

## NEWSLETTER

28 NOVEMBER, 2017

### MAGICAL MELROSE ARCH WELCOMES BACK SOWETO GOSPEL CHOIR AND DELIVERS A HOST OF ENTERTAINMENT THIS WEEKEND

If it's magic you're looking for this festive season, Melrose Arch is the only place in Joburg you need to head to for enchantment and entertainment galore.

Melrose Arch, Joburg's premier lifestyle destination, is bringing the magic back to Christmas with a dazzling array of lights and a wonderful festive atmosphere throughout the precinct. Until 3 January, 2018, families can visit Melrose Arch and walk through the streets and Retail Galleria, which have been decorated with Christmas lights galore. Baubles, fairies, a giant musical reindeer, teddy bears, stars, toys, gifts and more – everything children love and associate with Christmas is up in lights.



There is also an exciting programme of entertainment lined up every weekend, with some particularly amazing events planned for this week, including performances by the Grammy Award-winning Soweto Gospel Choir and Jeppe Pipe Band, a Christmas night market and a children's cycle race.

On Thursday, 30 November and Friday, 1 December, Melrose Arch's High Street and Square will host a Christmas night market from 3pm to 8pm. There'll be specially selected Christmas stalls selling exquisite hand-made products, gourmet foods and drinks, jewellery, clothing, homeware and more – here is where you'll find the perfect gifts for the special people in your life. Acrobats, contortionists and ballet dancers will delight the kids.



On Friday night (1 December), the renowned Jeppe Pipe Band will play Christmas favourites on the bagpipes at 7pm. The Jeppe Pipe Band, the oldest school pipe band in South Africa, won the South African Pipe Band Championships in 2014 and although they were always popular, their win took them to another level. Last year, the band undertook an overseas tour, participating in the world-famous Basel Tattoo, which is second only to the Edinburgh Tattoo in terms of size and attendance. Jeppe Pipe Band was only the second school band in the history of the tournament invited to take part in this prestigious event.



On Saturday, 2 December, Melrose Arch is thrilled to welcome back the Soweto Gospel Choir, who will sing Christmas carols on the Piazza. The world-famous choir thrilled guests on 16 November when the Christmas lights were switched on at Melrose Arch, and due to popular demand, they'll be returning once again to delight visitors to the precinct. Join in as they sing favourites like *Joy To The World*, *Mary's Boy Child*, *Silent Night* and *Little Drummer Boy*.



On Sunday, 3 December, Melrose Arch and the Smile Foundation will host the Kids' Cycle Race, which will see four age categories of children (from three months to 13 years) enjoying outdoor fun, fitness and the joy of racing. The fun starts on the Piazza with a 1,2km loop around Melrose Arch and ends with medals for every participant and goodie bags filled with a T-shirt, water bottle, vitamins and a sweet treat. Prams, scooters, tricycles and bicycles are welcome at the Kids' Cycle Race, which takes place from 8am to 12pm. Participants can enter on the day; registration opens at 7.30am and parents are welcome to cycle with their children. Entries cost R100 per child. All proceeds from the Kids' Cycle Race will be donated to the Smile Foundation, a South African NGO that assists children with any type of treatable facial abnormality, such as cleft palate and lip, burn victims and Moebius syndrome, to receive corrective plastic and reconstructive surgery.



The end of the year is a busy time for everyone so to make life easier, extended shopping hours will help customers get all their shopping done in time. All Melrose Arch stores will stay open from 9am to 7pm Monday to Saturday and 9am to 5pm Sunday and public holidays until 16 December.

The fun doesn't end on Sunday, however. Street entertainment, Santa Claus, magicians and performances by the Alexandra Harmonious Choir are also lined up for the festive season. Please check the website, [www.melrosearch.co.za](http://www.melrosearch.co.za), or visit Melrose Arch's Facebook page, [www.facebook.com/atmelrosearch](http://www.facebook.com/atmelrosearch), for the schedule of entertainment, all of which is free (including the performances by the Soweto Gospel Choir and Jeppe Pipe Band, but excluding entry to the Kids' Cycle Race).

*For more information, please contact the Melrose Arch Marketing Department on (011) 684-0002.*

**Best Wishes for a Beautiful Festive Season,**

From The Melrose Arch Team

