

# Grants in Action in Our Community

## Case Study

### Gympie Minister's Network



Gympie Christmas in the Park is a free annual Christmas celebration held in Nelson Reserve Gympie each December with live entertainment, rides & activities, Santa, food vendors, Christmas Markets, Carols by Candlelight and a firework finale. Organised by the Gympie Minister's Network while being supported by Gympie Regional Council together with local businesses, it is the largest Christmas concert in the Gympie region and aimed to attract all generations.

Having run in one form or another for over 50 years, the current event is enjoying a strong level of community support. Since 2012, the event has over doubled in size and is now attracting approximately 5,000 people, from right across a multi-generational spectrum, with young families, teens and young adults, single adults and the elderly all coming along.

Christmas in the Park is a tradition that many families attend each year and it is an honour to be part of a community event where these memories are made.



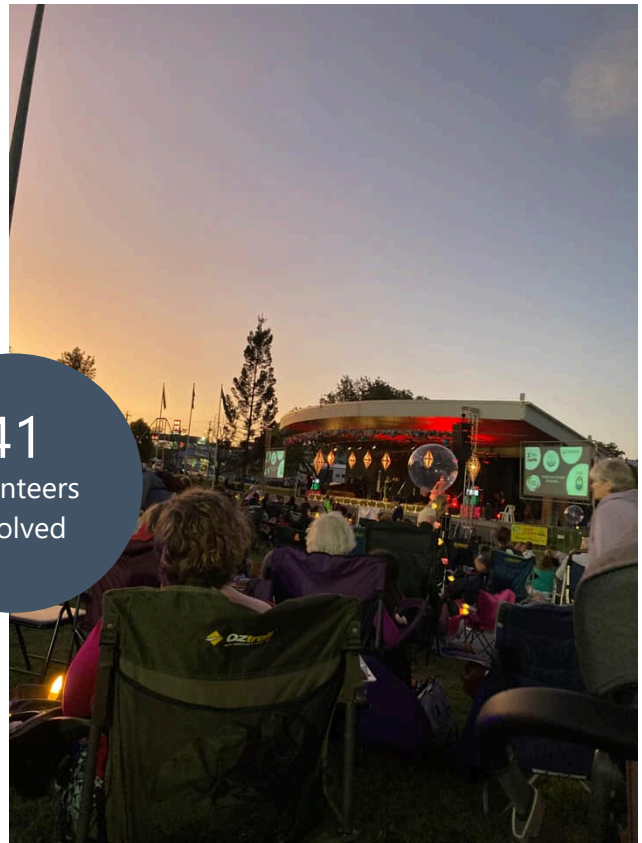
## Project Outcomes:

One of the main benefits of Christmas in the Park is the social impact that this event has for our community. As the event is free to attend, it is open to any and all who wish to attend. Given the year that has been for the Gympie community in 2022, while we know that the community of Gympie bands together when times are tough, it was great to have the community come together for a positive reason and celebrate Christmas as a community.

41  
volunteers  
involved

Christmas in the Park 2022 saw the biggest attendance we have seen to date at this event. In particular, organisers have received feedback of how great it was to have such a positive, uplifting event for the community to attend and be part of, considering the events of this year including COVID outbreaks, floods etc. The sale of rides tickets were up 30% and the revenue received from food vendors was up around 50% compared to 2021, which supports that the crowd was one of the largest we have seen to date for this event.

6,000  
attendees



## Community Grants Program 2022/2023 category:

### Regional Events

Amount funded: \$15,000

**Category purpose:** To support large-scale events and festivals that have low to medium tourist demand, economic value and substantial local social benefits.

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For more information about Gympie Regional Council's Community Grants Program, visit [www.gympie.qld.gov.au/grants](http://www.gympie.qld.gov.au/grants) or phone 1300 307 800.

