A younger eye on life in Darwin

THE youth of Darwin are encouraged to celebrate being young this weekend at the Launch Festival.

Among the concerts and art installations at Civic Park will be a number of creative workshops ranging from comedy to painting shoes to Trashion.

Launch Youth Co-ordinator Cora Diviny was excited about the weekend of activities, including Trashion.

“I can’t wait – I’m a big fan of upcycling,” she said.

The committee is made up of volunteer youth between the ages of 15 and 25.

The group has been busy planning the festival since February and have been given the freedom to plan the event from picking the workshops to organising the live acts.

“It’s an important time to be engaged with the community and at our age it’s important to get involved,” she said.

Associate producer Cj Fraser-Bell said the team is expecting big crowds at the event, especially at the concert being held tonight with Allday and Sietta among the Australian acts performing.

“It’s stuff that we want to see and other young people want to see,” Cj said.

The event is free to the public and will run all weekend at the Civic Park and Brown’s Mart Theatre.

Making a meal of beer bottle

A DARWIN man was lucky to avoid serious injury after he got so drunk at a family gathering he ate a glass beer bottle.

St John paramedics took him to hospital after he swallowed the glass at his Wagaman home about 9pm Wednesday.

Superintendent Louise Jorgensen said the man, 38, had chewed and swallowed a lot of glass, “and then went for a lie down”.

He was released from Royal Darwin Hospital yesterday. This was one of more than 500 calls made to police between 3pm-11pm on Wednesday.

Supt Jorgensen said responding to reports of stupidity frustrates police and stretches the general duties division.

“General duties police are run off their feet by anti-social behaviour and Alice Springs is in a similar position,” she said.

She said the evening shift from the afternoon until about midnight was usually the busiest of the day, with police fielding about 350 calls. But she described this week as “out of control”.

“We got 500 calls (Wednesday) evening and about 450 on Tuesday,” she said.

Elsewhere in Darwin, police took a man into custody after he allegedly attempted to touch several women inappropriately in the Mitchell Centre on Wednesday afternoon.

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