

9 December 2015

## **Mt Penang Gardens light up and sparkle this Christmas**

Getting into the holiday spirit, Mt Penang Gardens will host its second Christmas lights display. Bigger, better and brighter, this year the event is supported by SEA FM 101.3, A Dash of Christmas, Ronald McDonald Family Room Gosford, Fixx Events, Kariong Community Baptist Church and DJ Magoo's Party Hire & Entertainment.

Christmas is such a special time of year and what better way to spend the evenings leading up to the holidays than enjoying lights in the Mt Penang Gardens. Following the success of last year's inaugural display which attracted over 5,000 families, the themed interactive lights will run nightly from 6:30-9:30pm starting on Friday 18 until Tuesday 22 December 2015.

Naomi Neilson, Property and Events Manager for the Central Coast Regional Development Corporation, says she is thrilled that Mt Penang Gardens will once again embrace the festive season with Christmas lights.

"We hope to put a smile on everyone's face at Christmas. These lively and festive nights offer great entertainment, with plenty of space to spread out."

"Local residents are encouraged to come down early to enjoy a family picnic or grab a bite to eat from one of the food stalls. Visitors entering the Gardens will experience a LED disco dance floor synchronised to music. It's all very exciting and we hope to see many families join the Central Coast community to celebrate Christmas."

"Come along and support this great Central Coast event. Proceeds from entry fees will go towards the maintenance of the Mt Penang Gardens, which are free entry throughout the year," Ms Neilson said.

Adding to the festive mood, the nightly celebration of lights includes an array of entertainment and experiences perfect for all ages. Visitors can enjoy a nativity scene with live animals, drum circles, face painting, live Christmas music, glow stick/novelty stall, jumping castle and much more.

Join the Scavenger Hunt and other fun children's activities to support the Ronald McDonald Family Room inside Gosford Hospital.

Meet Santa, Mrs. Claus, Elsa and Olaf from Frozen, Minion and Price Charming. Take a selfie or family photo with them on Santa's sleigh or at the Mad Hatter's interactive display.

## Opening times

The Mt Penang Garden gates will open to members of the public on 18-22 December from 6.30pm-9:30pm.

To accommodate the event, Mt Penang Gardens will be closed during the day from 14-23 December 2015, reopening on 24 December 2015.

## Christmas lights entry fee

\$15 Family Pass (2 adults & up to 3 children under 18) \$5 addition/single tickets; children under 3 free

## Parking

Free, ample on-site parking.

## Special Appearances

Santa – Friday 18 December, Saturday 19 December, Monday 21 December, Tuesday 22 December

Elsa and Olaf from Frozen, Mrs. Claus, Minion, Price Charming – Nightly

For more information on the Christmas lights display or event updates, members of the public may call (02) 4340 1002 or follow us on Facebook/Mt-Penang-Gardens-Event-Park.

Mt Penang Gardens is located two minutes off the Gosford exit on the M1, in the Mt Penang Parklands in Kariong. For more information on Mt Penang Gardens visit <http://mtpenanggardens.com.au>

## CCRDC

The Central Coast Regional Development Corporation (CCRDC) is a State Government entity and part of the Department of Planning and Environment NSW cluster. CCRDC is a self-funded entity and does not rely on annual allocations from the State budget to fund operations.

CCRDC owns the land known as Mt Penang Parklands. The Corporation is charged with securing the on-going management of public open spaces and community facilities at Mt Penang. The Corporation is tasked with protecting and enhancing the broad Mt Penang Parkland Precinct, including remnant bushland and ensuring that over one hundred years of Central Coast history is preserved and enjoyed by the community.

---Ends---

For more information and interviews contact STEPHANIE PROUSE on 0477 726 490.