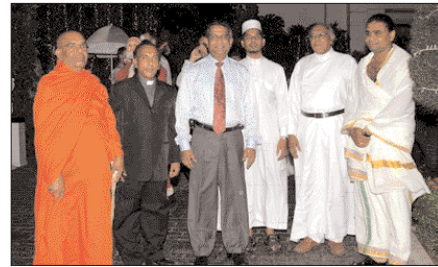


Christmas Tree lighting ushers in the festive season



Mount Lavinia Hotel lit with the traditional Christmas lights



Anura Dewapura with religious leaders from all religions

The Mount Lavinia Hotel continues to roll out the holiday festivities with a dazzling display of musical talent by Nuovo Vita and the lighting of the Christmas tree with a diverse crowd from all walks and religions.

On December 2nd, the courtyard of the hotel was the place to be. The press were among the priority list

and no doubt blessed will be the season who engages all in a conspiracy of love." One of the hotel's most treasured traditions, the annual tree lighting, had Santa too to bring some seasonal cheer to the little ones too. The tree was decked with lights and the theme of turquoise and silver was quite prominent in all areas of the hotel.

Seasonal events at Galle Face Hotel



A feast to your eyes

Sri Lanka's Heritage in Hospitality where East meets West, the people at Galle Face Hotel offers its guests a bountiful Xmas Rendezvous this festive Season - "Keeping the Tradition Alive" is this year's Theme.

It is an annual event that takes place and this is the way of ushering in the true spirit of Christmas to the city of Colombo. All proceeds of the sales of the Red Lanterns was donated to the Deaf and Blind School in Ratmalana.

The other special events that are taking place are many. The Gingerbread Hut at the Pasticcino - The Pastry shop situated in the Regency wing has an amazing array of Christmas cakes, cookies and goodies such as Xmas Bread, Xmas Gingerbread Hut, Santa's Xmas marzipan fruit cakes, Love cake, Xmas cake, traditional X-mas snow cake, Xmas Puddings, Xmas Mince pies, Xmas Stollen and Yule logs and many more from December 5th to the

31st. Festive Hampers and Gift Certificates will also be on the cards at the Pasticcino and the Gingerbread hut will be open daily 8.00 am - 10.00 pm.

Christmas Carol's will be performed by the Wise Men's Choir and the Blind Choir at the Verandah Restaurant during the dinner buffet on December 14th, 15th, 18th and 24th from 7.00pm.

Guests can say hello to Santa Clause and tell him their Christmas wish, and he's got a little gift for all the Children during dinner time at the Verandah.

Guests can have a ball at the Kiddies X-mas Party on the December 16th at the Galle Face Hotel. It's just not only for kids, mums and dads could join the fun too. A Fashion show with a festive twist, "Raining Angels" choreographed by Olin will be held on the December 18th by the poolside where Colombo's top fashion models take on the ramp from 7.00 pm.



Santa greeting the children at the Galle Face Hotel



Carols being sung at the lighting of the Red Lantern ceremony. Pictures by Ruwan de Silva

Keells Seasonal flair

CHARMAINE FERNANDO

Keells Super in their inimitable style of extravagance when it comes to giving, as a tradition had the Sri Lankan celebrity Chefs in town, throwing up a demonstration on how to make this Christmas the yummiest ever. Kollu was there at the Union Place Keells Super, in his element with such an exclusive gathering of top notch invitees from the vicinity of Colombo's elite Cinnamon Gardens and the surrounds, to kick off the Christmas season to a grand start.

Kollu shared his Holiday secret-recipes that are seasoned all time favourites with the connoisseur, Felicia Sorensen was there to add a dash of

appreciative finesse to the delectable dishes that was nothing short of irresistible.

Keells is home to a whole range of seasonal meats and to enjoy just the precise rich-flavours of Keells seasonal favourites in every slice, all you got to do is to make your orders early. The chances are that they might run out of lamb and legs, to run the orders, looking at the bookings made at the table, a bite after tasting! The response was amazing. The socialites practically queued up to raise their orders of ten kilos and over of legs and things. Looks like Colombo is gonna celebrate the festivities like never before. Its the after effects of being at Peace with Keells.



Another feast to satisfy the tastebuds



Christmas decor- where a tree would be empty without them



Kollu giving some juicy tips. Pictures by Mahinda Vithanachchi

Snow Paradise at Excel World

DEMI HEWAMANNA

Snow Paradise, the theme for Excel Snow World, is all ready to make a winter wonderland for creating the Christmas mood to attract the entire family.

The entire park is decorated with an atmosphere of Christmas adding lights, decorations and also the tallest tree in the town. "This year, there is more snow

and we have increased the number of machines along with unlimited music from the DJs", Excel World General Manager Ranjana Ariyaratne said.

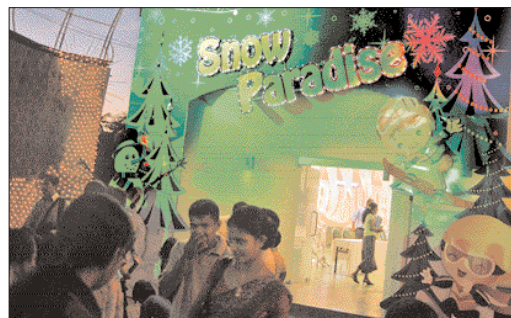
The snow show is an event which is only conducted during the Christmas time to offer a unique experience to the customers, Ariyaratne added.

"We have brought a white Christmas to everyone and it's a per-

fect area for kids", Excel World Director Jason Chokatte said. Adventure the new rides area which was launched in August will be the other main attraction that will excite the whole family. The seven rides at Adventure namely Bee ride, Swan ride, carousel, pirate ship, fancy train, bumper car rides with 4D simulation theater will no doubt be a unique experience, Jason added.

The management is

very sure that over 100,000 people will visit the park this season considering the fact that a permanent peace has dawned in the country and the condition has created all communities to celebrate Christmas under one Sri Lankan flag. Kids, what are you waiting for? Go get your friends and family and just go have an awesome Christmas with snow until January third.



Snow Paradise at the Excel World. Picture by Ruwan de Silva