CHRISTMAS
OUR WHITSUNDAY WAY

Join us this festive season in celebrations across the region

2026 EVENTS PROGRAM

Whitsunday Regional Council

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A Message from the Mayor



Christmas is one of my favourite times of the year in the Whitsundays. It's when our communities come together, families and friends reconnect, and that wonderful Whitsunday community spirit really shines.

I'm pleased to share our 2026 Our Whitsunday Christmas Events Program, packed with festive celebrations and activities across our region.

From Christmas trees lighting up Bowen, Collinsville, Proserpine and Airlie Beach to community carols and festive events, there's plenty happening to bring people together and make some special Christmas memories.

And of course, I'd love to see our neighbourhoods shining bright again in the Christmas Lights - Our Whitsunday Way competition. Every year I'm amazed by the effort and creativity of our residents, and I encourage everyone to get involved, whether you're decorating your home or taking the family for a drive to enjoy the displays.

But Christmas is also about looking out for one another.

I know this time of year can be tough for some families, which is why our Mayor's Festive Food Appeal is so important. If you're in a position to donate, you'll be helping bring a little Christmas joy to someone who might otherwise miss out.

As we farewell 2026, we’ll also be celebrating across the region, with Christmas fireworks in Collinsville and New Year’s Eve fireworks in Airlie Beach and Bowen.

Most importantly, I want to thank our wonderful volunteers, community groups, local businesses and residents who make the Whitsundays such a special place to call home.

Whether you're spending Christmas at the beach, around the barbecue or catching up with loved ones, I hope you find time to relax, enjoy our beautiful region and share a few laughs.

From my family to yours, have a safe, happy and wonderful Christmas.

Merry Christmas, Whitsundays!

Ry Collins
Mayor | Whitsunday Regional Council

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 Sound Shell, Bowen Foreshore**
- **Lions 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: **#whitsundaychristmas**



2026 MAYOR'S

Festive Food Appeal



Help make Christmas brighter for local families in need.

You can help by donating:

NON-PERISHABLE FOOD

PANTRY ESSENTIALS

TOILETRIES

Drop off your donations at any Council Customer Service Centre before 20 November 2026.

Thank you for supporting local families this Christmas.

Christmas Lights Our Whitsunday Way

LIGHT UP THE WHITSUNDAYS THIS CHRISTMAS!

Celebrate the festive season by decorating your homes and shops with festive lights and displays in the spirit of Christmas and you could win one of two great prizes in the Whitsundays Christmas Lights Competition!

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TRAIL MAP

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

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.

Thanks to the following businesses for their generous support:

ZIGZAG WHITSUNDAYS

WCC&I WHITSUNDAYS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

WHITSUNDAY LIFE

Mackay & The Whitsundays STAR



DO YOU HAVE AN AMAZING CHRISTMAS DISPLAY?

Enter our competition by 13 December for a chance to win one of three great prizes!

BEST RESIDENCE

Win a ZigZag Whitsundays Family Pass (2 adults + 2 children) for a Whitehaven Beach Full Day Tour.

BEST SHOPFRONT

Thanks to the Whitsundays Chamber of Commerce and Industry, local businesses have the chance to win:

Winner: $1,500 print media voucher with Mackay & Whitsunday Life

Highly Commended: $1,000 radio voucher with Star Mackay & the Whitsundays

WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED 15 DECEMBER!

Scan here to map your display and enter the competition, good luck!

Council Supported Events

BOWEN COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Friday 27 Nov | Sound Shell, Bowen Foreshore | 6:30pm - 8:30pm

Enjoy a night of Christmas Carols, delicious food, fireworks and time for the community to come together!

COLLINSVILLE YOUTH COALITION CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL

Saturday 5 December | CYC Grounds, Collinsville | 6:30 - 9:30pm

Fireworks at 9pm

ROTARY CLUB OF AIRLIE BEACH 'CAROLS BY THE BEACH'

Sunday 6 December | Airlie Beach Foreshore | from 4pm

Enjoy Christmas Carols

& CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT

Screening of **The Grinch** on the outdoor cinema at 6:00pm. Enjoy delicious bites from the food vans and don't forget to bring a chair or blanket and get comfy!

PROSERPINE TWILIGHT CHRISTMAS FAIR

Friday 11 December | Main Street, Proserpine | 5pm - 8pm

Enjoy a festive evening with market stalls, live music, delicious food, kids' activities, Santa photos, and plenty of Christmas cheer for the whole family. Presented by the Amanda Camm MP Community Office.



For more information on these and other events across the region, scan the QR code.

Proserpine Entertainment Centre

LIVE SHOWS

Thursday 3 December | 11am

MORNING MELODIES

The Best of Buble Christmas Experience

CINEMA

Enjoy the latest cinema releases, with something for everyone on the big screen this festive season.











PEC
PROSERPINE ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE

Scan our QR code to see a full listing of events at the PEC!

Supporrt Local Gift Local

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

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



Christmas & NYE Fireworks

Whitsunday Regional Council is proud to support firework displays across the region to celebrate Christmas and welcome 2027.

COLLINSVILLE
Collinsville Showgrounds | 9pm, 5 December

AIRLIE BEACH
Airlie Beach Foreshore | 8.30pm & Midnight, New Year's Eve

BOWEN
Bowen Foreshore | 8.30pm, New Year's Eve

We would like to remind you to ensure pets are tied up or locked indoors to prevent them from jumping fences or running away as fireworks can be very distressing for animals.