



Joyful: Bev Hockings and Brendon Keevers handed out presents to 18 kids in the children's ward yesterday. Picture: TALIA LING.

Early Christmas for kids in hospital

CHILDREN at Cairns Base Hospital had an early Christmas yesterday.

The kids were the recipients of three box loads of donated gifts from the Cairns Golden Casket Variety Special Children's Christmas Party.

The party, at the Cairns Showgrounds on November 14, was held in the honour of the most vulnerable children in the community.

They had been nominated by their doctors, hospitals, and other professional carers as children who needed and deserved to have fun in an environment where they could relax and be themselves, whatever their physical or mental condition.

Event co-ordinator Bev Hockings said unfortunately Santa Claus was too busy to

RUDOLF WILL SNAKE AROUND CITY TODAY

SNAKES and ladders will cruise through Cairns today – taking the child-safety message to the streets.

Operation Rudolf will see two massive convoys of 30 vehicles hit the road for the annual children's charity.

Emergency service cars, fire trucks and police will snake through streets with the Cairns Taipans following as special guests. Operation Rudolf will

be different this year with two convoys being formed along the route.

One will be heading towards the beaches as normal and the other will be heading off to cover Redlynch, Freshwater and Brinsmead with all money going towards Act for Kids.

The roads the convoy will be taking are available on the Quaid Real Estate web site www.quaid.com.au.

distribute the presents at the hospital yesterday.

"Santa was very busy getting ready for next week," Ms Hockings said.

"He's got a big week ahead of him."

She said all 18 children in the children's ward were able to receive presents.

The remainder of presents were donated to the hospital, to be rationed out over the next few months.