



**Issue 11**  
**December 2022**



# Neighbourhood News



## NC Roundup

The Christmas lights are sparkling, trees have been adorned, and the jolly man in the red suit is loading his sleigh. It's the end of another busy year and holiday festivities are just around the corner! We've filled our last edition of 2022 with lots of extra puzzles to keep you occupied over the festive season. There's also some handy information on housing assistance, yummy recipes to try, and a few laughs to brighten your day. Plus we're seeking a new team member to fill our Administration Officer position - see page 18 for all the details on how to apply.

As we prepare to take a much-anticipated break at the Centre we'd like to thank our clients, partners, service providers and the whole Charleville community for your continued support. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without you. We wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas and New Year and look forward to a bigger and better 2023!

If you would like to know more about our programs and services, or enquire about how we may be able to assist you, please contact us on 4654 1307, email your enquiry to [communitysupport@charvillenc.org.au](mailto:communitysupport@charvillenc.org.au), search our website at [www.charvillenc.org.au](http://www.charvillenc.org.au), or check out our Facebook Page - search for Charleville Neighbourhood Centre. Alternatively, why not pop in and say hello to our friendly staff - you can find us on the corner of Alfred and Eyre Streets.

The Neighbourhood Centre is open Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 5.00pm proudly supporting our community.

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## Tell Us What You Think

### CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

*We'd like to advise that the Neighbourhood Centre will close at 5pm on Friday, 23 December 2022 & Re-Open at 8.30am on Tuesday, 3 January 2023*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS!!**

We love feedback from our community, so please let us know what's on your mind.

Email your feedback to [communitysupport@charvillenc.org.au](mailto:communitysupport@charvillenc.org.au), or post a comment on our Facebook page.

**If you have something you'd like to include in our Newsletter** please contact Angela Young at the Neighbourhood Centre on 4654 1411 or email [communitysupport@charvillenc.org.au](mailto:communitysupport@charvillenc.org.au).

### Disclaimer

All articles in this newsletter are reproduced in good faith for the community's benefit and do not necessarily represent the views of the Charleville Neighbourhood Centre. The Charleville Neighbourhood Centre accepts no responsibility for these articles.

## *Out & About*

Were you photographed at one of the many amazing events held in Charleville over the last few months? Check out all our lovely social butterflies who had a great time out and about!





## *NC Activities*

### *Christmas Hampers*

The Neighbourhood Centre recently helped to delivered over 40 Christmas hampers to families and individuals most in need within the Charleville community. The Christmas hamper distribution is an annual event and we always enjoy spreading some yuletide cheer.



### *Christmas Street Party*

The Neighbourhood Centre were proud major sponsors of this year's Charleville Christmas Street Party, providing gift vouchers to be spent at local businesses. The Street party was a huge success this year, and we congratulate and thank the organisers and everyone involved for holding such a wonderful community event. Congratulations also to all the lucky winners!

### *Mental Health Week Festival*

A group of service providers combined to bring the 2022 Self-Care, We Care Multicultural Festival to Charleville in early October. The Festival was part of Mental Health Week and focused on providing a safe, enjoyable and fully inclusive event to the whole community. With local musicians and dancers, lots of stalls, activities for kids, mural unveiling, lamp shade workshops, and heaps of food to taste from cultures around the world, it was a fabulous afternoon enjoyed by all who attended. If you missed the Festival, check out the fantastic wrap-up video with thanks to Radio 4RRFM at the below link:

<https://www.facebook.com/4rrfm/videos/864321438308513>



## *Housing Assistance*

The Queensland Government has released its Housing Summit Outcomes which are aimed at addressing the housing needs of more Queenslanders, including those who may not have sought help previously. Below is a brief summary of the Outcomes. You can find more information at [www.qld.gov.au/housing](http://www.qld.gov.au/housing).

