



## MEDIA RELEASE

*For immediate release*

*January 29, 2018*

### **First rodeo in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef a roaring success!**

A rodeo set on the beautiful coastline of the Great Barrier Reef has been hailed a huge success with more than 2,500 people pouring through the gates.

The Rodeo by the Reef, on Saturday [January 27] provided plenty of “dirt and dust” action and entertainment, while taking place alongside the beautiful azure waters of the Coral Sea, in Bowen, in the north of the Whitsundays.

World-class bull riding, bronco riding and barrel races were all on show at the rodeo, which took place between the well-known Grand View Hotel and the Bowen foreshore.

Around 85 competitors were vying for cash prizes and the memorable show-stopper also included live music from Golden Guitar winner Troy Kemp, as well as food stalls, activities for the kids, a mechanical bull and a fireworks display.

Tourism Whitsundays Sales & Marketing Manager Tash Wheeler said there was a really great atmosphere at the rodeo, which formed part of the Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival whole-of-region celebrations.

“From the moment Golden Guitar winner Troy Kemp sang the National Anthem to kick off proceedings, to the very last event, it was non-stop action,” she said.

“The atmosphere was fantastic and there was strong attendance from not just local residents but state-wide as well, which is great for Bowen and the Whitsunday region. As far as we know, the Rodeo by the Reef was the first, and only, rodeo to take place in the heart of the Great Barrier Reef, right by the foreshore overlooking the Coral Sea.

“When the Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival consortia partners were planning the carnival we wanted to ensure a fair spread of events right across the region to deliver economic impact across the board, and this was definitely achieved for Bowen with the rodeo.

“I would also like to thank all the volunteers on the night from the PCYC and Bowen Seagulls Junior Rugby League, who helped to ensure the event ran smoothly, and of course all our sponsors without whom this event would not have been possible.”

Corporate partners:





The Whitsundays Clipper Race Carnival (January 13 – 29) was a whole-of-region event to celebrate the arrival of the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race fleet and welcome the crews, their families and friends to the wonderful Whitsundays.

The Clipper Round the World Yacht Race is the only race of its kind and matches experienced skippers with novice sailors, who can take part in just one leg or every leg of the race, which starts and ends in Liverpool in the UK and takes in Uruguay, South Africa, Australia, China, the USA and Northern Ireland.

The Clipper Race crews were due to depart the Whitsundays on Monday, January 29, on the next exciting leg of the Clipper Round the World Yacht Race, to China.

For images and footage of the Rodeo by the Reef please click [here](#).

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#clipperrace  
#thisisqueensland  
#seeaustralia

RESULTS for the Rodeo by the Reef 27.01.18:

#### **Junior Barrel Race U18**

1. Tylah Koulouvi
2. Sophie Miller
3. Jessie Field
4. Klancy Higgins
5. Georgia Simpson

#### **Junior Steer Ride 8-U14**

No completed scoring rides

#### **Juvenile Bull Ride 14-U18**

Tied first place

- a. Lane Hanush
- b. Wyatt Milgate

#### **Ladies Barrel Race**

1. Emma Hanrahan
2. Shandell Hilditch
3. Lisa Finch
4. Abby Plate
5. Kimberley Bryant

Corporate partners:





#### **Bareback**

1. Kaelan Jones
2. William York
3. Jordan Iker

#### **Saddlebronc**

1. Jordan Iker
2. Kieran Shaw
3. Robert Hicks
4. Gavin Fry

#### **Novice Bull Ride**

1. Stephen Delacourt
2. Wyatt Milgate

#### **Open Bull Ride**

1. Beau Willis

Ends

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