

SUBJECT: MAYORAL MINUTE - CAMDEN'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATIONS
FROM: The Mayor
EDMS #: 24/721914

As we approach the end of another remarkable year in Camden, I am delighted to reflect on the festive season's highlights, which truly captured the spirit of our community.

This year, the Camden Christmas Festival returned with spectacular success on Saturday 23 November with more than 20,000 residents in attendance. Argyle Street came alive with festive cheer, family fun, and an incredible array of activities. There were smiles all round, particularly when it came to the lighting of the tree, live performances and kids' activities. I extend my heartfelt thanks to our event sponsors, iPlasta and Wests Group Macarthur, and to the NSW Government for supporting this much-loved tradition.

The Oran Park Christmas Concert on Sunday 1 December was another shining example of our community coming together to celebrate. The evening at the Oran Park Civic Precinct featured amazing performances, engaging workshops, and festive markets, all capped off with the lighting of the Christmas tree. The event was a fantastic way to usher in December and reminded us of the importance of connection and joy during the holiday season.

Our Mayor's Christmas Card Competition this year showcased the immense talent of our young artists. Congratulations to Ivy Stuart from Camden Public School and Sarah Sharpe from St Justin's Catholic Parish Primary School for their stunning winning designs. Your creativity will bring smiles to everyone who receives these cards. I was pleased to be joined by Ivy and Sarah for the lighting of the trees at both Camden and Oran Park.

Finally, the Mayor's Christmas Giving Tree Appeal returned this year, with donations supporting Big Yellow Umbrella's vital work in our community. Thanks to the generosity of Camden's residents, many toys and food hampers will bring hope and joy to families in need this Christmas. This appeal is a reminder of the compassion and kindness that make Camden such a special place.

To all the staff, volunteers, performers, sponsors, and residents who contributed to these events and initiatives, I thank you. Together, we have made this festive season one to remember.

I wish everyone in Camden a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

RECOMMENDED

That Council note the information.