Initiative	Funding	Key Information
<b>Private Rental Assistance</b>	\$10 million	<p>The Queensland Government is expanding access to private rental market assistance products to enable more Queenslanders to find private rental homes or maintain the tenancy they have. Income limits will be increased to help more people access bond loans, rental grants, the rental security subsidy, helping hand headlease, and RentConnect. To find out if you're eligible for private rental assistance, contact your local Housing Service Centre.</p> <p>Call 13 QGOV (13 74 68) Visit <a href="http://www.qld.gov.au/housing-service-centres">www.qld.gov.au/housing-service-centres</a></p>
<b>Immediate Housing Response Package</b>	\$26 million	<p>For those finding it hard to keep up with private rental payments the expanded Rental Security Subsidy will help Queensland families stay in their home if they are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness. Eligible households can have their rent subsidised for up to 12 months. The total amount of the subsidy is based on the household income and individual circumstances.</p> <p>Find out more about the Rental Security Subsidy at: <a href="http://www.qld.gov.au/housing/renting/rent-assistance/security-subsidy">www.qld.gov.au/housing/renting/rent-assistance/security-subsidy</a></p>
<b>Supporting Tenancies</b>	Over \$11 million	<p>The Queensland Government is supporting Queenslanders to sustain their private rental tenancies and stay in their homes by expanding tenancy sustainment services. Contact QSTARS (Qld Statewide Tenant Advice Services) for FREE high-quality advice and referral service to access up-to-date information about key tenancy issues, and advice to exercise tenancy rights and responsibilities.</p> <p>Call QSTARS on 1300 744 263 (9am-5pm Monday-Friday)</p>
<b>Temporary Emergency Accommodation</b>	\$10 million	<p>The Queensland Government is delivering more temporary emergency accommodation with onsite support by accessing underused accommodation, or alternative accommodation which may include hotels, motels, and retirement and aged care facilities. The funding will assist in securing this type of accommodation and providing a range of support services.</p> <p>Anyone at risk of, or experiencing homelessness can contact the Homeless Hotline on 1800 474 753.</p>
<b>Skillsets for Successful Tenancies</b>	Ongoing	<p>Skillsets for Successful Tenancies is a program to help people develop and improve their tenancy skills for the private rental market. The FREE 10 hour training package delivered through approved training partners focuses on budgeting, communication skills, cleaning and maintaining a rental property, and understanding rights and responsibilities as a tenant. Certificates are issued once training is complete which tenants can include in future rental applications.</p> <p>Find out more at <a href="http://www.qld.gov.au/housing/renting/rent-assistance/skillsets">www.qld.gov.au/housing/renting/rent-assistance/skillsets</a></p>
<b>Emergency Relief</b>	\$2 million	<p>Emergency relief providers are being funded to help Queenslanders access emergency relief such as vouchers, food parcels and support with paying bills.</p> <p>For assistance contact your local Housing Service Centre</p>

## *Upcoming Events*

DON'T BE ALONE BRING YOURSELF AND  
FAMILY  
EVERYONE WELCOME

# CHARLEVILLE COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS

OPEN AND FREE FOR EVERYONE

Charleville Town Hall  
December 25, 11AM

RSVP if you can to Lifeline OR JUST COME  
AND JOIN US

[heinrich@lifelinedarlingdowns.org.au](mailto:heinrich@lifelinedarlingdowns.org.au)  
1300 991 443



## *Garden Gate*

### *Edible Flowers*



Have you always wanted to add edible flowers to your meals but you're just not sure which ones are safe to eat? Below are some recommendations for flowers that are not only easy to grow, but are also safe to eat and taste delicious!

**Nasturtiums** - The flowers have a piquant flavour with a touch of sweetness and are high in vitamin C. Add to salads and use as beautiful edible garnishes.

**Violets, Violas & Pansies** - Annual Violas and Pansies, as well as perennial English Violets and Australian Violets all have edible flowers which have a sweet flavour and make a colourful addition to any dish. They are most popularly used scattered in salads or as cake decorations.

