



press clip

Record turnout for AEIOU autism awareness walk

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MORE than 200 people turned out on a bright sunny morning for this year's AEIOU Foundation's annual Take A Hike in Queens Park yesterday.

For participant Kirsten Bowman the event held a special meaning.

"The reason my team and I are involved is that my son Lachy attends AEIOU in Toowoomba so that he can have early intervention," she said.

"He was diagnosed with autism when he was two so he attends AEIOU five times week.

"When we started at AEIOU a year ago Lachy was totally non-verbal, not toilet trained, no social skills whatsoever and just wanted to be in his own little world.

"Since then he has just come leaps and bounds so much further ahead.

"Just to hear his little voice is something amazing."

The Toowoomba centre's manager Gemma Moore was overwhelmed by the support.

"We've actually beaten our registration by 80 this year," she said.

"We couldn't be happier with the turnout and support for AEIOU."



Matthew Martin gives Billie Stubbs a piggy back.



Carla Wilson (left) and Mary Mills from team Toowoomba Surgicentre.



Kirsten Bowman and her son Lachlan Bowman who attends AEIOU Toowoomba enjoy a rest break after the Take a Hike fundraising walk in Queens Park.



Little walkers (from left) Jett, Beau and Declan Martin on the AEIOU Take a Hike in Queens Park.



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CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

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TAKING HIKE: Julie's Angels from St Andrew's Hospital Oncology (from left) Gabby Priestly, Karrie Staples, Brianna Sense, Madalyn Pratt, Brooke Loveday, Latisha Taylor and Sigrid Burton.

PHOTOS: KEVIN FARMER