City Centre Christmas Festival and Market

The Christmas Festival and Market is set to go ahead on 17 December 2016.

Esk Street will be closed Saturday 17 December from 9am to 3pm. This year's market will be extended to include Dee Street, Tay Street and Kelvin Street. The extended and larger event will include live music from a variety of groups, entertainment for the kids, the opening of the Gingerbread House Competition, a special prize draw for our scavenger hunt participants, jugglers and a variety of food vendors.

It would be great if all retailers took part in running sales promotions and participated, where possible, with a sales rack to fill the footpaths and help make the streets a vibrant place to be.

Scavenger Hunt for Christmas Santa Parade Day

Lets make people think of Invercargill's City Centre as the place to be this Holiday Season!

Council would like to run a scavenger hunt from 3 December the day of the Santa Parade until 14 December. This will be open to all children and youths up to age 16.

Retailers would decorate their windows and the clues to the scavenger hunt will be hidden in decorated Christmas windows.

Prizes will be made up by a combination of Council contribution and participant donations. I would like different businesses to give out the prizes over the 11 days and we will run a count down and post clues on Council's Facebook page for people to follow to know where to go.
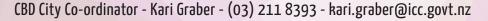
There will also be a prize draw at the City Centre Christmas Festival and Market on Saturday, 17 December.

^ Photos from the 2015 Christmas Market Day.

2016 Santa Parade date set

The 2016 Southland Santa Parade will be held on Saturday 3 December 2016, at 2 pm. The postponement day is Sunday 4 December, 2 pm. Road closures will occur from 1pm-3:30pm.

For more information, or to be a part of the Parade, contact Alice Pottinger on 027 228 9693.

HALLOWEEN a great success

Thank you to everyone who got behind the Halloween Trick or Treating. The feedback from the community was amazing. Although this may not have translated to sales on the day for everyone, it did make the city vibrant and thriving. I would like to make this an annual event and next year we will have entertainment for the kids and will be better prepared.

keep it local

♥ invercargill

Late night shopping

Let's make the most of the holiday season and match some or all of H&J late shopping nights. Council will provide some entertainment if you're willing to stay open. Late nights will take place Monday December 19 - 23 until 8pm.
If there is an agreement from the majority of businesses, Council will promote and advertise this through the December City Centre News and radio advertising.

*Additional late nights to coincide include
   Thursday November 24 and December 8.

Are We Connected?

Have you received a request to friend the Invercargill City Council? Let's not miss opportunities to connect and help each other publicise the City Centre. Make sure you accept our friend request from Instagram and Facebook.

Join the fun this holiday season!

The Invercargill City Council invites you to participate in the first Invercargill Gingerbread House Display and Competition by building your own edible house.
This wonderful community event is a great opportunity to showcase your talents and receive recognition for your business, school or group.

All houses will be on display in the Cambridge Place Arcade and the SIT Arcade in the city centre on Friday, December 16 through to Sunday, December 27.

Contact Kari Graber for more information, Phone 03 211 8393.

What to look out for from Council...

Changes to parking

Parking on Esk Street will be increased from 30 minutes to one hour. This will alleviate concerns raised about visitors not having enough time to enjoy their experience in the city centre and should also allow rapid movement through a high value parking area.

Free Christmas parking

Council is bringing back free Saturday parking at the City Centre Shoppers' Carpark between Esk and Tay Streets for the month of December. The car park will offer 180 minutes free parking on Saturdays starting 3, December.

Invercargill
CITY COUNCIL