**Bean & Pea Flowers** - Bean and Pea flowers are all edible and if you choose a prolific variety you won't miss the beans or peas after picking a few flowers. Add them to salads for a sweet and slightly "legume" taste.

**Calendulas** - These flowers not only look gorgeous, they can also be used as a much cheaper substitute for saffron. Cook Calendula flowers with rice, add them to casseroles, or toss them through salads. Remember to remove the petals from the green parts of the flower, however. It's not poisonous, but it has a bitter, unpalatable flavour. The petals themselves are sweet and floral tasting.

**French Marigolds** - These plants are easy to grow and there are a huge range of colours and varieties to choose from. As with Calendulas, you will need to remove the petals from the green parts (including those at the base of the petals) as these don't have a pleasant flavour. Marigolds have a sharper and stronger flavour than that of Calendulas so it's a good idea to use them sparingly at first mainly as garnishes.

**Rocket & Basil Flowers** - When these plants begin to flower it means they are reaching the end of their lifecycle. Rocket blooms are tender and have the sharp flavour that makes Rocket a popular salad ingredient. Basil flowers keep the lovely aroma of the plant. Use both in salads for a tasty addition.

**Sunflowers** - Use sunflower petals in salads, just remember to remove the green parts first as they are not tasty. You can also eat sunflower buds. The buds taste a little like artichokes and are delicious when lightly blanched or steamed and then drenched with butter and garlic. Again, remove the green parts from the buds before eating.

**Pumpkin Flowers** - Pumpkins produce male and female flowers and naturally pumpkins only grow from the female flowers, so why not put some of the male flowers to good use. Pumpkin flowers taste...pumpkiny, and they're so delicious that there are hundreds of recipes for stuffed flowers, deep-fried flowers, and many more. It's easy to tell the difference between male and female flowers as the female flowers have a swollen ovary at the base while the male flowers don't. Just remember to leave a few male flowers for pollination!

Credit: <https://seedsofplenty.com.au/2020/11/24/edible-flowers-to-grow-in-australia/>



# Perplexing Puzzles

Glorious Gemstones - can you find them all?  
Words run horizontally, vertically and diagonally.  
Good Luck!



Agate	Chrysocolla	Garnet	Kornerupine	Opal	Sardonyx
Amethyst	Conch Pearl	Goshenite	Kunzite	Pearl	Smoky Quartz
Andalusite	Coral	Green Beryl	Kyanite	Peridot	Spodumene
Apatite	Datolite	Hauyne	Labradorite	Phenakite	Sunstone
Aquamarine	Diamond	Heliodor	Lapiz Lazuli	Poudretteite	Tashmarine
Barite	Diaspore	Hydrogrossul	Malachite	Pyrope	Thulite
Bixbite	Ekanite	Idocrase	Moissanite	Quahog	Tigereye
Bloodstone	Emerald	Indicolite	Moonstone	Quartz	Turquoise
Carnelian	Feldspar	Jadeite	Nephrite	Rhodochrosit	Uvarovite
Chalcedony	Fluorite	Jasper	Onyx	Rock Crystal	Vesuvianite

S	F	J	P	O	N	H	T	E	W	N	B	Q	W	C	X	S	Q	B	S	U	N	S	T	O	N	E
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How many delicious veggies can you find in the grid below? Words run horizontally, vertically and diagonally. Good Luck!



