

Cairns

Hundreds ride for sick Redlynch schoolgirl, Dillan Shannon

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Kimberley Masic The Cairns Post



Jack Tubb, Darcy Hayes and Oisín O'Sullivan are classmates of Dillan Shannon, who is recovering in hospital after suffering a brain bleed, and turned up to support her at Ride for Dillan yesterday in Redlynch. PICTURE: BRENDAN RADKE

REDLYNCH schoolgirl Dillan Shannon has a long road to recovery ahead of her after suffering a sudden brain bleed but it's one she won't face alone.

About 700 cyclists yesterday rode 8km from St Andrew's Catholic College to The Rocks to show their support for the seven-year-old, with hundreds more manning barbecues and selling raffle tickets at the school.

Family friend Steve Petre helped organise 'Ride for Dillan' in a few short weeks and said the huge turnout had exceeded his expectations.

He estimated more than \$15,000 was raised for Dillan, who remains in Brisbane's Lady Cilento Children's Hospital after undergoing surgery.

"(Her parents) Brad and Jackie have given a lot of the community over the years," he said.

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“This was a way for us to pull together and say thanks for that, and at the same time raise some funds for their little girl who has a long road back to full health.”

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Dillan's uncle Darran was overwhelmed by the level of support and reported his niece was on the mend.

“It's good news so far, she's looking at being home in 3-4 weeks' time,” he said.

“It really drives home how important the little things are and how life can change in an instant.

“It's definitely a big shock.”

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