

## Alana and spina bifida to benefit from poker run



**HELPING HANDS:** Royal Flying Doctors Auxiliary Service members Carmel Roden, Carolyn Saffron, Joan Smith, Lynette Dean and Gordon Dean give Alana Reid a magical cow moneybox for her savings. PHOTO: MAX FLEET

# Worthy causes to rev up riders

THE Fraser Coast Social Riders will have even more motivation for their third annual poker run with money being raised for both Spina Bifida Queensland and Hear 4 Alana.

This year the riders will be ably supported by the Royal Flying Doctors Auxiliary Service who will provide food for the event.

Auxiliary service member Carmel Roden said a simple request from the riders organisation was all it took for them to get involved.

"We will be feeding about 100 people," she said.

"We were thrilled to be invited to do that."

Mrs Roden said they would provide dinner and breakfast for the riders before they embarked on their 300km journey from Maryborough to Bundaberg.

She said they were delighted to be a part of such a worthwhile cause.

Fraser Coast Social Riders founding member Michael

**Michael Tucker, Fraser Coast Social Riders**

Over the last two years we have raised close to \$20,000.

Tucker said 50% of their net profits every year went towards spina bifida.

"Over the last two years we

have raised close to \$20,000," he said.

"That may not sound like a lot but we're trying to combine a social group with a charity focus as well."

Mr Tucker said it was his daughter who inspired the riders to take up the Hear 4 Alana campaign this year.

"Her school was raising money for Alana," he said.

"The idea was then taken back to our members who voted to support this cause."

Mr Tucker said there had been tremendous support from the community and riders could join up at any of the stops along the way.

"They can register at any of the stops so it doesn't matter if they decide to join at South Kolan or from the beginning," he said.

## Groups to get green makeover

TURF Australia and Junior Landcare have once again joined forces and are looking for schools and community groups in need of a green makeover.

For the second year running, the Perfect Patch of Green program is offering 15 green makeovers for schools that aim to enhance outdoor spaces for kids to enjoy.

Turf Australia president John Keleher said he was looking forward to seeing even more outdoor recreation spaces improved with natural turf for kids to enjoy.

"Last year we were thrilled to see the fantastic impact that a natural turf makeover can have on schools and community groups," he said.

We are really excited to continue working with Junior Landcare to give kids the chance to enjoy their outdoor spaces and appreciate their

beautiful natural surroundings."

Landcare Australia CEO Tessa Jakszewicz was pleased to see the program providing opportunities for outdoor learning.

"Landcare Australia is delighted to continue our partnership with Turf Australia and give children outdoor spaces which they can enjoy and use for outdoor learning activities," she said.

"This is a great way for kids to have educational experiences outside of the classroom."

Expressions of interest for the makeovers close on July 1 with the successful recipients to be announced in November.

For more information visit [www.juniorlandcare.com.au](http://www.juniorlandcare.com.au).

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