A	B	A	M	B	O	O	S	H	O	O	T	S	V	G	H	J	U	K	R	T	T	A	C	N	P	O	
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G	R	J	V	T	Y	U	K	F	W	S	S	N	E	E	R	G	N	O	I	L	E	D	N	A	D	A	
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C	R	E	J	R	M	E	F	E	G	A	B	B	A	C	D	E	R	J	B	M	E	G	N	R	I	T	
U	W	T	K	E	A	R	I	U	M	N	U	J	H	S	D	W	E	F	V	U	E	D	B	E	W	Y	
C	S	A	O	D	D	G	H	J	Y	T	W	Q	W	A	S	X	O	N	E	P	A	L	A	J	S	G	
C	S	W	A	T	E	R	C	H	E	S	T	N	U	T	O	O	R	W	O	R	R	A	V	G	Y	U	

Artichoke	Broccoli	Cucumber	Ginger	Leek	Radicchio	Spinach	Yam
Alfalfa Sprouts	Capsicum	Daikon	Habanero	Mung Beans	Radish	Sugar Snap Peas	Zucchini
Amaranth	Carrot	Dandelion Greens	Horseradish	Mushroom	Red Cabbage	Sweet Corn	
Arrowroot	Cassava	Edamame	Iceberg Lettuce	Mustard Greens	Romaine Lettuce	Sweet Potato	
Asparagus	Cauliflower	Eddoe	Jalapeno	Nettles	Runner Beans	Swiss Chard	
Azuki Beans	Celeriac	Eggplant	Jerusalem Artichoke	Okra	Rutabaga	Tat Soi	
Bamboo Shoots	Chard	Endive	Jicama	Onions	Salsify	Topinambur	
Beetroot	Chayote	Fennel	Kale	Parsnip	Scallion	Turnip	
Bok Choy	Chickpeas	Fiddleheads	Kidney Beans	Potato	Skirret	Water Chestnut	
Borlotti Beans	Collard Greens	Garlic	Konjac	Pumpkin	Spaghetti Squash	Watercress	

Source: [https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_vegetables](https://simple.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_vegetables)

## *Kids Corner*



### Egg Carton Jingle Bells

#### *You Will Need*

- An egg carton to cut up to make the bells
- Paint and paint brushes
- Pipe cleaners
- Small craft bells
- Glitter glue (optional)

#### *Method*

- Cut up your egg carton and trim the extra ridges until you have the desired look. Use a toothpick to make the top hole for where the pipe cleaner will be inserted before painting.
- Paint your egg carton bells in festive colours and leave to dry completely.
- Once the paint is dry, use the toothpick again to make sure the holes in the top of the egg carton bells are open.
- Cut a pipe cleaner in 3. Bend a little hook at one end and attach a small craft bell. Then insert the other end of the pipe cleaner into the egg carton from underneath. Create a hook at the end of the pipe cleaner to hang your bell from.
- NOTE: The jingle bells can also be decorated with glitter glue for a little extra shine!

Credit: <https://www.powerfulmothering.com/egg-carton-jingle-bells-christmas-ornament-craft/>

### Holiday Door Hanger

#### *You Will Need*

- A bangle or large napkin ring
- Festive satin ribbon
- 6 craft bells
- Double-sided tape
- Super glue
- Clear nail polish

#### *Method*

- Cut 3 x 45cm lengths of ribbon and seal the ends with the nail polish. Once the polish is dry, attach a bell to each end of the lengths. Then set aside.
- Cut another length of ribbon long enough to completely wrap the bangle or napkin ring in. Seal both ends with the nail polish and, once dry, begin wrapping the bangle/napkin ring. Stop wrapping when you have about 5-10cm of ribbon left and anchor the ribbon temporarily with some tape to stop it from unrolling.
- Find the centre of each of the 45cm ribbon lengths with the bells on the ends. Using small pieces of double-sided tape, secure the 3 lengths together in the middle.
- Using the super glue, secure the middle of the 3 lengths on the bangle/napkin ring. Then use the remaining ribbon to wrap over the lengths with the bells attached to firmly secure the bell ribbons.
- Secure the end of the ribbon on the inside of the bangle/napkin ring with tape and/or glue and set aside to dry,
- Hang and enjoy!!

