Masters Games.

It has become harder for events to attract funding, we have seen in recent times. Hopefully, that does mean our volunteer army falls away also.

While busy lifestyles may mean it is difficult to commit to helping your sporting or community club in a volunteer role, think about the personal financial impact you may face should your chosen clubs fold. Think about the flow-on effect of closures of clubs closing and events not being run.

The Henley-On-Todd raised $60,000 on the day of the event for the town’s Rotary Clubs. This is money that is used for community projects which benefit the towns.

The costs of people, particularly youth, following their sporting and academic dreams will only rise if they do not have the outlets in following their sporting and academic dreams events not being run.

Your chosen clubs fold. Think about the flow-on effect of these closures. It is the work of volunteers which make great events and successful outcomes.

Almost every event and every club is the work of volunteers which make great events and successful outcomes.

The costs of people, particularly youth, following their sporting and academic dreams will only rise if they do not have the outlets in following their sporting and academic dreams events not being run.

It is a great way of focusing young minds and it is the work of volunteers which make great events and successful outcomes.

A few additions to Adam’s list:

A viewing platform below the Anzac Hill summit explaining the geology of the magnificent view.

The old drive-in screen as a replica of the world-famous Panorama Gutch, towering over this welcome centre. Surely one or more of the large construction companies and real estate industry could arrange its relocation with local artists depicting the all the NT and Alice to offer as Panorama Gutch used to do.

It was stated at the ECofair that several hundred thousand cattle pass through here, going south for slaughter.

Add to that the rapidly growing camel industry going east to Caboolture, then the USA and south to Peterborough for slaughter to lucrative overseas markets (Algeria and other Arab countries) and the need for a multi-species abattoir here should be seen.

We are not only a huge as the multi-million dollar camel milk industry.

A food production research facility is such an obvious need, with this country expected to double its production by 2020. Sadly AZRF is now history, but look at the possibilities at Hartley’s.

Townsville has an Excellence in Mining Centre that brings in more than $10m a year. We have a longer mining history, but don’t display it to the public.

Japan has a marathon relay for school teams with a TV audience of millions. Think Glen Helen to Alice.

Trevor Shell
Alice Springs