



CHRISTMAS IN OUR WHITSUNDAYS

2023 Events Program



Whitsunday
Regional Council

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A Message from the Mayor

I'm excited to share with you our fabulous Christmas in the Whitsundays activities which is headlined by the 12 Days Before Christmas at the Proserpine Entertainment Centre.

Kicking off with Poof! The Secrets of a Magician on December 9 and culminating with a Wine and Cheese Movie Night for a special screening of the all-time Christmas favourite Love Actually on December 20, the 12 Days Before Christmas offers movies, comedy, live shows and family fun for all tastes.

A hub of Christmas activity can be found in our libraries in Cannonvale, Proserpine, Bowen and Collinsville with events for all the family and our community Christmas trees are lit up for the festive season.

I encourage everyone to buy local this festive season. Help make Christmas brighter for our businesses in supporting our economy and creating more jobs for locals.

This festive season is also the perfect opportunity to support our tourism operators by giving the gift of travel, which will showcase the unique beauty of our Whitsunday Region.

Let us remember those in our community who may be facing challenges during this time and extend a hand of compassion. A simple act of kindness has the power to brighten someone's day and create ripples of positivity that reach far beyond.

On behalf of the Whitsunday Regional Council, I wish you a Christmas filled with love, peace and moments of pure joy. May the New Year bring prosperity, good health and opportunities for growth.

Thank you for being the beating heart of our regional community. Your resilience and spirit make Our Whitsundays a place we are all proud to call home.

Mayor Julie Hall

Whitsunday Regional Council acknowledges the traditional owners and custodians of the lands in our region. We pay respect to Elders past, present and emerging and acknowledge their ongoing relationship and connection to Country.

Community Christmas Trees

Over the Christmas holiday period, visit our Community Christmas trees located in our four major towns in the region at the following locations:

- * Bowen Town Square
- * Lions Playland Park, Collinsville
- * Pioneer Park, Proserpine
- * Airlie Beach Foreshore

The trees are lit up each night for your enjoyment! Grab your family and friends and get a photo by the Christmas Tree in your town and share the festive spirit on social media: #ourwhitsundaychristmas



Mayor's Festive Food Appeal



Mayor Julie Hall is excited to introduce the 'Mayor's Festive Food Appeal', a new initiative to help feed families who may not have the means to enjoy a festive feast this Christmas.

We have a list of non-perishable food items that we are collecting to create Christmas food boxes which will be delivered to the [Whitsunday Neighbourhood Centre](#) and [Bowen Neighbourhood Centre](#) to distribute to those who need a helping hand. So how can you help?

Donate Food: You can drop off non-perishable items from the Christmas food box shopping list at one of our drop-off points.

Donate Money: If you don't have time to get to the shops - don't worry! You can purchase an entire box, half a box or even a quarter of a box by donating money via our website.



Spread the Word: If you don't have the means to donate you can still support the Festive Food Appeal by sharing our message with your friends, family and neighbours.

It is our goal to create and distribute 100 Christmas food boxes this festive season!

Click [here](#) to donate to the Mayor's Festive Food Appeal!

Alternatively, visit [Council's website](#) to view the shopping list.





Christmas Lights Our Whitsunday Way

It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.... in the Whitsundays!

Celebrate the festive season by decorating your homes, shops and streets with festive lights and displays in the spirit of Christmas and you could win the prize for **'Best Residence/Shopfront'** in the Whitsundays Christmas Lights Competition!

This year we are introducing an exciting **NEW category** for **'Best Street'** Christmas lights display, with the winning Street receiving their very own brag worthy street sign.

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TRAIL MAP

Have you set up a Christmas lights display at your home, shopfront or street?

Share the Christmas spirit and pin it on the digital map on the [Your Say Whitsunday](#) website.

Whether or not you are entering our Christmas light competition, mapping your display will help families find you on their evening Christmas light tours!

Thank you to everyone who puts time and effort into these wonderful displays that bring a bright spark and joy into our lives every year.

REGIONAL CHRISTMAS LIGHT COMPETITION

CATEGORIES AND PRIZES

Category 1 - Best Residence/Shopfront in Region

Thank you to [Sealink](#) and [Lake Proserpine Glamping](#) for donating the wonderful prizes, including:

- * A family package for the Whitehaven Beach Big Island Day Tour for 2 adults and 2 children valued at \$629 from Sealink and
- * One night stay in a Lake Proserpine Glamping tent for two adults valued at \$300.

Category 2 - Best STREET Christmas lights display

The winning street will be awarded a special custom made street sign to be erected by Council.

The winners will be announced 15th December.

Council Supported Christmas Events



Bowen Christmas Carols

When: Saturday 25th November

Where: Bowen Foreshore

Enjoy Christmas Carols from 6pm to 10pm

Bowen Late Night Trading & Street Markets

When: 5pm to 8pm on Friday 1 December

Collinsville Youth Coalition Christmas Adventure

When: 6pm to 8:30pm Saturday 2nd December

Treats for the kids, Christmas carols, activities, free face-painting, a visit from Santa Claus!

