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Riding high on the joy of life

May 7th, 2010

REN Pedersen has battled through unthinkable challenges but he's hoping to raise the spirits of sick children this weekend at a special event.

Mr Pedersen's daughter and father died of cancer and he will be one of many people rolling out as part of a convoy of trucks and bikes to raise money for Camp Quality.

He will be bringing smiles to the faces of children when he takes them up in his crane at a huge public display at the Reid Park precinct on Sunday, raising money to find a cure for the cancer which claimed his daughter's life.

"My daughter Amy passed away (last year) at nine years of age from brainstem glioma and Camp Quality was always very supportive of my family during a very tough time," he said.

"This convoy is about raising awareness and funding for Camp Quality."

Convoy for Camp Quality will depart from various locations on Sunday morning, arriving at the V8 Supercars precinct for the display.

Mr Pedersen created The Cure Starts Now foundation to raise funds and awareness for paediatric cancers, which affect one in 15,000 children.

He said research about the disease was vital in making progress towards cancer treatment.

Camp Quality North Queensland area manager Mark McGregor said he was confident about the upcoming convoy.

"All indications so far is that we will be bombarded this weekend with entries on the day," he said.

"We already know we can expect plenty of truck drivers and also bike clubs like the MRA and HOGS.

"There is going to be a lot of fun things on offer for the kids like Ranger Dan from Billabong Sanctuary and animals from Melville's Farm."

Registrations for vehicles are open through Camp Quality until today, by contacting the office on 4723 2250 or through www.campquality.org.au and following the links. Entries are \$25 for trucks and \$20 for bikes with all fees going to Camp Quality.



THRILLS ... Ren Pedersen, pictured with Courtney Ford, Abigail Rummy and Shaun Rotherham, will take children from Camp Quality for a ride in his crane at a huge public display at Reid Park on Sunday

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