

Pets are for life: not Christmas

Griffith City Council is reminding residents that giving pets as Christmas presents can be a great idea, but one which requires a long-term commitment.

Council's Compliance Co-ordinator Anthony Napoli said deciding to get a new pet is not a decision that should be taken lightly.

"Buying or adopting a new pet is a life choice but often people are caught up in the moment and then quickly realise they cannot spare the time needed to look after a pet," said Mr Napoli.

"There is often the situation where pets are purchased as a present for relatives or friends who do not want them or find the pets unsuitable - the only time you should buy a pet for someone is if they have chosen the animal themselves and you are simply buying it for them. We end up with a large number of animals being dumped at Griffith City Council Animal Handling Facility over the De-

ember/January holiday period."

If you are considering adding a pet to your family this holiday season, make sure you consider matching the breed of dog to your lifestyle. For those who have done their research, adopting a pet is a great way to help a dog or cat find their forever home.

"Pet ownership is deeply rewarding, but it is important to take into consideration all factors when it comes to adding a pet to your family," said Mr Napoli.

"If you don't think you can manage a new family member long term, please do not buy or adopt a pet - pets are for life, not just for Christmas."

Enquiries and appointments can be made by contacting 6962 8100 during business hours. You can keep up to date with what animals are available for adoption by visiting www.facebook.com/GCCAHF



Council is reminding residents that pets are a life long commitment and to seriously think about it before giving a pet this Christmas.



Get into the Christmas spirit with Arthur Christmas

December is here, officially marking the start of the 2017 Christmas season and Griffith City Council is inviting you to be part of the fun!

Griffith Mayor, Councillor John Dal Broi is encouraging the community to get behind Council's Festival of Lights.

"Council was successful in obtaining grant funding which has enabled us to support local events and put on a few of our own," said Councillor Dal Broi. "Part of the Festival of Lights is the Moonlight Movie at the Museum - an incredible outdoor cinema screening family favourite, Arthur Christmas on Friday 15 December."

The evening at the Museum will feature the popular Museum Twilight Markets, live entertainment kids activities, food, drinks and the main event at 8.30pm is the outdoor movie.

"We have combined the Museum Markets with this event to create a festive atmosphere - the markets are a great way to get in some Christmas shopping while enjoying the outdoors," said Councillor Dal Broi.

"Throughout the evening talented musician Cheryl Tucker will be keeping the crowd entertained with an array of songs - including Christmas carols to really get you into the spirit!"

There will be plenty for the entire family to enjoy, including kids activities with thanks to volunteers from Griffith Child Care Centre Inc.

"Kids will love decorating their very own gingerbread man, and they can create their own Christmas decorations - we even have a best decorated Christmas Tree competition," he said. "The Museum volunteers will be cooking a BBQ, and 3 Brothers Yenda will be cooking up a feast. You can kick back and enjoy a cold drink thanks to Bella Vita Tours and grab a freshly made bag of popcorn to enjoy the film with - a fantastic way to spend an evening with family and friends!"

Bring along a picnic rug to enjoy the movie - and don't forget the mosquito repellent. Councillor Dal Broi said every Saturday up until Christmas residents and visitors to the town will be able to 'snap at

selfie with Santa' along Banna Avenue.

"Santa will be making special appearances every Saturday morning from around 9.30am - he is more than happy to stop and snap a selfie and even take down a Christmas wish or two," he said.

"This was a favourite of locals many years ago and we are really excited to be able to bring it back this year."

Residents can participate in the Festival of Lights by registering their homes - every registration up until 15 December will receive a \$20 gift voucher to spend at Griffith City Cinemas, Star Bowling or Family Funland and will be in the running to win a People's Choice Award from Harvey Norman Griffith, the Mayor's Choice Award and the best street will have an incredible Christmas Street Party with thanks to Griffith Real Estate. You can register today at www.griffith.nsw.gov.au/FOLregister

Business houses can also register to win an Apple Watch from Leading Edge Computers Griffith.

What's on?

Every Sunday, 7am

Griffith Rotary Markets
15 Collier Street

Every Tuesday, 10am

Baby Bounce, Griffith City Library

Third Thursday of Each Month

Movie Club, Griffith City Library

Every Friday, 11am

Toddler Time, Griffith City Library

Now exhibiting

HSC Graduates Exhibition

Griffith Regional Art Gallery

Now exhibiting

Carmela Kozlowski - Exhibition: Light Art Space, Griffith Regional Theatre

Now exhibiting

Wandering - Artistic Collection by Anne Mills, Karly Sivewright & Laura Fitzpatrick

In the Frame

Friday December 8

Griffith Rotary Christmas Carvival from 5.30pm

Lighting of the Christmas Tree from 8.15pm

Light the Night - Leukaemia

Foundation from 8.15pm

Festival of Lights Bus Tour from 8.30pm - bookings required from

Eventbrite.com.au

All at Memorial Park, Griffith

Sunday 10 December

Carols by Candlelight

Griffith Showgrounds

Friday 15 December, 5.30pm

Moonlight Movie at the Museum
Griffith Pioneer Park Museum

Tuesday 19 December, 11am

The Spirit of Christmas

Griffith Regional Theatre

Every Friday and Saturday night

until December 23

The Festival of Light Christmas Light Bus Tours

Bookings essential - most tours are now sold out, get in quick so you don't miss out!

Book at eventbrite.com.au

See the latest event listings online at visitgriffith.com.au

Get your Festival of Lights Map

today at griffith.nsw.gov.au

or call in to the Griffith Visitor Information Centre at Jondaryan Avenue Griffith.

Australia Day

Citizen of the Year Awards

Who makes a difference in your community?

Nominate now in the Griffith City Australia Day Awards and let the hero in your life know how important they are to our community.

Nominations are now being taken online at griffith.nsw.gov.au or complete the form which appears in every Wednesday edition of The Area News.

Nominations close Friday 8 December, 4pm.



AUSTRALIA DAY:
CELEBRATE WHAT'S GREAT