Collinsville Christmas Carols

When: Sunday 3rd December

Enjoy Christmas Carols from 6pm to 8pm

Airlie Beach Carols by the Beach & Movie Night

When: Sunday 3rd December

Where: Airlie Beach Foreshore

Christmas Carols from 4:30pm - includes the Proserpine Citizens Band and the Cannonvale State School Choir, special guest performers and a visit from Santa Claus!

Screening of 'Home Alone' on the outdoor cinema at 6:30pm. Food hub and free face-painting is available throughout the duration of the event.

Proserpine Christmas Party & Carols in the Park

When: Friday 8th December

Where: Ken Macpherson Park, Proserpine

Christmas Carols from 4:30pm - includes the Proserpine State School Choir, the Proserpine Citizens Band, and Mommas and Poppas Carols. Also includes performances by Sweet Alibis and Edge Dance Studio, free face-painting, kids activities, food and market hub and the Rotary Proserpine Christmas Ham Wheel!

Airlie Beach Double Christmas Movie Night

When: Friday 15th December

Where: Airlie Beach Foreshore

Special Christmas screenings of The Grinch and The Santa Clause! Food hub available.



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Library Christmas Holiday Activities – December

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BOWEN LIBRARY

Monday 11th December

10am – 4pm Library Kid's Club Challenge Launch

Tuesday 12th December

10am – 11am Upcycled CD Ornaments

2pm – 3pm Santa Mail Project

Wednesday 13th December

10am – 11am Elf on the Shelf: Coding Activity

Thursday 14th December

10am – 11am Wooden Picture Frame Present

2pm – 3pm Christmas Lego Challenge

PROSERPINE LIBRARY

Monday 11th December

10am to 4pm Library Kid's Club Challenge Launch

Tuesday 12th December

2pm to 3pm Sensory Play

Thursday 14th December

10am to 11am Wooden Nutcrackers

2pm to 3pm Christmas Decorations

CANNONVALE LIBRARY

Monday 11th December

10am – 4pm Library Kid's Club Challenge Launch

Tuesday 12th December

10am to 11am Mosaic Christmas Baubles

2pm to 3pm Velvet Art Trinket Boxes

Wednesday 13th December

10am to 11am 12 Days of Christmas Storytime

3pm to 4pm Chess

Thursday 14th December

10am to 11am Christmas Craft: Wooden Nutcracker

2pm to 3pm Velvet Art Trinket Boxes

COLLINSVILLE LIBRARY

Monday 11th December

10am – 4pm Library Kid's Club Challenge Launch

Tuesday 12th December

10am – 11am Upcycled CD Ornaments



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Bookings essential, please contact your local library.

Proserpine Entertainment Centre: 12 Days Before Christmas

With 12 days of exciting Christmas entertainment, there's something for everyone this December festive season at the Proserpine Entertainment Centre.

Saturday 9th December

7pm Poof! Secrets of a Magician starring James Galea (18+)

Sunday 10th December

11am & 3pm Andre Rieu's White Christmas - Spectacular Cinema Concert

Monday 11th December

11am The Marvels (M)
2pm The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes (M)

Tuesday 12th December

11am The Hunger Games: The Ballad of Songbirds & Snakes (M)
6pm The Marvels (M)

Wednesday 13th December

1pm Juggling Mayhem with James Bustar - Hilarious School Holiday Show!
2pm Juggling Workshop

Thursday 14th December

11am Trolls Band Together (G)
5pm Wonka Party followed by Special Event Screening of Wonka (CTC)



Friday 15th December

1pm Comedy Magician Bodane Hatten
2pm Magic Workshop
7pm The Queens of Comedy



Saturday 16th December

7pm Jason Singh Plays Taxirdie - Live Concert with a 6-piece band

Sunday 17th December

2pm Home for Christmas starring Darren Coggan
7pm Tina Unleashed - Tina Turner Tribute Concert

Monday 18th December

2pm Trolls Band Together (G)
6pm Wonka (CTC)

Tuesday 19th December

2pm Wonka (CTC) ★
6pm Trolls Band Together (G)

Wednesday 20th December

10am Wonka (CTC)
6pm Love Actually - Wine and Cheese Movie Night



To book, visit proserpineentertainmentcentre.com.au

Support Local, Gift Local

Let's support our community and where we can, 'think local first' when Christmas shopping this year.

- ★ Think about gifting products, services, experiences or even gift vouchers purchased locally. This helps people, industries and the Whitsunday economy.



New Year's Eve Fireworks

Whitsunday Regional Council is proud to support various New Year's Eve firework displays across the region to welcome 2024.

Airlie Beach
8:30pm and Midnight – Airlie Beach Foreshore
Sponsors: WRC and additional sponsors welcomed (see below).

Bowen
8:30pm – Bowen Foreshore
Sponsor: WRC

Collinsville
9pm – Collinsville Showgrounds
Sponsors: WRC & Collinsville Community Centre

Remember, take care of your pets! We would like to remind you to ensure pets are kept safe in an enclosed yard or indoors as fireworks can be very distressing for animals.

If your business would like to sponsor the New Year's Eve Fireworks, please contact info@wrc.qld.gov.au



**REMEMBER TO TAG YOUR CHRISTMAS PHOTOS AND SHARE THE FESTIVE SPIRIT
ON SOCIAL MEDIA #OURWHITSUNDAYCHRISTMAS**