Credit: <https://www.bowdabra.com/blog/2021/10/29/how-to-make-the-perfect-holiday-door-hanger-under-5/>





## Peppermint Cherry Christmas Balls

### Ingredients

- 1 packet Choc Ripple biscuits (crushed)
- 1 Peppermint Crisp chocolate bar (finely chopped)
- 1 Cherry Ripe chocolate bar (finely chopped)
- 1 cup desiccated coconut
- 1 tin sweetened condensed milk
- Extra desiccated coconut (for rolling)

### Method

- In a bowl thoroughly combine the crushed biscuits, Peppermint Crisp, Cherry Ripe, 1 cup desiccated coconut and tin of condensed milk.
- Roll tablespoonfuls into balls and then roll in extra coconut.
- ENJOY!

Source:  
<https://www.kidspot.com.au/kitchen/recipes/peppermint-cherry-christmas-balls-recipe/>



## Popsicle Stick Snowflake Ornaments

### You Will Need

- \* Popsicle sticks
- \* Different coloured paint & paint brushes
- \* Assorted decorations for the snowflake ornaments
- \* Twine (for hanging)
- \* Craft glue

### Method

- \* Paint your popsicle sticks (you will need 4 sticks for each ornament) and leave to dry completely.
- \* Once dry, glue your sticks together to form a snowflake (as pictured), glue the twine to the back of the bottom stick for hanging, and leave to dry.
- \* Once the glue is completely dry, decorate your snowflake ornaments with glitter, stickers, and whatever else you want to add to them.

Source: <https://www.thebestideasforkids.com/popsicle-stick-snowflake-ornaments/>

## Delicious Dishes

### Creamy Chicken Pie

#### Ingredients

- \* 2 tablespoons olive oil
- \* 1 kilogram chicken thighs, chopped
- \* 1 brown onion
- \* 3 tablespoons plain flour
- \* 1 clove of garlic, crushed
- \* 1/3 cup water
- \* 1/2 cup chicken stock
- \* 1/2 cup milk
- \* 2 sheets short crust pastry
- \* 1 sheet puff pastry
- \* 1 egg, lightly beaten
- \* 300g tinned corn
- \* 8 bacon rashers
- \* 6 mushrooms
- \* 1 leek, chopped



#### Method

1. Preheat oven to 200C. Add half the oil and the chicken to a large pot and cook the chicken. Remove chicken from the pot and set aside.
2. Add the remaining oil, onion, leek and garlic to the pot and saute until onion and leek are soft.
3. Add the bacon, corn and mushrooms to the pot and fry until the bacon is cooked.
4. Return the chicken to the pot.
5. Mix the flour and water to form a smooth paste. Then add the chicken stock, milk and flour paste to the pot and stir, Cook for about 10 minutes.
6. Line a round 20cm pie dish with the short crust pastry.
7. Spoon in the chicken mixture and top with the puff pastry.
8. Cut a small round air hole in the top of the puff pastry. Press edges to seal and trim any excess pastry.
9. Brush the top of the pie with the egg and then bake for 25-30 minutes or until puffed and golden.

Credit: <https://www.bestrecipes.com.au/recipes/creamy-chicken-pie/>

### Chocolate Rum Balls

#### Ingredients

- ◆ 200g dark cooking chocolate
- ◆ 1/4 cup cream
- ◆ 30g butter
- ◆ 50g basic chocolate cake (crumbled)
- ◆ 2 teaspoons rum
- ◆ 1/2 cup chocolate sprinkles

*Indulge*



#### Method

- ◆ Break up the cooking chocolate and place in a heat proof bowl.
- ◆ Combine the cream and butter in a small pan and stir over low heat until the butter melts and the mixture is just boiling.
- ◆ Pour the hot cream mixture over the chocolate and stir until the chocolate melts and the mixture is smooth.
- ◆ Stir in the cake crumbs and rum.
- ◆ Refrigerate for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally, or until just firm enough to handle.
- ◆ Roll heaped teaspoons of the mixture into balls.
- ◆ Roll each rum ball carefully in the chocolate sprinkles, then place on a tray and refrigerate for 30 minutes or until firm.

