

Ready for the Boxing Day rush

RETAIL: Rundle Mall traders will have only Christmas Day to recover from the festive rush before opening for the first time on Boxing Day.

A deal brokered earlier in the year between the State Government, Business SA and the shop workers' union will allow city stores to open from 11am to 5pm on Boxing Day.

The Rundle Mall Management Authority estimates 150,000 people will spend about \$6 million, or \$1 million an hour.

In the meantime, a carousel, street theatre and carollers are among the entertainments enticing late Christmas shoppers to the mall.

Rose Park mum **Vanessa Fry** this week took a ride on the carousel, under the Gawler Place canopy, with her four children.

She said if it wasn't for family commitments she would love to hit the sales on Boxing Day.

"Who knows, I might be able to sneak away early (to shop)," she said.

"I think it's great the shops are open."

The carousel will operate until January 6. Rides are \$5.

The Australian Girls Choir will perform in the mall today (Thursday, December 20) and tomorrow.

➔ The mall will be open on Christmas Eve until 7pm.



WINDOW SHOPPING: Rundle St shops will replace mannequins with real people on Friday as part of the Summer Fridays In The East End promotion.

Picture: Roy Van Der Vegt H0416513

Models on the move

By **TIM WILLIAMS**

RUNDLE ST: Alex Cotterell will be tempted to scare passers by in Rundle St on Friday evening.

Cotterell will be among a group of models taking the place of mannequins in the shop windows of seven boutiques.

"I've never modelled as a mannequin in a shop window before," she says.

"I think it could be a little tiring standing and posing for two hours.

"However, I know that it is going to be an interesting and probably an

amusing experience. I may be tempted to pull a silly face or scare someone walking past by moving when they think that I am not a real person."

The boutiques – SABA, Gorman, Morrison, Sooki, Lisa Ho, Calibre and Alannah Hill – are all tenants of the Maras Group.

Managing director **Steve Maras** says the event will complement Summer Fridays In The East End, a weekly program of food and entertainment in Ebenezer Place.

"Christmas is a special time of year when everyone is abuzz and we want to make shopping down Run-

dle St East a special and memorable experience," he says.

"We are constantly trying new things down here to keep it interesting and entice people to the East End. It is all about showcasing what amazing boutique brands we have here and to encourage the good people of Adelaide to come experience something different and buy direct from the stores, rather than online."

➔ The models will showcase the boutiques' summer lines from 6pm-8pm tomorrow (Friday, December 21).

Bakers get ready to cook up a storm

MUSIC: The Bakers Digest drummer **Taylor Chadwick** says the band is all fired up to play at the City Council's New Year's Eve party in Elder Park.

An eclectic mix of bands will give revellers a soundtrack of indie, folk rock, blues and soul.

"To play a big stage like New Year's Eve is something we've been aiming for," Chadwick says.

"We're pretty excited to be on a big line-up like that."

The line-up at the rotunda will include The Hurricanes, The Bearded Gypsy Band, ShortStax, The Hushes and The Transatlantics.

There will be a beer garden area for up to 2000 people and fireworks at 9pm and midnight.

Lord Mayor **Stephen Yarwood** says the party will be suitable for all ages.

"The city will be a great place to welcome in the New Year and the beautiful setting of the River Torrens is a truly special spot to reflect on the past year and look forward to what's ahead," he says.

The Bakers Digest is returning to Adelaide for the party fresh from a series of festivals in the eastern states.

Gates open at 6.30pm and the party will run until 1am. No BYO alcohol will be allowed.



Taylor Chadwick