

December 2025

PORT DOUGLAS NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRE NEWS

PORT DOUGLAS COMMUNITY SERVICE NETWORK

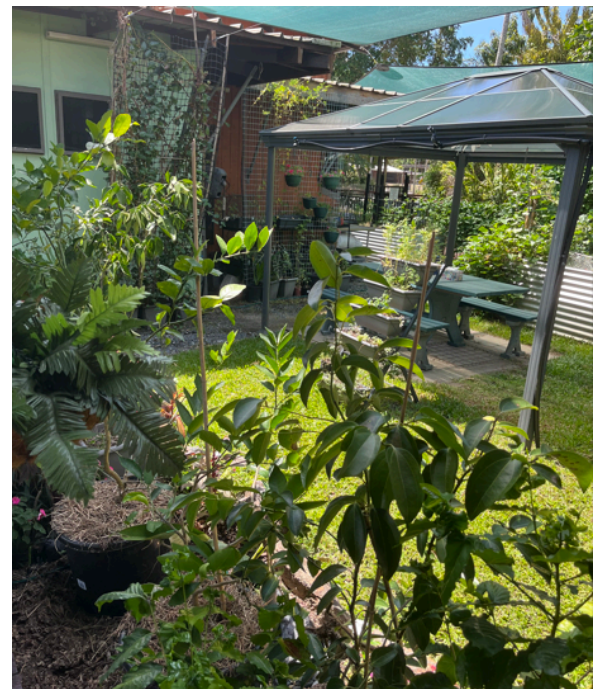


Ho Ho Ho 2025 — there it goes. Another year of go, go, go with staff and volunteers having an amazing year, lots of very successful events on the calendar including the Queensland Community Development Conference, International Women's Day, International Men's Day, 80s Bingo Night, NicNak Shed Fashion Parade and the Family Fun Day for Child Protection Week. The same caring spirit that the Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre is known for shone through in 2025

With activities finished for the year, staff are busy cleaning up and preparing for a bigger and better 2026 before the Centre closes at 12.00 pm on Tuesday, 23rd December. On behalf of the Port Douglas Community Services Network, we would like to wish whoever is reading this a very Merry Christmas and a happy and successful New Year. Thank- You to staff, volunteers, committee members and members

COMMUNITY GARDEN

Take a peak at our fabulous Community Garden started by Tanya and lovingly cared for by Monika and a small band of green fingered volunteers thank you for your dedication in creating a sustainable garden to help feed the community.



Members' 2024-2025 AGM

Our members 2024-2025 AGM held at the Tin Shed on 27th November was the perfect setting to celebrate the achievement of our Staff and Volunteers over the past 12 months

A big thank you to our dedicated committee for all their hard work throughout 2024 -2025, welcome back for another year:

President: Julia Leu Vice President: Toni Hickey

Treasurer: Shona Barbour Secretary: Julie Scott

Committee Members: Neil Graham, Mandy Stone, Paula Clancy

And a warm welcome back to: Annie Richards

We're grateful for the passion, time, and commitment each of you bring to our organization. Here's to a fantastic year ahead!



Volunteer Christmas Party 2025

Friday night the 5th of December we celebrated our incredible volunteers, the heart and soul of everything we do

We simply couldn't do our work without the amazing people who give their time, energy, and kindness to support our community. Our programmes and positions including Community Transport, Reception, Community Garden, Cooking and Craft, Men's Breakfast, Community Pantry, NicNak Shed & CAPS would not be available if not for volunteers

If you've ever thought about volunteering or know someone who might like to get involved, we'd love to have you join our friendly team! Pop into 6-10 Mowbray Street, Port Douglas or give us a call on 40995518

Thank you again to our fantastic volunteers for another amazing year. We appreciate you more than words can say!





Christmas Hampers

Once again, the public has come together to ensure local families and singles can enjoy a much brighter Christmas through donations to this year's hampers. Thank you to **Ray White** and everyone who placed a present under their Christmas tree. **Ladies Who Lunch** generously donated gift vouchers, **Page Turners Book Club** held a very successful event raising over \$1,000 to purchase food for the hampers, and **Port Explorers** donated lots of wonderful goodies. **Rogers Rides** donated the laundry hampers which house the festive goodies. A special thank you also to Sammi C Ross for donating vouchers. Your kindness will make a real difference to so many.

Thank you



School Uniforms



Your Schools are wrapping up... which means it's the PERFECT time for a clean-out! Got school uniforms your kids have outgrown or no longer need? Don't let them hide in the cupboard till next year — we'd love to give them a second life! We're proud to be teaming up with School Savvy by Centacare FNQ to support families across Port Douglas, Mossman, Mareeba, Mt Molloy, Julatten, Cairns and surrounding areas.

Your generosity truly makes a difference.

Today we had a lovely visit from Aiden from Centacare, and we were lucky enough to hand over some pre-loved Mossman State High School uniforms to support their amazing School Savvy initiative! School Savvy will be running in Mossman on January 22nd from 11.00am to 2.00pm at 6 Mill Street, helping local families get set for a confident and inclusive start to the 2026 school year.

Drop any good-condition uniforms into the Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre.

Every single item helps a local family — thank you for being amazing!



