



Media Release

Darwin City Council

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Christmas in Darwin Starts in The Mall

Christmas in Darwin is an exciting time. Many residents make an annual exodus to cooler limbs. The dominant theme around the world is of winter and snow. Darwin is far from this and we tend to celebrate in different ways.

The Darwin City Council likes to get into the spirit of the festive season putting up decorations and making the City look Christmassy! The start of the season is signalled every year by the annual Lord Mayor Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Darwinians like to start their Christmas celebrations early as many will travel interstate and overseas to spend time with relatives. However, there are many events for local residents to enjoy in the holiday season.

28 November – Lord Mayor Tree Lighting Ceremony in Raintree Park at the end of the Mall. This year's event will be bigger and better than last year. Free Jumping Castle and Ice Cups for the kids. Live entertainment and shows for all the family. (Chantal the fairy, Arafura Callisthenics Club Inc. and St Pauls Primary Choir). The event starts at 6.30pm and concludes after the tree lighting around 7.45pm

7 December – Carols By Candlelight, in the Amphitheatre at the George Brown Botanic Gardens. Gates open at 5.30pm for a 6.30pm start and entry is by gold coin donation. Carol books, candles, candle cups, and light refreshments will be on sale on the night. It is a fabulous night that encapsulates the spirit of our community, and of a tropical 'Territory-style' Christmas.

13 to 24 December – Santa in the Mall Galleria. Father Christmas will be in the entrance of the Galleria food court in the Smith St Mall to meet all the little children. When you are Christmas shopping drop in say hello to Santa. It is just off the Mall right next to the fountain near Monty's on the Mall.

The Darwin City Mall traders are extending their trading hours in the run up to Christmas; 9am to 9pm every Friday from November 27 until Friday December 19th. On Tuesday December 23rd the will be open till 8pm and late on Christmas eve. No trading on Christmas Day.

Remember it all starts with the Lord Mayor's Tree Lighting on Friday 28th November in Raintree Park.

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