

DO IT IN DOUGLAS

Your special guide to news and events for the festive season

MAYOR'S CHRISTMAS LETTER



CHRISTMAS IS AROUND THE CORNER AND WHAT A YEAR IT HAS BEEN.

As we reflect on our triumphs and the challenges our community has faced in 2020, I can say I am so proud of the incredible resilience and spirit shown throughout the COVID-19 health emergency.

From a G'day in the street, to checking in on our mates, to supporting our local businesses - it has been truly inspiring to see the people of the Douglas Shire rally together.

Now is time to bring in the joy of the festive season and Douglas Shire Council is thrilled to collaborate with various businesses and community groups to deliver a program of festive events and activities.



From virtual Christmas Carols hosted by Douglas Theatre Arts Group, to **Santa and late night trading** in Macrossan St, to the **Douglas Street Party** in Mossman, we hope to bring a little extra joy to you and your family this Christmas.

The **2020 Mayor's Christmas Appeal** is now live and we encourage you to dig deep to help us provide Christmas hampers for those doing it tough in our Shire.

I am also hosting the **2020 Mayor's Christmas luncheon** at the iconic Salsa Bar & Grill on November 19, with proceeds going towards our Christmas appeal. Tickets are \$80 per head and include a four-course lunch, live entertainment and a raffle. Tickets are limited, so I encourage you to secure your place at Council's website.

Nominations for the **2021 Australia Day Awards** close soon and we encourage you to nominate a local legend. This is an important opportunity to celebrate our Douglas heroes.

Our number one priority is economic recovery. Council has many initiatives, projects and collaborations in place to create jobs, stimulate the domestic tourist market, and keep our community strong through the next few years.

Finally, I wish to thank you for your resilience, strength and unity. I am incredibly proud to be your Mayor, and I wish you a happy festive season ahead.

See you about the Shire.

**Your Mayor,
Michael Kerr**

December in Douglas

Kicking off with the lighting of the Christmas trees in Mossman and Port Douglas on November 20, the December in Douglas program offers locals and visitors alike an array of Covid-safe events and activities to join in the spirit of Christmas in the tropics!

November 20 | Lighting of the Christmas trees in Mossman and Port Douglas

November 27 | Twilight Christmas Fair, St Crispin's Cafe
4pm - 8pm

Pop along to this magic spot along the iconic Bally Hooley railway and soak up a Christmas market by local artisans. There will also be Christmas Carols by the Creative Souls choir, kids face painting and Christmas craft by Busy Bees Babysitting, and a Christmas hamper raffle. The cafe will be open for meals and drinks.

December 1 | Light up Douglas Kick Off

With a little extra cheer needed this year we want to #lightupDouglas. Do you or your street get behind the tradition? We'll be calling on you to tell us about it so we can map your location and share it with the community. Lets go all out to #lightupdouglas.

December 9 | Mossman Carols and Night Markets Under the Raintrees

Carols: 5PM - 5:45PM

Markets: 6PM - 9PM

A special Christmas night for a local's favourite market. Join us for Christmas Carols and stay to experience the beauty of the markets under the raintrees in Mossman. You'll be sure to pick up some beautiful and unique treasures to put under the tree.



December 11 | Macrossan St Late Night Trading and photos with Santa.

This year, more than ever before, our local businesses need your support. We encourage the community and visitors to buy from Douglas businesses this holiday period. Retail traders, shops and restaurants along Macrossan Street in Port Douglas will keep their doors open for late night shopping on Friday, 11 December.

There will be live entertainment, Christmas Carols, and Santa will make an appearance for (COVID-19 safe) photos with the family. It's a great chance to pick up Christmas gifts - from toys, to clothing, to restaurant vouchers. Come along and soak up the Christmas atmosphere and support our local retailers.

To register your business and participate in late night shopping, email:
secretary@douglaschamber.com.au



December 13 |Port Douglas Markets Christmas Spectacular

8am - 1:30PM, Market Park Wharf St

The famous Port Douglas Markets will turn on the spirit of Christmas with a special festive inspired market day on Sunday December 13. Famous for serving up an eclectic variety of handcrafted goods, locally produced food, and seasonal fresh produce the stall holders will have you covered for Christmas. The spirit of Christmas in the tropics is sure to delight on this special Market day.

December 18 | Douglas Street Party

Front St Mossman

6-10pm

The Douglas Street Party is back in 2020 in Front Street Mossman. Front St will be closed between Mill St and Bow St for the festivities. The street will be a buzz with market stalls, food trucks, drinks, and a small stage hosting Carols and performances from local artists. It will be a true celebration of our Shire and we encourage all to come along!

December 18 | Christmas Windows Challenge

Presented by Douglas Chamber of Commerce and Douglas Shire Council, the Christmas Windows Challenge calls on local businesses to decorate their shop fronts and interior displays. Whether it's a twinkling light display, tinsel covered shop windows or decorations throughout your office, businesses across the Shire are encouraged to participate and help bring the Christmas spirit to Douglas. The best Christmas display will be awarded the Mayor's 2020 Christmas Windows Challenge prize. Judges to visit entrants on 18 December. The winner will be announced via Douglas Chamber of Commerce Facebook page on 18 December.



December 19 | Virtual Christmas Carols

Our talented choir and solo artists will be performing your favourite Christmas Carols in various locations throughout Douglas Shire. Each performance will be filmed to create a unique Douglas Christmas Carols compilation to be streamed online.





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| NOVEMBER 20 | NOVEMBER 27 | DECEMBER 1 |
| Lighting of the Christmas Trees | Twilight Christmas Fair, St Crispins | Light up Douglas Kick Off |
| DECEMBER 9 | DECEMBER 11 | DECEMBER 13 |
| Mossman Carols and Night Markets | Macrossan St Late Night Trading | Port Douglas Markets Christmas Spectacular |
| DECEMBER 18 | DECEMBER 18 | DECEMBER 19 |
| Douglas Street Party | Christmas Windows Challenge | Virtual Christmas Carols |

Buy Douglas: Build Douglas

The Buy Douglas: Build Douglas campaign was launched in response to the devastating impact of COVID-19 on local business.

As we head into the Christmas season, the campaign picks up momentum with another round of local business stories in the making to inspire for Christmas. From the table, to under the tree, we'll have some local inspiration to help you **Do it in Douglas** this December. Look out for new stories coming soon on the Buy Douglas: Build Douglas webpage.



"Without the support for our community we would not have survived and we are very grateful to be part of such a kind, strong and supportive community. We also practice this, choosing to buy local and use local trades. Every dollar spent in our community helps,"
Alice, Grant Street kitchen.



A brief message about staying prepared this season...

As we immerse ourselves in the Christmas Spirit we must also spare a thought for our disaster management plans. It is important for you to know what to do if you have to face a disaster or emergency at home or at work. Visit Council's website for further information and don't forget to stay connected via the **Douglas Dashboard** and **Douglas Disaster Information Facebook page** dashboard.douglas.qld.gov.au

Events and activations around the Shire will be subject to weather conditions.

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douglas.qld.gov.au/dashboard.douglas.qld.gov.au