Source: <https://www.bestrecipes.com.au/recipes/christmas-chocolate-rum-balls-recipe/>

## *Bellylaughs*

Q. Why are green beans the most Zen of all vegetables?

A. Because they've found their inner peas!

Teacher: Why is your paper blank?

Student: Because sometimes silence is the best answer!

Q. What sound does a nut make when it sneezes?

A. Ca-shew!



Q. Why can't Elsa have a balloon?

A. Because she will let it go!

Q. Why don't ants get sick?

A. They have anty-bodies!

Q. Where do birds go for a cup of coffee?

A. The NESTcafe!

Q. I got fired from my calendar factory job?

A. It was because I took a day off!

Q. What do you call a charismatic banana?

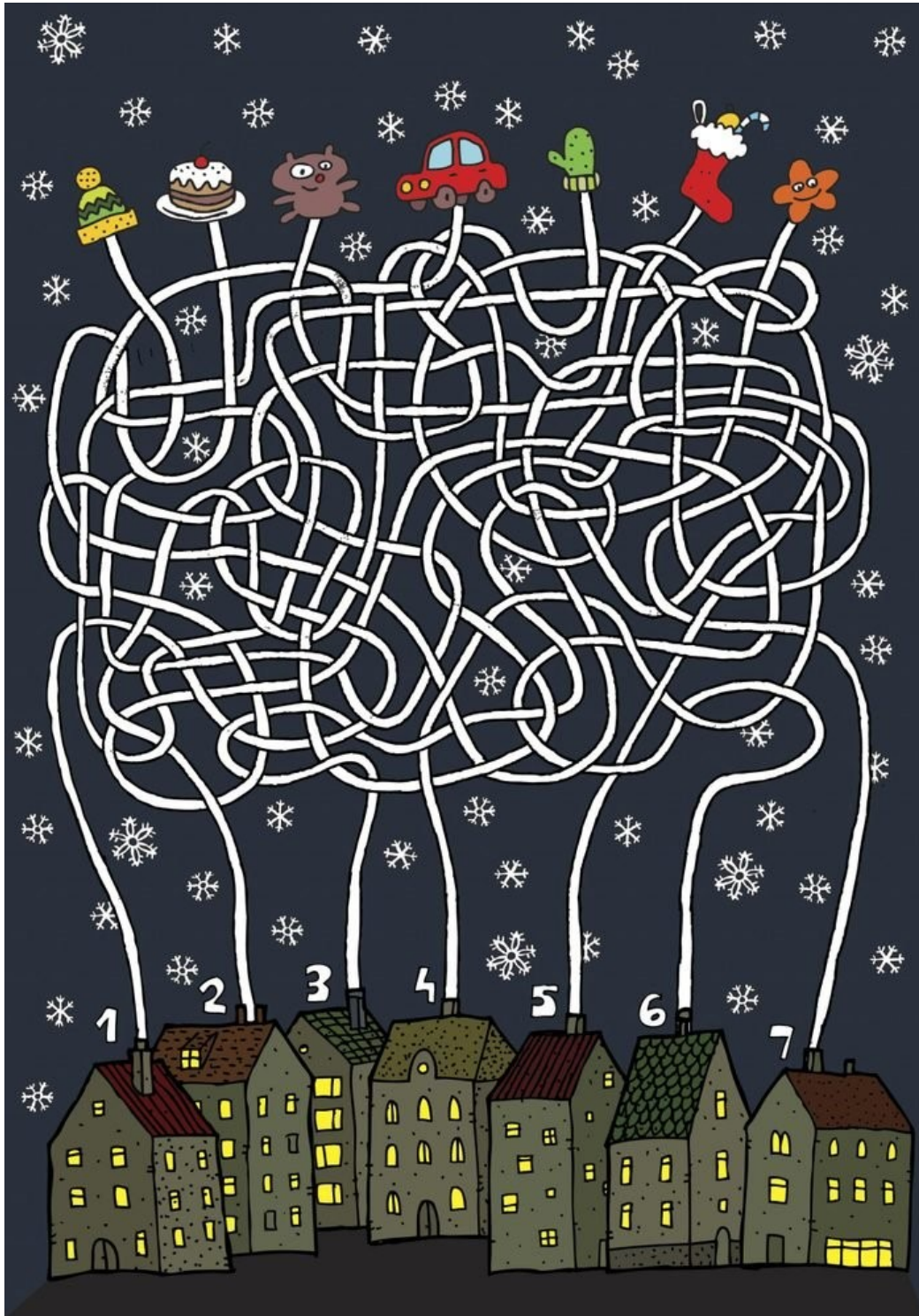
A. A banana smoothie!

