

WINTER

OCTOBER
2025

PORT DOUGLAS COMMUNITY SERVICE NETWORK INC



What We Know So Far

2025 has been an amazing year for the Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre, made possible by the incredible support of our members and volunteers. Highlights so far include International Women's Day, Back to the Eighties Bingo, the NicNak Shed Fashion Parade, Child Protection Week Family Fun Day, and of course, hosting the 2025 Queensland Community Development Conference.

As the year quickly ticks away, there's still plenty to look forward to with our AGM & Members Lunch on Thursday November 27th at 12.00pm once again hosted by The Tin Shed; our inaugural International Men's Day celebration on Wednesday, November 19th at Club Mossman; and the Volunteer Christmas Party on Friday, December 5th at Hemingway's. So don't put away those party hats or dancing shoes just yet!

Queensland Community Development Conference

Two years ago, it was decided that the Bi-Annual Queensland Community Development Conference would be hosted by the Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre in beautiful tropical Far North Queensland. A dedicated Conference Committee was formed who spent countless hours—and perhaps a few sleepless nights—organising the three-day event.

The conference transformed Mowbray Street into a vibrant hub of activity, with sessions held across the Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre, Port Douglas Community Hall, and the Clink Theatre.

More than 300 participants from across Queensland made the journey north to attend, engaging in sessions focused on key regional priorities such as resilience building, place-based practice, social inclusion, and the importance of collaboration

in driving positive local change.

After a full day of conferencing on Tuesday, participants gathered at the Sugar Wharf for a picturesque sunset event featuring motivational guest speakers and possibly the biggest charcuterie board ever seen. Although the Weather Gods were not particularly kind—forcing parts of the evening indoors—the atmosphere remained electric, filled with warmth, kindness, and generosity, reflecting the true spirit of community work.



QUEENSLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

"Reimagining the past, shaping our future"



STAFF NEWS

There have been quite a few staffing changes around the Centre since the last newsletter, with Emma becoming the CEO and Belinda and Erin taking on new leadership positions. Belinda's new role is Neighbourhood Centre Coordinator, and Erin's new role is Family & Financial Resilience Coordinator. Both ladies have taken the bull by the horns and are relishing their new roles. Our lovely, kind, and caring all-rounder Tanya left earlier this year. She is dearly missed, but we wish her and her husband Mitchell safe and happy travels — we'll see them soon! Toni Graham our bookkeeper of 13 years also moved on to new opportunities and we wish her the best. Hollie joined the Port Douglas Community Service Network in August to run the CAPS Program and has quickly become one of the team



SENIORS ADVENTURES

Last week's Seniors Adventure was a resounding success! We set sail on Sailaway for a stunning sunset cruise, and our seniors showed true spirit by going ahead despite a forecast of 20-knot winds.

As it turned out, the weather added a touch of thrill to the evening—putting the “adventure” in Seniors Adventure. After the cruise, we headed to Hemingway's for snacks and a drink or two. The smiles on everyone's faces said it all—it was an event to remember.

COFFEE CATCH-UP

Our coffee catch-ups continue to be a hit! The next one is coming up this Monday, and we're heading to the Courthouse Museum to explore our local history, followed by a cuppa on the balcony.

If you or someone you know isn't receiving our Seniors Adventure emails, please register so we can keep you in the loop. Just a reminder—you'll need to be 60 or better to join in. We're aware that some of our emails may be landing in spam or junk folders. It's a widespread issue we're working to fix, but in the meantime, please check those folders occasionally so you don't miss out on upcoming events.



CHRISTMAS HAMPERS 2025

Christmas is just around the corner. If you or someone you know is experiencing hardship, please speak with Neighbourhood Centre staff about being considered for one of our Christmas hampers.

If you would like to contribute to our hamper appeal or volunteer some time to put hampers together we would love to hear from you.



WOW! What a huge event this was!

Over 300 parents and kids attended, and we were finally blessed with a glorious sunny day. Child Protection Family Fun Day once again raised awareness about the importance of child protection — one sausage sizzle and glitter explosion at a time!

Highlights included stilt walking, a petting zoo, face painting, snow globe making, basket weaving, a jumping castle, and plenty of other fun and creative activities for the kids. The true highlight of the day was seeing all those happy, smiling faces!

A massive thank you to our amazing team of volunteers who helped with set-up, manned stalls, and packed down — your hard work made it all possible. Thanks also to the wonderful locals for coming along, and to FNQ Bus Lines for getting the kids there safely.



NicNak Shed Fashion Parade

The NicNak Shed Fashion Parade was a resounding success, raising over \$5,000 for the Port Douglas Community Service Network. The sold-out event welcomed 120 guests who enjoyed bubbles and canapés before the catwalk came to life.

Set against the stunning backdrop of the Pullman Sea Temple Resort, the tropical setting proved to be the perfect stage for showcasing style. The models shone with confidence, bringing pre-loved couture—generously donated throughout the year to the NicNak Shed—to life on the runway.

