Shoppers hop to it at last minute

CHOCOLATE eggs are soon expected to fly off the shelves with Easter just two weeks away. Ferguson Plarre Bakehouse estimated Australians will eat about 150 million hot cross buns this Easter, while chocolate sales are expected to exceed $200 million.

Shopping for Easter generally takes place in a shorter period of time than Christmas, with the bulk of goods purchased in the fortnight prior to Good Friday. The Australian Retailers Association (ARA) executive director Russell Zimmerman said despite supermarkets pushing the sale of eggs and hot cross buns from January, the majority of sales would not occur until closer to Easter.

“Spending on gifts and entertaining for Easter really begins to ramp up from now on, with a peak in Easter-related spending expected in the five days prior, from March 20 to 24,” Mr Zimmerman said.

Mother of two Chelsea Day said she opted to hit the stores the night before: “There’s always plenty left and you can get heaps in the night before.”

About the Easter Bunny’s impending visit PHOTO: RAV NACHMAN

7.30am and are treated to a huge Easter egg hunt at the end.

EASTER MONDAY

Darwin
- Casuarina Shopping Centre open from 10am - 3pm (individual store opening hours may vary)
- Mitchell Centre open 10am - 3pm (individual store opening hours may vary)
- Darwin Waterfront. Wave lagoon open 10am – 6pm; Rec Lagoon 9am- 6pm. Patrolled by lifeguards.

Palmerston
- Palmerston Water Park open 9am – 8pm; water facilities 10am - 6pm.
- Leanyer Recreation Park open 8am - 8pm (Water facilities open at 10am and close at 6pm).

Rural
- Lakesiders Easter in the Alice MTB ‘Master - three day, four-stage mountain biking event, plus a kids’ ride run by the Central Australian Rough Riders (CARR).

ALL WEEKEND
- For Territorians keen on a road trip, Timber Creek will be a Circle F Easter Fishing Competition – fishing enthusiasts and families are invited to join locals over the long weekend to win various prizes.
- Event Cinemas Casuarina and Darwin City - various sessions all day, every day.
- Max Cinemas Palmerston – various sessions all day, every day.
- SkyCity Darwin is open every hour of the long weekend - complete with table games, beverages, meals, restaurants, and air conditioning.
- The Deck Bar - RESURRECTION MUSIC FESTIVAL all day dining with festival food carts, drink specials, local/international DJs and live music.

Northern Territory Government Higher Education Scholarship holders are encouraged to apply for this highly competitive program.

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Closing date: 1 April 2016

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