I got arrested for downloading the whole Wikipedia.  
I told them I could explain everything!

Q. What is it called when you steal someone else's coffee?

A. Mugging!

## *Bonus Christmas Brainteasers*



**Can you work out which house each toy or treat is going to?**



**Help Santa deliver presents. Find the path that Santa should take to deliver presents to every chimney. Use ladders and stairs to climb from level to level, but don't let Santa jump up or climb any walls!**



**Can you find the Christmas card hiding somewhere among all these colourful gift bags?**



# Christmas Joy



DIRECTIONS: Fill in the crossword grid with the provided words.

4 Letter Words

BELL  
SNOW

5 Letter Words

ANGEL  
COCOA  
ELVES  
HOLLY

6 Letter Words

LIGHTS  
SLEIGH  
TINSEL  
WINTER  
WREATH

7 Letter Words

CHIMNEY  
GARLAND  
PAGEANT  
RUDOLPH  
SNOWMAN

8 Letter Words

CAROLING  
DECEMBER  
EXCHANGE  
ORNAMENT  
PRESENTS  
REINDEER  
WRAPPING

9 Letter Words

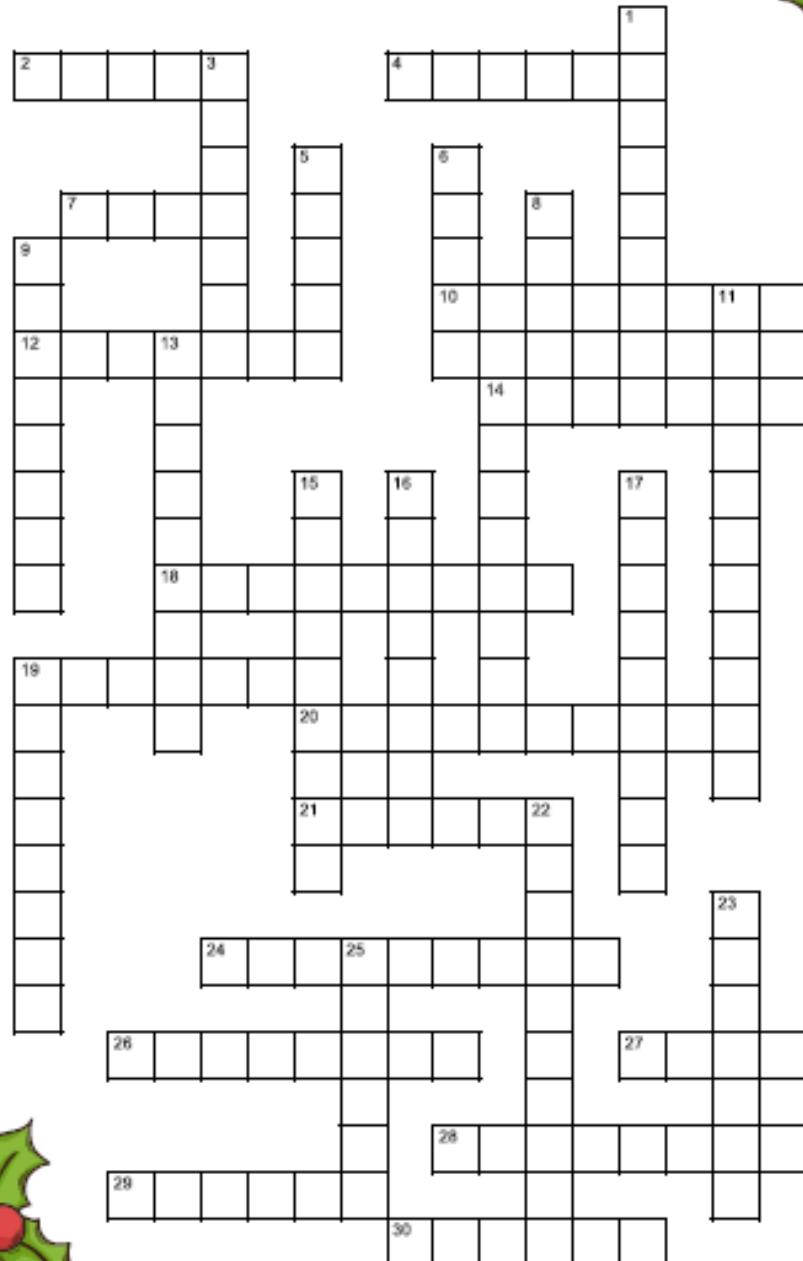
CHESTNUTS  
CHRISTMAS  
EVERGREEN  
FRUITCAKE  
MISTLETOE  
NORTH POLE

10 Letter Words

POINSETTIA  
SANTA CLAUS

11 Letter Word

GINGERBREAD



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**Fill in the grid with the words provided.**

**HINT: There is only one 11 letter word.**



**CHARLEVILLE**  
NEIGHBOURHOOD.CENTRE

Phone (07) 4654 1307

**Community Support Service**  
**Family Support Service**  
**Home Maintenance Service**  
**Home Modifications**  
**Home Assist Secure**  
**Supported Accommodation**  
**Rural Support Service**  
**Youth Support Service**  
**Murweh Meals**

Charleville and District Community Support Association Inc.  
ABN 34 022 593 124  
