



Faith Taylor (left) receives an early Christmas present from Colleen Peagham (right) and Gloria Brunner.

Faith gets a sneak peak at Christmas

CHRISTMAS has come early for some of Ayr's most vulnerable little patients.

Every year for the last 15 years gifts left over from Townsville Golden Casket Variety Special Childrens Christmas Party are packed in a car and driven to Ayr.

The gifts are donated to the Ayr Hospital for children in care with physical and mental ailments over the festive season.

Program manager Annemarie Hodson said local businesses make the donation possible and they will continue supporting sick children in the Burdekin as long as the community continues to give.

"We try and send presents they can play with in hospital, it is a good distraction," Ms Hodson said.

Acting unit manager at the hospital Gloria Brunner said giving kids toys makes the visit more enjoyable.

"They love it. Coming to the hospital is not a positive experience so when they get a present to take home it is great."

For some parents in the Burdekin the cost of medical care sometimes means that presents are out of the question so gifts for these little patients can mean a lot.

Young Faith Taylor, 4, received a set of dolls which hopefully will distract her during recovery.