

RESTORING THE HEARTBEAT OF OUR COMMUNITY!

FROM THE MAYOR'S DESK

As our thoughts turn to celebrating the Christmas season with our loved ones, an exciting calendar of events will, once again, bring the joy of the festive season to all of us who call the Murweh Shire home.

It all begins with the Charleville Community Christmas Street Party on Friday, November 29 where Wills Street plays host to a night of great entertainment including a visit from Santa. The annual combined churches of Charleville Carols in the Park then follows on Sunday, December 1 in Graham Andrews Park and, on Wednesday night, December 11, it's the wonderful Christmas Lights Tour!

I encourage all our community to enter your home, business, car or pallet tree in this great competition. On Saturday, December 14, the Augathella community comes together for Christmas in the Park and then it's on to Morven for their inaugural Christmas Community Dinner on Saturday, December 21.

I hope you and your family enjoy these great local events throughout the Murweh Shire this Christmas. In the wake of the recent State election, Council looks forward to actively engaging with the new Crisafulli LNP Government and sincerely congratulates our local

Member for Warrego, Ann Leahy on her appointment as Minister for Local Government and Water and Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers. We wish her every success in her new portfolios.

Murweh Shire CEO, Mr Bruce Scott and I recently met with Suncorp to discuss the ongoing insurance premium issue here in the shire and will keep all residents updated as these important discussions continue.

Enjoy the November edition of your Murweh Mail.

Zoro

WWII SECRET BASE SCOOPS BRONZE AT THE QUEENSLAND TOURISM AWARDS!

The team at Charleville's WWII Secret Base is proud to announce their Bronze award win in the Cultural Tourism category at the Queensland Tourism Awards. For our small outback team, this achievement means the world - it's proof that our dedication to preserving and sharing Charleville's wartime history is making a real difference.

"Standing alongside Queensland's top tourist attractions is an incredible honour," says Abigail Farrowell, WWII Secret Base Coordinator. "This award belongs to everyone who has helped us along the way - from our dedicated team to every person who has supported us on this journey."

The local community's support has been the backbone of our success. Local businesses have championed us from day one, pointing visitors our way and spreading the word about what we do here. While the Charleville RSL sub-branch has provided invaluable guidance, particularly in developing our Outback Heroes Section. Their expertise ensures the stories of our service members past and present are presented with honour and respect.

Our staff, proud locals themselves, bring enthusiasm and dedication to work every day making the experience truly shine. We've been incredibly fortunate to have local families trust us with their precious memories, photographs, and memorabilia. These personal contributions have transformed our base into something truly special - a place where Charleville's wartime stories come alive for visitors.

Earning recognition at a state level has highlighted the WWII Secret Base as a significant Queensland tourism destination, bringing new opportunities and attention to our region. We're looking forward to welcoming more visitors who want to experience our "Top Secret" wartime history, and we're excited about future developments that will make the base an even more engaging attraction.

The award stands as a testament to what the Murweh Shire can achieve together, but it's just the beginning of our journey. From the dedicated locals who visit regularly to the tourists who share their experiences far and wide, this recognition belongs to everyone who believes in the importance of keeping our local wartime heritage alive for generations to come.



MURWEH AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2025

Nominate an outstanding local resident, group or event

To fill out a nomination go to www.murweh.qld.gov.au



COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Council's Assistance Program aims to assist local community groups & organisations in making positive contributions to the quality of life in Murweh Shire.

Note: No guarantee of assistance can be made outside this application process.

Applications Close **FRIDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2024**

Assistance is from 1 January 2025 to 30 June 2025 and can cover waiver of hire fees, in-kind assistance etc.

Application forms are available on Council's website and if you have any questions please call 46568355 or email mail@murweh.qld.gov.au



MURWEH CONGRATULATES STAFF ON 140 YEARS OF COMBINED SERVICE

We recently celebrated a significant milestone for four of our dedicated staff members at a staff lunch BBQ. John Holley (38 years), Gavin Russell (36 years), Troy McQueen (35 years), and David Small (31 years) were all recognised for their outstanding years of service.



L-R: Bruce Scott OAM, Troy, Gavin, John, Director Engineering Jacob Barton



David received his certificate at a later date

Congratulations to them all on their remarkable achievement!

DO YOU HAVE A PLAN FOR WHEN THE TAP RUNS DRY?

