



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **27 November 2017**

### **CHRISTMAS COMES TO ALICE SPRINGS**

Alice Springs will come alive with festive cheer at the annual Alice Springs Town Council Christmas Carnival, this Friday 1 December from 5pm-9pm.

The Christmas Carnival is an annual fixture on the community's calendar, last year entertaining an estimated 14,000 attendees, the most since its inception.

"We're expecting the 2017 Christmas Carnival to be just as popular as last year's. The Carnival is something you really don't want to miss out on." said Mayor Damien Ryan.

"Staff from across all Council departments come together to achieve a wonderful Carnival each December. I celebrate and congratulate them for their consistent efforts, which make every year something special. This year is sure to be the best yet."

The centre of town will once again bustle with community and Christmas spirit from as revellers enjoy festivities, performances, market stalls, free children's entertainment, and fireworks.

A major event for the local performing arts community, the Christmas Carnival will see more than ten local acts play, sing and dance at three stage locations, while roving performers spread Christmas cheer throughout the markets.

The night culminates in the lighting of the Council Christmas Tree at 7:45pm on the Council Lawns. As the winner of the Alice Springs Public Library craft competition, one child will be given the honour of switching on the lights. Children can enter the craft competition on the Council Lawns before 7:30pm.

The Christmas Tree light switch will also trigger the beginning of an amazing firework display, as well as the Christmas lights on the MacDonnell Ranges radio towers.

Also on the Council Lawns will be a flying teacups ride, jumping castle, face painting, a screening of the movie *Saving Santa*, and signups for the Library's Summer Reading Club. Children can visit the Kids Zone on the Uniting Church lawns for Christmas card and decoration making, table tennis, and a kids disco.

"I look forward to this night every year" said Mayor Ryan. "It's magical to see so many smiling faces. I encourage everyone to come out, enjoy the atmosphere, and bring in the Christmas season."

**Entertainment schedule (subject to change):**

Council Lawns:

- 5:45pm: Pixie Jenkins
- 6:45pm: *Saving Santa* screening
- 7:45pm: Tree lighting and fireworks (screening paused)

Uniting Church Lawns:

- 5:00pm: Red Hot Arts performances
- 8:00pm: Alice Pole Art

Todd Mall Stage:

- 5:45pm and 7:00pm: King Marong and the Tamala Express

Todd Mall North Stage:

- 5:00pm: Caleb Goman
- 6:00pm: Echo Echo
- 7:00pm: Ronja Honey Moss
- 8:00pm: Malarkey

The Alice Springs Town Band will play in front of Mbantua Art Gallery at 5:50pm and 6:50pm.

**For further information contact:**

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