05 May 2004

Budget funding confirms BASSINTHEGRASS as an annual event

The popular BASSINTHEGRASS concerts will be an annual event with the Territory Government confirming funding of $300,000 in the upcoming 2004/05 budget.

Chief Minister, Clare Martin, said that the day-long concert has become a highlight in the social calendar - following last year's inaugural event - describing it a great addition to the famous Territory lifestyle.

“BASSINTHEGRASS 2003 was a huge success, enjoyed by thousands of young Territorians - it's something that we want to build on this year and see develop into a major event on the local and national music scene,” she said.

“It is also another important election promise that this Government has successfully fulfilled.

“The $300,000 in this year's budget will allow Major Events to develop an exciting and sustainable event that will continue to be popular with young Territorians.”

Ms Martin said that BASSINTHEGRASS 2004 will be held in Darwin and Alice Springs at different times of the year to suit the two climates and attract maximum crowds.

“We believe that the Alice Springs concert will attract more people - and be even more enjoyable - if it's held during the warmer months and at an outdoor venue.

“Major Events are currently in negotiations with Alice Springs based organisations to stage the concert and make sure it's exciting, fun and something that meets people's expectations.”

The Alice Springs event - which last year attracted over 950 people - is scheduled to take place on Saturday, 11 September, 2004 at ANZAC Oval.

The Darwin concert - which last year attracted over 5,000 people - will be held on Saturday, 10 July 2004 at the Darwin Amphitheatre.

Ms Martin said that both venues provide a safe, non-threatening environment and that BASSINTHEGRASS 2004 will again specifically target 12 -17 year-olds, and the wider audience.

BASSINTHEGRASS 2004 will be staged from 11am until 11 pm and will include high-profile national acts along with local professional and amateur artists.

Other entertainment will include gifts, give-aways and features such as the giant TV screen (as occurred at the inaugural event).