

# Fuel for Thought

## Gladstone's Community Spirit

I've always thought the Gladstone community plays above its weight when it comes to community endeavours and cooperation, and next weekend's Relay for Life event is yet another example of how good we are at pulling together to help each other.

I'm biased, of course, and I'm sure many other communities around Queensland and Australia also show great team spirit, but I still think Gladstone does better than most.

The Relay for Life event is a great example of how a community can achieve some fantastic outcomes.

From its humble beginnings in 1985 when a U-S doctor raised money by running around an oval for 24 hours the initiative has grown to now involve some 600 communities across 20 countries.

In Australia alone it raises around \$14 million dollars a year for campaigning against cancer, but perhaps more importantly, as its web site describes, it represents a wonderful opportunity for communities to come together and celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost and fight back against cancer.

And the Gladstone community is certainly coming together for this event, with as many as 70 teams expected to participate involving more than one thousand people.

While it is true that QER and other industries and organisations have a responsibility to invest socially in the communities in which we operate, there's much more to it than that, and we can gain significant benefits from our involvement above and beyond contributing to a great cause.

Here at QER teamwork is an essential ingredient in the operations of our technology demonstration plant, and having our workforce take part in team events outside of their day-to-day activities is a real plus.

QER actually has two teams participating in next weekend's event, involving some 19 people, and we're delighted with the results of our fundraising efforts, including some very welcome contributions from some of our external contractors.

Congratulations to the organisers who work so hard to make the Relay happen, and we wish them every success in their fundraising efforts.



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