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**MEDIA RELEASE**

# Last launches Christmas appeal

Member for Burdekin, Dale Last MP, believes that, if previous years are anything to go by, his annual Christmas Appeal will help many needy families in the area.

Praising the generosity that is shown during the festive season, Mr Last said any donation, big or small, would help put smiles on faces that may otherwise miss out on the magic of Christmas.

“Christmas can be a tough time for families that are doing it tough financially but ours is a community that gets behind people and it’s a community that digs deep to help others,” he said.

“It’s amazing to see what we end up being able to provide to the *Salvos* to help people who are less fortunate.”

“Both the Burdekin Men’s Shed and the Burdekin Woodcrafts Association are big supporters and, when you see the amazing toys they donate, you really can see the smile that it puts on a child’s face.”

“People from all walks of life contribute what they can and that shows perfectly that every little bit helps.”

Mr Last said being able to “do his bit” for people in need was an important part of representing the electorate but that the true credit belonged to those who donated.

“As the Member for Burdekin I get to see how supportive our community is and I think appeals like this are something that people like to support because they care,” Mr Last said.

“People bring in toys, non-perishable food and some little luxuries and, quite often, it’s not a huge donation from their point of view but it really does make a difference.”

“I think the most important thing for someone who is doing it tough is to know that the community cares. That makes a huge difference.”

“Not everyone can contribute to the appeal so I am also asking people to keep an eye on their friends and family during the festive season. It can be a difficult time for so many reasons but all of us can lend an ear to someone who needs our support and just doing that is one of the greatest gifts we can share.”

Donations can be made from Monday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> until Monday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at Mr Last’s office.

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