



Thursday, 12 January 2012

Crowds flock to the Gardens for a musical feast

Latin dancing and the cool, smooth sounds of jazz will entertain visitors to this weekend's *Summer Sounds concerts* at the Australian National Botanic Gardens.

The *Summer Sounds* concert series kicked off last weekend and we are ready to do it again this weekend. So dust off your picnic baskets, pack a blanket and barbecue chook to enjoy an evening of fine music and dancing on the Eucalypt Lawn.

"*Summer Sounds* at the Australian National Botanic Gardens has always been a picnic mecca and a popular outdoor dining event. Lavish picnics, picnics for two, family picnics and social picnics – you'll see them all laid out on the concert lawn," event organiser Jennifer Salkeld said.

"It's become such a tradition, that this year we are celebrating the effort people go to creating their culinary feasts by giving away each week a lunch for two at Hudsons Cafe in the Gardens. All they have to do is upload a photo of their picnic spread onto the Gardens' Facebook page for a chance to win."

This weekend's line-up includes *As Famous as the Moon*, starting at 6pm on Saturday. The jazz band will treat you to the cool sounds of swing, blues and Latin. Canberra dance act, *Kokoloco* will also be there to give the audience a Latin-dancing treat.

On Sunday, quirky local band *The Cashews* will be joined by *Kokoloco* Latin dancers to end the weekend on a colourful note.

The *Summer Sounds* concert series is held on the Eucalypt Lawn each Saturday and Sunday in January from 6 – 7:30pm. The event culminates in a blockbuster finale on 28 and 29 January with twice the entertainment, commencing at 4.30pm.

Don't have time to prepare your favourite picnic spread? No worries – cold bar sales supporting the Friends of the Gardens and a sizzling barbecue provided by the Rotary Club will be available. There will also be lots of delicious gourmet ice-cream.

Entry is by donation and a complimentary assistance bus from the Gardens' carpark to the Eucalypt Lawn is provided by Peter Blackshaw Real Estate.

Concerts will be cancelled on days of total fire ban or severe weather conditions. Contact the Gardens' Visitor Centre on (02) 6250 9540 for weather updates.

For further information on the *Summer Sounds* concert series and a full list of musical acts, visit: <http://www.anbg.gov.au/gardens/whatson/events/summer-2012/summer-sounds.html> or find us on Facebook.

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