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10<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Dear Port Mandurah Canal Residents,

We hope you are all well. We are looking forward to seeing your incredible Christmas lights displays again this festive season.

Our Christmas Lights Cruises will be commencing on Friday 1st December and they are operating every night (excluding Christmas Day) at 7:30pm and 8:45pm through to Sunday 6th January 2019. We are continuing to bring as much Christmas spirit to our cruises as we can this year with Santa and his elves greeting guests on the jetty every night in the lead up to Christmas Day and Christmas carollers/singers performing on the jetty.

The Port Mandurah Canals Christmas lights displays have again received great exposure; listed with Western Australia as a major event and promoted by Tourism Australia, Tourism WA, Experience Perth and Mandurah & Peel Tourism Organisation. We have also taken the Christmas Lights internationally, attending major tourism trade shows in Australia and China. We are hoping to have Channel 9 news do a story on the Christmas Lights phenomenon in Mandurah again this year, TBA - most likely in the first week of December. Local/state newspapers and major online bloggers including Perth is Ok have also been publishing articles.

The joy that your displays bring to everyone who visit the canals during the festive season is truly wonderful

To all of the Port Mandurah Residents who put up stunning Christmas lights displays each year, we will again be having a competition to reward you for your efforts. The competition will again be divided into two awards:

- 1. The Judges Awards:** Selected by a special group of hand-picked judges.
- 2. The Peoples Award:** Judged by the passengers on the Mandurah Cruises Christmas Lights Tours.

**Judging Date** - The date of judging will be **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2018**. The judging panel will consist of representatives from City of Mandurah, Mandurah & Peel Tourism Organisation, Peel Development Commission, LJ Hooker Mandurah and Mandurah Cruises. Further details of prizes will be confirmed shortly, and we will provide you with that information.

**Camp Quality Night** – On Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> December we are donating a Christmas Lights Cruise for Camp Quality - children and families living with cancer. We are providing them with vessels Mandjar, Dancing Dolphin & Supercat to accommodate over 180 people. Santa and his elves will be on board vessel Mandjar that evening to add to the Christmas cheer. We are really looking forward to this night. It is the perfect way to start the Christmas Lights Cruise season as the smiles and joy this event brings to these families is truly wonderful.

**PMRA Thank you and Awards Party** – As per previous years we will be hosting an end of Christmas lights season thank you and awards evening for Port Mandurah Residents on **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> February**, 4:30pm to 7pm, at the Old Mandurah Yacht Club (Address: 1A Halls head Parade, Halls Head). BBQ dinner and drinks provided. Trophies and prizes will be presented for the Judges Awards & People's Choice Award winners and the Rotary Wishing Well total announced. So, save the date in your diary!

**Wishing Well** - The *Rotary Wishing Well* will be back again this season. Our vessels stop at the Wishing Well during all of our Christmas Lights Cruises. Donations are collected from guests on board and thrown into the well by our tour guide and little helpers (children aboard). Mandurah Cruises also make a monetary donation at the end of the season. Last season a new record total of over \$27,000 was raised (beating the previous year's total of \$21,000) thanks to the amazing generosity of our passengers and the general public cruising the canals.

**Rotary Club of Mandurah Christmas Lights Cruise Charity Auction** – This year we have donated tickets for premium dates during the Christmas Lights Cruise season for auction, to raise more funds for the Wishing Well Charity Fund. The auction is now live at AllBids - [www.allbids.com.au/t/mandurah-rotary-club](http://www.allbids.com.au/t/mandurah-rotary-club). Please share this with friends, family and colleagues.

If you have any questions, comments or ideas please feel free to contact me on 9581 1242 or email [natalie@mandurahcruises.com.au](mailto:natalie@mandurahcruises.com.au)

If you wish to contact Mandurah Cruises company directors, please do so at any time: Peter Robinson 0438 978 270 or [peter@mandurahcruises.com.au](mailto:peter@mandurahcruises.com.au); Myrianthe Riddy 0421 362 401 or [myrianthe@mandurahcruises.com.au](mailto:myrianthe@mandurahcruises.com.au).

On behalf of Mandurah Cruises, I'd like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to catching up with you all at the PMRA Thank you and Awards Party.

Regards,

Natalie Goddard  
Christmas Lights Cruises Co-ordinator  
Mandurah Cruises & Gift Shop