

## Media release

### Queensland Alumina Limited apprentices set for the Great Harbour festival Raft Regatta

10 April 2017

QAL's first year apprentices are finishing their raft ready to set sail in the Gladstone harbour for the annual Harbour Festival raft race this weekend.

The 'QAL Bauxite Bunny' Team consists of five first year apprentices, Olivia Wright, Shobai Eldridge, Nathan Hamilton, Ethan Harwood and Benn Richardson. Third year fabrication apprentice James Rowe also assisted with the making of the raft. This project is helping the apprentices develop skills that will assist them in their apprenticeships and in life.

QAL apprentice & training coordinator Carly Bolton said; "The participation in local community events is important. It promotes our region and gives back to the community in a light hearted way. These apprentices are our future tradespeople, they are generous with their time, they are involved in their community and they want to succeed. Doing fun things like the raft race supports our community activities into the future."

First year mechanical fitter Ethan Harwood said; "I am really excited to participate in the raft race. While making the raft all of us have become a good group of friends. It will be great to race alongside them."

The QAL apprentices have decided to donate their winnings to a local charity if they take out first place. First year mechanical fitter Ben Richardson said; "But if we don't win I hope we sink first so we win the titanic award".

Gladstone Festival & Events Event coordinator Jennifer Russell said; "A donation of blue drums from QAL will be extremely helpful for this event and future events. Teams often have to pay for materials to use in the building of their raft and with this donation of the 205L blue drums from QAL we can assist community groups with flotation materials and make it easier & cheaper for teams. Anything to make participation in this event easier is great for us."

Good luck to all the teams participating in the raft race and be sure to come cheer on the 'QAL Bauxite Bunny' team!

**-ENDS-**



The 'QAL Bauxite Bunny' Team; Shobai Eldridge, Benn Richardson, Ethan Harwood, Nathan Hamilton, Olivia Wright and third year fabrication apprentice James Rowe



The 'QAL Bauxite Bunny' Team testing out the raft at Awoonga Dam.



QUEENSLAND ALUMINA LIMITED



## Contacts

[www.qal.com.au](http://www.qal.com.au)



Follow @RioTinto on Twitter

## Media Relations, Queensland Alumina Limited

Kylie Devine

T +61 477 363 890

M +61 7 4971 7049

E [devineka@qal.com.au](mailto:devineka@qal.com.au)

---

Queensland Alumina Limited  
Parsons Point  
Gladstone QLD 4680  
Australia

T +61 7 4976 2211  
Registered in Australia  
ABN 98 009 725 044

**Rio Tinto Limited**  
Level 33, 120 Collins Street  
Melbourne 3000  
Australia

T +61 3 9283 3333  
Registered in Australia  
ABN 96 004 458 404

