

Mudgee Guardian

AND GULGONG ADVERTISER

Monday June 16, 2014

Mudgee group raises \$444,497 for research

By SAM PAINE
June 14, 2014, 4 a.m.

For nearly 50 years, a group of Mudgee ladies have worked quietly to support research into diseases such as cancer and cystic fibrosis.

[See your ad here](#)

By organising lunches, dinners and entertainment, the Mudgee committee has raised \$444,497 for the Children's Medical Research Institute, contributing to its research into birth defects and diseases such as cancer, epilepsy, and a range of genetic disorders.

The group now consists of 27 local residents, who are beginning to prepare for their next fundraising event, a high tea at Putta Bucca House in September.

In the past, the organisers have sent out invitations to other like-minded ladies to attend and support the Institute, but this year, for the first time, they are opening the event and inviting everyone to join them for tea in the beautiful setting of Putta Bucca.

Children's Medical Research Institute founder Sir Lorimer Dods visited Mudgee in the 1960s and encouraged local lady Joy Loneragan to support the organisation. She became the first president of the Mudgee fundraising group in 1966.

The group generally hosts a function every year, although during the worst drought period it became every second year.

Past events have included a harvest dinner, Elvis night, Bollywood night, luncheons and dinners.

"We've had huge support from the local community - not only attending but in donations," said long-term member Margaret Burns.

A representative of the Children's Medical Research Institute attends each year and speaks to the guests about the Institute's work and the latest progress.

The group also co-ordinates Jeans for Genes fundraising in Mudgee, which also goes to the work of the Children's Medical Research Institute.