

MEDIA RELEASE

The 2016 Parkland Villas Ellenbrook Olympics

Perth, 22 August 2016: With an opening ceremony to rival Rio, Parkland Villas Ellenbrook hosted their own Olympic Games on Saturday 13 August, with twelve countries and 60 competitors battling it out for line honours.

The concept was conceived in February by residents Libby Elliott, (65) and Helen Doney, (69) with planning in full swing by the dynamic duo in March.

“We started by appointing Team Captains, and allocated team members specifically to separate couples and friends. This worked well as new friendships were formed and fierce competition was established,” said Libby.

Over the day, eight adapted events were contested, including javelin, discus, shot-put, a ribbon dance, balance beam, basketball and a team relay. Some of the events required participation from the entire team, while others only required one or two team members to be involved.

“The ribbon dance and balance beam events created excitement in the village, with secret practice sessions and stolen equipment making the competition really interesting,” added Libby.

“We have seen so many team meetings and strategy get-togethers, with some husbands versus wives alliances being sworn to secrecy; it’s been hilarious.”

All of the ‘countries’ dressed up for the Parade of Nations and lighting of the flame, and went to extraordinary efforts to make the day special, right up until the closing ceremony and medal presentations.

Fiona Rinaldi, Lendlease Regional Manager for the Retirement Living business in WA said they were delighted to support this wonderful initiative.

“Not only was the event a great success, but the lead up ignited new friendships, lots of activity and resident engagement which is invaluable in bringing communities like ours together,” she said.

“Libby and Helen are now thinking ahead to the 2018 Commonwealth Games, so I’m delighted that this will become a tradition at Parkland Villas.”

Libby said the organizing pair thought it would be a wonderful way to unite the village and to have some friendly rivalry in play.

“And we were absolutely right!”

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About Lendlease

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