It is with deep sadness that we share the news of the passing of one of our much-loved volunteers, Barb Shea. Barb was a cherished member of our Centre community, bringing warmth, laughter, and kindness with her every time she walked through our doors.

Barb not only volunteered her time but also participated in many of our group activities, always adding a spark of joy to those around her. She will be dearly missed by staff, volunteers, and community members alike.

The Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre staff and volunteers extend our heartfelt condolences and love to Barb's family during this difficult time

That's a wrap for CAPS!

Hollie (what a perfect name for the festive season!), our new Child & Parents Support Worker, has been busy wrapping up the year with plenty of Christmas cheer, shared by parents and some rather cute babies. Hollie is loving her new role in the Hub and already has some great ideas for 2026, including giving the space a fresh coat of paint.

The New Parents Group celebrated with a Christmas party, featuring some interesting food to munch on, while new mum Danielle also celebrated her birthday. There were lots of smiles and special moments for families celebrating their first Christmas together.

Over the next week, Hollie will be busy cleaning up and preparing the space for any wet weather we may encounter over the Christmas break.



CAPS Programs Returning in 2026:

New Parents Group – Returning Thursday, 22nd January 2026

Play Group – Returning Tuesday, 27th January 2026

Child Health Nurse visits

Annual Child Protection Family Fun Day

School Holiday Program

A Wonderful Year for Douglas Shire Seniors

What an incredible year it has been for the seniors of the Douglas Shire! Geoff and Chrissy have been busy implementing and refining our Seniors' Adventure Program, and it's been a smash hit with our local seniors. Throughout the year, we have worked hard to plan adventures that were varied and inclusive — creating more opportunities for seniors to connect regularly. We have been to Kuranda, Lake Barrine, Cairns Aquarium, Gallo Dairy and the Daintree to name a few. We have honed our admin skills to set up booking systems that are fair as sadly we have to limit numbers due to budgeting restraints. We also introduced coffee catch-ups, with no limit to the numbers and these have been very popular. We're excited to announce that these will become even more frequent in 2026. A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful senior community for embracing these activities — your enthusiasm makes all our efforts worthwhile. We truly couldn't do it without you. Our final offering for 2025 will be a Christmas catchup on

Wednesday 10th December.

If you are sixty or better and not already on our **Seniors' Adventures** mailing list – what are you waiting for?

Upcoming Wellness Event: **Managing Menopause**

Looking ahead, Chrissy is planning a special wellness event early next year, focusing on all aspects of menopause — from perimenopause through to post-menopause. This will be a valuable opportunity for women to learn what to expect, explore treatment options, and share experiences at this significant stage of life. There will be a range of speakers, we will have door prizes and plenty of opportunity for asking questions and sharing information in this great setting.

The event will be heavily subsidized and is anticipated to take place over lunch at Niramaya on Saturday, 28 February. While it's still a little way off, Chrissy will be on holiday in January, so we'd love to hear from you soon if you're interested in attending as we all know how quickly the weeks fly by.

To book or request more information, please contact Belinda by email at belinda@pdnc.org.au or phone us on 4099 5518. We're planning a fantastic line-up of guest speakers, and with Niramaya's beautiful setting and lunch provided, it promises to be a truly memorable day.

Please note: numbers will be limited, so be sure to register early.



Thank you to our supporting partners



International Men's Day

A wonderful day was had by all the gentlemen and the ladies who attended PDCSN's first-ever celebration of International Men's Day. The event started with a game Barefoot Bowls which is so much fun no matter your age.

A big thank you to Club Mossman for hosting the event and to their amazing kitchen staff for a delicious meal. The day was made possible with the Douglas Shire Council providing a mini grant to help with funding.

MC for the day was John Grime, assisted by Andrew Jamieson and Roy Zammataro, who volunteered their time to be our guest speakers, sharing their time and insights. Boey entertained the crowd with his guitar and beautiful vocals — a very talented young man.

To everyone who contributed behind the scenes, we can't thank you enough. To everyone who attended, this is history in the making, and we hope the event will continue to grow over the years, just as International Women's Day has.

Thank you to all the local businesses that donated prizes for the raffles. I did hear that Terry didn't have to get his tongs out once and he scooped the prize pool.

Cheers to all the wonderful men in the world



Here are some of the boys in action, I did hear that none of them were invited to join the Olympic Bowls Squad but it was fun



Thank you to our supporting local businesses

Coffee Works Port Douglas
Daddy Shack
Daintree Shop
Fresq Café
Lady Douglas
Little Red Kitchen
Malones Butchers

Mirage Country Club
Mossman Hardware
Mossman Meats
N17
Nautical Marine
NQ Homes
Paddy's

Peppers Beach Club
Pink Real Estate
Port Douglas Boat Hire
Port Douglas Segway
Prices Plus
Pullman Sea Temple
Raine & Horne

Rattle and Hum
Savannah in the Round
Shaolin
Tin Shed
True North Adventures
Whimsy Beads

Contact Us



manager@pdnc.org.au



07 4099 5518



6-10 Mowbray St,
Port Douglas Qld 4877

Find Us



Port Douglas Community Service Network Inc

If you would like further information, support or referral for any of our services or facilities, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

portdouglascommunityservicenetwork.org.au