

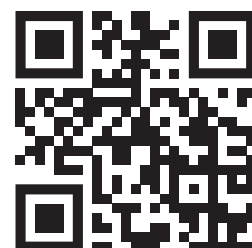


maitland
city council

Walls That Talk **FESTIVE FRAMES**

In Australia, Christmas and the festive season holds a special place in the hearts of the community. It signifies different things for different people and is a period that embraces various cultural and religious festivities and reconnects us with traditions. Whether you are sharing meals, stories, and experiences, in Australia it's a season that brings people closer together.

Maitland City Council invited residents to submit a photograph that showed how they celebrate during the festive season. The nine images displayed are our competition winners and share a glimpse into some of Maitland's cherished family memories.



Scan the QR code or drop into the library to collect to view the fact sheet about the images.



Harry is our son Sam's pony. He was a beautiful Shetland pony, who was more like a puppy dog. He would tap on the back door for VEGEMITE toast, share ice blocks, Monte Carlo biscuits and liquorice with Sam. Wherever Sam was, Harry the pony was. Sam and Harry would go riding around the family farm at Bolwarra Heights, exploring and were often be seen laying around in the paddock. When we took family photos for Christmas, Harry the pony had to be included because he's family too.

Submitted by Toiha Bonser.



We have a family tradition of attending the Christmas lights at the Hunter Valley Gardens.

Submitted by Andrew Stewart.



Misha will be 11 on Christmas Eve. Misha likes the bright lights of the tree and prefers to wear her Christmas collar for festive occasions.

Submitted by Virginia Hickson.



Bigger and better every year with Christmas decorations, food and Hunter Valley wine.
Submitted by Christy Farr-Forrest.



Our family gets dressed up in matching Christmas pyjamas each year for our annual photo.
Submitted by Elisa Edmonds.



A photo of my son Sam sitting on his poppy's tractor on the family farm at Bolwarra Heights, where they have lived for over 30 years. It's a place where everyone feels connected to in our family. Time with family is important to our family and every Christmas, we spend the day in the front paddock playing cricket as one big family. Everyone comes together to join in with a few drinks, laughs and a bit of competitiveness. On the day of this photo, Sam helped his poppy mow the lawn/cricket pitch and then we set up for our annual Christmas photo. "Santa" is Sam's Godfather "Uncle Dave" helping Santa out for the day because Santa was so busy making toys at the time.
Submitted by Toiha Bonser.



Our Great, Great, Great Grandparents, Caroline and Richard Ellicott arrived in Maitland from the south of England in 1849 and settled in Oakhampton. Descendants of the first Ellicott's in Maitland still live in Oakhampton to this day, and will into the future as well. The Ellicott family in this photo gather together every year on Christmas Eve in the Maitland area. We always play a spirited game of cricket, share a meal and a few beverages. Trivia teams are organised, and some competitive rounds of Trivia are played. Present opening and dessert concludes the Ellicott family Christmas gathering.
 We are also very proud of the fact that one of our Ellicott family descendants from Oakhampton, Kenneth Ellicott, was an original ANZAC soldier. He served with the AIF during WW1 and was KIA 4th April 1918 in Villers Bretonneux. Kenneth reached the rank of Sergeant.
Submitted by Gemma Ellicott.



Hugo is a 7 year old golden labrador. Santa's little helper is feeling tired in this photo... Christmas can be exhausting with three small children in the home.
Submitted by Virginia Hickson.



Opening up the doggie Advent calendar with my Scottish Terrier boys.
Submitted by Amanda Craig.