Independent research firm, Phillips Group wants to speak with 70 primary producers from across Queensland who have and have not created a plan for future droughts - written or otherwise.

Those participating in the research will be asked a series of questions on their experiences and opinions, including in relation to the Queensland Government farm business resilience plans.

The purpose of the research to better understand the experiences of farmers and what they see as the advantages, barriers, and areas for improvement to planning for drought.

The 70 participants will receive \$200 for their time and effort.

Scan the QR Code or visit dcap.phillipsgroup.com.au

2024 CHARLEVILLE TOY RUN

Attach toys and gifts to your motorbike and donate to the Royal Flying Doctor Service. These will be distributed to children in remote towns this Christmas.

MEET IN FRONT OF HEINEMANN'S BAKERY / BLUE GUM CAFE ON **SATURDAY 7 DECEMBER AT 9AM**



If you don't have a bike but would still like to donate, contact Acacia Country Practice on 45997658



Sign up to be involved by visiting dcap.phillipsgroup.com.au or scan the QR code.

phillipsgroup

\$200 for a cuppa & chat



GET READY FOR A VERY MERRY MURWEH CHRISTMAS!

Throughout the Murweh Shire, the festive season will come alive with a feast of events kicking off with the Charleville Community Christmas Street Party on Friday evening, November 29. Live music, market stalls, kids' activities and competitions, food aplenty and a visit from Santa will see Wills Street become the centre of Christmas cheer.

On Sunday, December 1, Graham Andrews Park once again plays host to the combined churches of Charleville "Carols in the Park" commencing at 5pm.

A highlight of any Murweh Shire Christmas is the unmissable Christmas Lights Tour, being held on Wednesday night, December 11. Join the convoy to enjoy the myriad of Christmas lights.

You still have time to enter your home, car, business or pallet tree into the Christmas Lights competition. Email robyn_richen@murweh.qld.gov.au or visit the council office to submit your entry; entries close on December 8th.

On Saturday, December 14, Augathella host their "Christmas in the Park" and then it's Morven's turn to shine with their first ever Christmas Community Dinner being held on Saturday, December 21. This is a FREE event however tickets must be booked for catering purposes, by scanning the QR code below.



Charleville Community
Christmas
Street Party

FRIDAY, 29 NOVEMBER

Live Music
Dance House Performances
Market Stalls
Lions Jumping Castle
Face Painting

Shop Local Major Draws
\$500 Vouchers x 2

FOOD GALORE
Outback Grazing Pizzas / Sunburnt Cow Ice Cream Van / Made in Murweh Desserts / Outback Food Shack / Lucky Elephant Asian / Blue Gum Cafe / The Milk Bar on Alfred / Girl Guides Fairy Floss / Home-Made Sweets / Hotdogs / Popcorn + More

Stallholders Welcome
For bookings please contact
Sandra on 0438 542 432

KIDS' COMPS

Best Dressed Boy & Girl
Sponsored by R & P Taylor

Best Decorated Xmas Bike
Sponsored by Robert Eckel Repairs

WHISPIR – MURWEH SHIRE COUNCIL'S OPT-IN COMMUNITY MESSAGING SYSTEM

By subscribing, you'll stay informed about important local updates and events. If you have any questions or need further assistance, feel free to ask!

Here are the steps to subscribe to the Opt-In Notifications for Murweh Shire Council.

1. Visit the Subscription Website:

Head over to the Murweh Shire's official website where the subscription service is available. Or, use the QR Code on the right.

2. Enter Your Contact Information:

Provide your email address and mobile phone number to receive notifications via SMS and/or email.

3. Select Your Preferences:

Choose the types of notifications you want to receive, such as disaster updates, community events, Council news or all three. The frequency of notifications can vary depending on the types of updates you choose to receive.

Disaster Updates: These are sent as needed, especially during emergencies or significant events.

Community Events:

Notifications are typically sent out a few times a month, depending on the number of events happening in the community.

Council News: These updates might be sent on a regular schedule, such as weekly or monthly, depending on the council's communication plan.

You can always adjust your preferences if you find you're receiving too many or too few notifications.

If you have any specific concerns or need more detailed information, the Murweh Shire Council's website should have more details.



CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION & TOUR

Categories and prizes:

Best Home:	\$150	Runner up:	\$75
Best Business:	\$150	Runner up:	\$75
Best Pallet Tree:	\$100	Runner up:	\$50
Best Car:	\$50	Lucky Lights:	\$50

ENTRIES CLOSE 8 DEC.
JUDGING TO TAKE PLACE 9TH & 10TH DEC.

Join the convoy and enjoy the street light tour on:

DEC 11
2024

Winners announced on Dec 11, prior to the tour.

email: robyn_richen@murweh.qld.gov.au to enter.

AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2025

Council recognises that our region is shaped by incredible individuals who merit acknowledgment for their hard work. Each year, we invite the community to nominate those they believe have made significant contributions for our annual Australia Day Awards.

These awards hold great importance, as they enable us to celebrate those who enrich the Murweh community and enhance our lifestyle.

Nominations for the Australia Day Awards are open, and we invite you to help celebrate those deserving recognition!

Categories are:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Arts and Cultural Award (Individual or group)
- Senior Sportsperson/Administrator of the Year
- Junior Sportsperson of the Year
- Community Event or Organisation of the Year

Please fill out the nomination form online at www.murweh.qld.gov.au

(a new form must be used for each nomination)

NOMINATIONS CLOSE: Friday 29 November 2024

Presentation of awards on 26 January 2025, more news about this event in January.



The Girl Guides have been out and about again recently with 12 youth members, along with 2 leaders and 2 parent helpers, travelling to Chinchilla for the Guides Unite 2024 Camp. Involving around 1300 members, this was a Queensland wide event with 10 camps across the state.

The members were challenged with activities based around the theme of 'communicating', having them connecting online with other Guides and Scouts, sending and receiving letters through the camp post office, learning about morse code and semaphore,

canoeing and enjoying time around the campfire. The leaders were extremely proud of the youth that represented Charleville with other leaders commenting on their exemplary behaviour & attitude towards the challenges.

The Charleville Guides would like to thank RACQ for their recent donation, allowing for the purchase of 3 additional tents for members to use, meaning more Guides could attend the event.

1st Charleville Girl Guides meet each Sunday at the Guide Hut in Watson Street, 3.00pm to 5.00pm, during school terms.



KEEPING HEALTHY IN THE HEAT

Did you know that heatwaves have taken more lives and caused more serious health outcomes in Australia than any other natural occurrence? We've certainly experienced soaring spring temperatures so here's just a couple of ways you can stay healthy in the heat - stay hydrated, reduce outdoor activity and keep indoors if possible, ideally in an air-conditioned space. It's simply common sense but taking these easy steps can prevent the ill effects of heat. However, if

you experience heat-related symptoms, it's vital to act immediately - seek shade, hydrate, cool off any way you can and avoid sugary or alcoholic beverages. Vulnerable groups such as the elderly, young children, pregnant women, and those with certain medical conditions or on certain medications need special attention during hot weather. To find out more, go to www.health.qld.gov.au/heat-safe.



WHAT A YEAR FOR THE QCWA



Submitted by Judy Connolly, Charleville CWA Branch President

It was exciting to celebrate our 100th birthday on 12th October at the historic Hotel Coronas with QCWA members and wonderful supporters of our iconic organisation. It was the culmination of a number of ways we celebrated this special occasion. With the support of the Murweh Shire Council for a number of these events, we marked the centennial year with the planting of two trees; one in Graham Andrews Park, the second at the WWII Secret Base and placing a park bench at the Town Hall. marched in the Anzac Day parade with our new banner, had a fabulous historic display at our show, and launched a calendar for 2025 with the "story" of QCWA, plus a Members Memories booklet. We were all delighted that former

licensee of Hotel Coronas Fran Harding returned from Brisbane to be our guest speaker at the Birthday Luncheon.

Division president Su Ranson and treasurer Madonna Maris attended the QCWA state conference in Mackay recently. A good number of resolutions were passed to lobby government to improve the health and lives of Queenslanders.

We will assist schools in the Murweh Shire with sponsorship at their upcoming Speech and Awards event.

Visit our stall at the Christmas Street Party and our final event for the year will be a Christmas Luncheon.

LIBRARY NEWS



There's only a few Storytime sessions left for 2024! Don't miss out on the fun, including a festive Christmas Storytime! 🎄📖🌟

Holidays are almost here, and so is the Summer Reading Bingo Challenge! 📖🌟 Keep those skills sharp and score awesome prizes.