Charleville Neighbourhood Centre  
Address Corner Alfred and Eyre Streets (PO Box 327) Charleville Q.4470  
Fax (07) 4654 3240 Email [reception@charlevillenc.org.au](mailto:reception@charlevillenc.org.au) Web [www.charlevillenc.org.au](http://www.charlevillenc.org.au)



*You can also find us on Facebook*

## *Position Vacant*



**CHARLEVILLE**  
NEIGHBOURHOOD.CENTRE

### Administration Officer

Employer: Charleville Neighbourhood Centre  
Applications close: Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2023

Location: Based in Charleville  
Work Type: Permanent Part Time – 25hrs pw

The Charleville Neighbourhood Centre is currently seeking an Administration Officer to assist with Centre administration with a focus on the Home Assist Secure, Home Maintenance, Home Modifications and Murweh Meals Programs.

The experienced applicant will be multi skilled with excellent administration, communication and organisational skills. Knowledge of Government Funded Community Based Programs, WHS and Data Entry will be favourably considered. The successful applicant will also possess the ability to liaise with Allied Health professionals to discuss referrals which facilitate safety in the home for persons who are aged, frail or disabled.

The position is based in Charleville and covers the shires of Murweh, Paroo, Bulloo, Quilpie, Balonne and Maranoa region.

Applicant must hold a Children's Commission Suitability Notice/ Blue Card.

For more information and a copy of the application pack please contact The Neighbourhood Centre Coordinator on - 07 4654 1307 [coordinator@charlevillenc.org.au](mailto:coordinator@charlevillenc.org.au)

**Applications Close at 5pm on Tuesday, 3 January 2023**