

Santa arriving in the helicopter was the highlight of her afternoon

# Celebrity turnout lifts party

By **CAIT BESTER**

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WITH a butterfly painted on her cheek, a visit from Santa and meeting Neighbours star Ryan Moloney, Maddison Hunt's grin from ear to ear said it all.

Once again the 10-year-old Sarina girl had a fantastic time at the Mackay Golden Casket Variety Special Children's Christmas Party on Saturday afternoon at the Mackay showgrounds.

Maddison's mum, Alana Hunt, said it was wonderful, with Santa no doubt being the highlight of the afternoon.

"It was a really good day, we have a lovely time every year," she said.

"The generosity of everybody is fantastic.

"Maddison, who has cerebral palsy and gets around in a powered wheel chair, thoroughly looks forward to the Christmas party every year.

"Santa arriving in the helicopter was the highlight of Maddison's afternoon.

"It was the first Santa that we have seen for the year so it was exciting as she has already sent her wish list letter to Santa.

"Maddison loves going in and choosing her present



**ABOVE: Maddison Hunt, 10, Morgan Baker, Neighbours star Ryan Moloney and Emily Broadbent, 9, at the Mackay Golden Casket Variety Special Children's Christmas Party at the weekend. RIGHT: Anthony Austin, 12, meets Santa.**

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and she always loves catching up with her friends."

Mackay Golden Casket Variety Special Children's Christmas Party manager Annemarie Hodson said the party was again a hit.

"We had raving-good reports, especially from parents, about the stage show which included Neighbours stars Ryan Moloney and Morgan Baker, Ronald McDonald and Hamburglar

as well as Mackay performer Jungle Jim.

"The children had big smiles on their faces which was the most important thing. We are very thankful for the community's generosity right from the people who help sponsor the day through to the volunteers."

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