Pick up a teen, adult, or kids' bingo card at the library, complete fun challenges, and enter the raffle for a shot at winning! Bingo your way through December and January—the raffle draw is at the end of January 2025! Don't miss out! 🌟📖 #LibraryChallenge

Want to find out more? Contact the Charleville Library via email at Charleville_library@murweh.qld.gov.au or give them a call on 4656 8361.

NEW EXHIBITION AT MULGA LANDS GALLERY

Join us for an exhibition of works from the Charleville Art Group, going out of their comfort zone and going large onto the canvas! The group are part of the Charleville Cultural Association and meet regularly each week. Get in touch with the Association if you are interested, cvilleculturalassocinc@gmail.com

The talent of our established and emerging artists is truly fabulous! Entry is through the Library, during Library opening times Mon-Fri.- This is one not to be missed!



MEET COUNCILLOR PETER “RED” ALEXANDER

I was born and raised in Charleville, making me a third-generation resident. After completing my education, I worked for over 50 years in the Department of Justice and Attorney-General, retiring in 2023. During some of that time, I also worked as a part-time bookmaker, a role I plan to continue. I am married with two children, one of whom still lives in Charleville, and five grandchildren. I've been a lifetime member of the All Whites Rugby League Club (now defunct) and a former member of the Central Warrego Race Club. This is my fourth term as a Councillor and second term as Deputy Mayor. Following the March 2024 Council elections, Murweh Shire Council is entering a new term with a mix of experienced and new Councillors, led by Mayor Shaun (Zoro) Radnedge. We're fortunate to have CEO Bruce Scott, whose background as Mayor of Barcoo Shire is proving invaluable in guiding the future of our community.

Along with Bruce, our new Executive team includes Jacob Barton, Engineer, and Justin Kronk, Director of Corporate Services. New Councillors Michelle Ebsworth and Teri Sommerfield join incumbents Robert Eckel and myself. As we settle in, we're focused on working together to plan for the future of Murweh Shire.

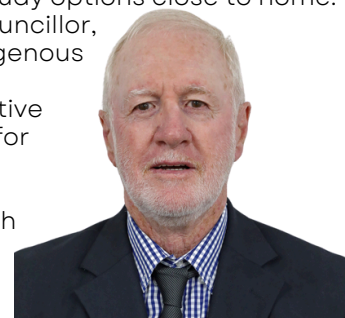
Council's decision-making process has become more structured, with twelve regular Council meetings and briefing sessions each year.

These are designed for discussion and preparation, with decisions made at subsequent meetings. We also regularly meet with regulatory services personnel to stay informed about ongoing matters affecting our community.

I stay actively involved in both urban and rural areas, where our 2,600 km road network requires close attention. As a retiree, I'm looking forward to visiting towns like Augathella, Morven, and Cooladdi, and continuing to engage with elderly and vulnerable residents who are often overlooked.

I'm also hopeful that Murweh Shire's bid for a Country University Campus will be successful, offering local students more affordable study options close to home. Throughout my time as a Councillor, I've worked closely with Indigenous communities and remain committed to fostering positive relationships and advocacy for their needs.

We're excited to continue serving the people of Murweh Shire and building a bright future together.



SWQROC HOLDS NOVEMBER MEETING IN CHARLEVILLE

Representing the six local governments of the South West Queensland region, the South West Regional Organisation of Councils (SWQROC) held its latest meeting in Charleville in early November. Taking place at the Cosmos Centre's 'Cosmos Theatre Room', the Mayors and CEOs from the Balonne, Bulloo, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo and Quilpie shires, along with several special guests, including Murweh Shire Councillors, discussed a broad range of proposals, ongoing projects and important issues including the current Insurance Premium increases, Queensland Regional Freight Transport Subsidy and additional flight capacity in the western region. The Year 6 students from St Mary's School,

who are currently studying Governance, were also welcomed and kept everyone on their toes with a range of thought-provoking questions. But it wasn't all serious business! SWQROC delegates also had the opportunity to enjoy our unique tourism facilities as part of this 2-day event. Established in 2020, SWQROC undertakes the important role of leading our councils' involvement in the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils (WQAC) which brings together the 24 councils of Western Queensland to advocate for and address common issues and opportunities. Charleville looks forward to welcoming the SWQROC delegates back to the Murweh Shire in the future.