The parade featured three categories: Daywear, Resort Wear, and Evening Wear, with the highlight being a dazzling collection of Camilla dresses that captured everyone's attention and were the perfect complement to the resort. The models were all local ladies and lad being volunteers, staff, customers and local business owners. Some have taken to the catwalk before and some were new faces this year.





This seems like so long ago, but what a memorable night it was! The best music, great company, Terry doing his thing on the BBQ, and our wonderful volunteers manning the bar. The Port Douglas Community Hall came alive with tunes from the glorious '80s — plenty of Lycra, fluro, and I'm pretty sure I even spotted Madonna in the crowd!

There was no shortage of '80s music knowledge in the room, and plenty of dance moves were busted on the floor. Belinda not only organised the event but also took on the role of MC, keeping the music and energy flowing all night.

The event raised over \$3,000 for the Centre — an incredible achievement! This was the first time the Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre has hosted Music Bingo, and thanks to its huge success, it will definitely be back on the calendar next year.

What era of music would you like to rock out to next time?



WHATS ON VISITING SERVICES

JP SERVICES
ATODS
DV SUPPORT SERVICES
AUDIKA
BUSY AT WORK
AA MEETINGS

CALL 4099 5518
FOR MORE INFO



Fortnightly Foodies

New Receipts each fortnight
Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre
6-10 Mowbray Street
11am - 12:30pm
Tuesday
Call 40995518 for more information

Struggling with bills? You're not alone.



We're here to yarn, listen and help you find support.

 Overdue bills and debt
  Electricity and gas
  Phone and internet
  Problems with money services
  Rebates and concessions
  Money stories and budgets



TABLE TENNIS

Come and join the fun!

Every Friday
1pm-3pm

Port Douglas Community Hall
25 Mowbray Street
Port Douglas QLD 4877

Gold Coin Donation to play.
All Welcome
Please wear sneakers or tennis shoes

TIN SHED
PORT DOUGLAS

UBA

Community Pantry

Please note the time change
Weekly on Wednesday
Doors will OPEN at 9am
New Systems in place
Starting 14th May
BYO own bag
6-10 Mowbray Street
Enquires - 40995518



MOSSMAN

Mossman Shire Hall
6 Mill Street, Mossman

Free • Wednesday 29 October • 9.30am - 4pm

www.ewoq.com.au



DOUGLAS SHIRE COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Good Shepherd Queensland Financial Resilience Program

Douglas Shire residents have had a challenging couple of years.

Between the cyclones and floods, many people (and their businesses) who were thriving before, are now struggling to survive.

The Queensland Financial Resilience Program (QFRP) can help individuals and families learn how to be more financially secure and get back on top of your finances.

Examples of how QFRP can help their clients:

- Explore options with mortgage providers
- Negotiate with utility providers
- Understand credit card issues
- Help create a sustainable budget for the future

For more information contact Megan on 0493 548 779 to arrange a face-to-face appointment.



Are you under 65 and facing transport challenges? Our new Community Transport Service is here to help!

Where Can We Take You?

- Travel outside Port Douglas
- Destinations in the wider Douglas Shire and Cairns

Cost?

Our service is FREE! However, gold coin donations are greatly appreciated to support this initiative.

Ready to Book?

Contact us today to secure your ride:

 Phone: 40995518

 Email: cdwpt@pdnc.org.au

Spaces are limited, so book early to ensure availability. Let us help you stay connected and mobile!



Towards an Empowered, Resilient and Sustainable Community



Community Garden

Everyone is welcome
to join us
every
Tuesday

1.15 - 3.45

 6-10 Mowbray Street
Port Douglas
 0740995518



Port Douglas
Neighbourhood
Centre
**BOOK
EXCHANGE**

MONDAY
TO
FRIDAY



**DAINTREE
PICKLEBALL**

Please come and support this fantastic activity!
\$5 per person

Tuesday, weekly from the 19th August
3:00pm - 5:00pm
Daintree Community Hall
24 Osborne St, Daintree
QLD 4873




**Charitable
Reuse**
AUSTRALIA

THE FUTURE IS REUSABLE

Total Items Reused

390 million
Total Items Reused

190,000 tonnes
Total Weight Reused

\$1 billion
Value of Items Reused




**PICKLE BALL
&
BADMINTON**

Please come and support this fantastic activity.

Every Saturday
1:30pm-3:30pm
Cyclone Shelter
4 Endeavour Street

\$5 per person
Students \$2
please wear
runners
bats and balls
supplied

U3A
United University of the Age





Monthly Cairns Bus Trip



The bus runs on the last Thursday of every month

\$10 Members \$15 Non-Members



**NICNAK
SHED**

Open

Monday-Thursday 9.00am-4.00
Friday 9.00am-2.30pm
Saturday 9.30am-12.30pm

Closed Public Holidays