From L - R: Cr John (Tractor) Ferguson, Mayor Bulloo Shire Council, Cr Shaun (Zoro) Radnedge, Mayor Murweh Shire Council, Cr Suzette Beresford, Mayor Paroo Shire Council, Cr Wendy Taylor, Mayor Maranoa Regional Council, Cr Samantha O'Toole, Mayor Balonne Shire Council, Cr Ben Hall, Mayor Quilpie Shire Council



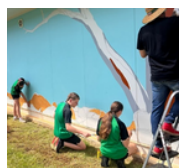
St Mary's Year 6 students participating in the meeting.

SCHOOL ZONE

The Charleville State High School's Awards night was held on Wednesday, 16 October, and it showcased our students' achievements. Our Senior Leaders for 2025 have been announced; congratulations from all of the school community.

A big congratulations to Alex White, who has completed Year 10 and will be going full time with his Light Vehicle Mechanical Apprenticeship with Charleville Auto Care. Best Wishes Alex.

Students were asked to design a mural that represents being sun safe in the bush. Jenny Peacock (HOPE Program) judged Lachlan the winner. Qld Health Prevention Strategy Branch provided funding for artist Mark Paddick to bring the winning design to life, with help from our students.



School Captains: Harry and Ben, School Vice-Captain - Madalynn and Indigenous Ambassador - Lincoln



Congratulations Alex

HOPE Program and SQRH Bring Healthcare Careers to Life at Charleville School of Distance Education

The HOPE Program and SQRH partnered with Charleville School of Distance Education to bring an exciting learning experience to this year's Mini School; featuring a Teddy Bear Hospital for younger students and an Emergency Scenario for older students: hands-on activities designed to both inspire and educate.

Local Allied Health clinicians, Paramedic Harry, Dr. Paul and Lauren provided invaluable support in bringing these sessions to life. Through these engaging activities, students had a unique opportunity to explore health career possibilities and we hope the experience sparked curiosity about the rewarding field of healthcare.



Year 12 Farewell Week Kicks Off with Fun, Learning, and Lifelong Skills

The HOPE Program joined forces with local services to create a memorable day of valuable lessons and team-building fun. Students participated in team-building activities and practical party-safe tips from the Police, Lifeline, and Dr. Katie, equipping them with the knowledge to celebrate responsibly and stay safe.

Past student and Murweh Shire mechanic, Luke, demonstrated tyre-changing and shared essential car maintenance tips, a vital life skill as our soon-to-be graduates embark on new adventures. We wish our graduating students well as they step confidently into the next chapter!

“We are both thrilled and deeply proud of our St Mary’s students for their performances in Shrek the Musical JR.” - St Mary’s staff.



Students from Morven State School had a fun-filled experience at school camp.



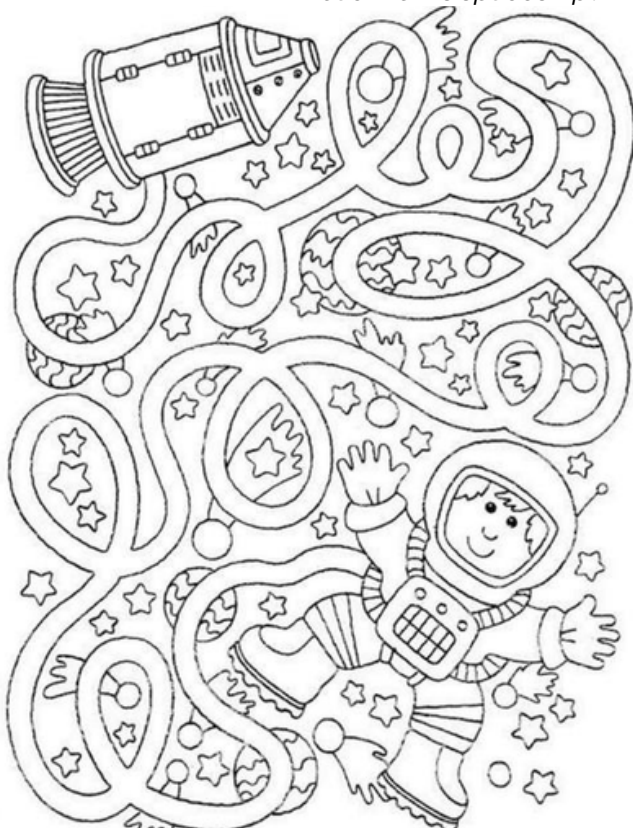
Are you interested in

SUBSIDIZED FREIGHT?

Truckit is currently assessing the need for additional freight services in categories such as retail items, wholesale goods and other freight. If you have a requirement for these freight categories, please complete this survey.



“KIDS KORNER” *Can the spaceman find his way back to his spaceship?*



THE HUSBAND CAKE RECIPE

Submitted by Bruce Scott OAM, CEO of Murweh Shire Council

INGREDIENTS

- 3/4 cup shortening
- 1 1/2 cup sugar
- 1 can tomato soup
- 3/4 cup water
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 3 cup plain flour (all purpose)
- 3/4 teaspoon salt
- 3 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon cloves
- 1 teaspoon nutmeg

ICING

- 3 tablespoons butter softened
- 1 package cream cheese softened
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 3-4 cup powdered sugar

Grease and flour a 9 x 13 pan or 2 round cake pans. Cream shortening; add sugar; beat till light and fluffy. Add tomato soup mix well; add water-mix well.

I must admit when I poured the can of soup in I thought oh dear I’ve probably just wasted all this-I mean how will this ever taste good?

Sift dry ingredients together. Add to tomato mixture a little at a time and mix till smooth.

Spoon batter into greased and floured pan(s)-bake at 375 for 25-30 minutes depending on the pan size you use-and the way your oven cooks.

To make the frosting cream butter and cream cheese till blended; add vanilla and powdered sugar mix well.

When I made the cake I used 2 round 9 inch pans. I was so anxious to see how the cake tasted so I tried to remove one layer as soon as it came out of the oven, it came apart in pieces. The other layer I let cool a good 15-20 minutes and it came out perfectly.

THROUGH THE TELESCOPE

December promises a dazzling view here in Charleville, with a variety of celestial events to captivate stargazers.

The month kicks off with a new moon on the 1st, offering optimal conditions for observing faint celestial objects like Galaxies, Stars and their Clusters, even planets like Venus, Saturn Jupiter and even Mars!

On the 7th, Jupiter reaches opposition, its closest point to Earth, making it appear larger and brighter than usual. This ideal viewing window allows for detailed observation of its swirling cloud bands, its intriguing moons, and even the dynamic Great Red Spot, a colossal storm larger than Earth itself.

The Geminid meteor shower, renowned as one of the year's best, this peaks on the nights of the 13th and 14th, though the nearly full moon may dim some of the fainter meteors.

21st of December marks the official summer solstice for us in the southern hemisphere, even though it is already up to 30 degrees we will start to heat up more over the coming season. This also means it marks the winter solstice for the northern hemisphere, their temperatures will start to drop, and some locations will start to receive snow.

Another New Moon on the 30th provides another chance for dark sky.

With a combination of planetary alignments, meteor showers, and seasonal celestial events, December offers a delightful celestial experience for stargazers of all levels.

Have a Merry Christmas, and happy new year from our team here at the Cosmos Centre, see you all next year.



CHARLEVILLE VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

The Visitor Information Centre isn't just for tourists - it's a local hotspot too! There's always something fun and useful for everyone!

At the VIC, you can:

- Book QRail and Greyhound tickets
- Buy locally made products and Charleville-branded merchandise (great for Christmas gifts to send away)
- Purchase tickets for local attractions
- Watch trains as they arrive and depart
- Find brochures for other towns and shires
- Get answers to any local questions



V.I.C opening hours: 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM on Mon, Tues, Thurs
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM on Wed and Fri
10:00 AM – 2:00 PM on Sat and Sun

What travels around the world but stays in one corner?

A Stamp

DECEMBER 2025

Saturday, 1st
Carols in the Park
Graham Andrews Park

Saturday, 7th
Charleville Toy Drive
Alfred Street

Wednesday, 11th
Christmas Lights Tour
Charleville

Saturday, 14th
Augathella Christmas in the Park

Saturday, 21st
Morven Community Christmas Dinner

Wednesday 25th
Merry Christmas!

Thursday 26th
Boxing Day

Visit
experiencecharleville.com.au
to stay up to date on events.

www.murweh.qld.gov.au

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