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MEDIA RELEASE

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Small Business Owners Lend a Hand

South West small business owners have offered to lend a helping hand to the cyclone-ravaged people of Innisfail.

Jason Coops of **Buzz Electrical** heard the call for tradesmen on Channel 7's Sunrise program and didn't hesitate. "I'm sure my business will survive the week without me. They need sparkies up there - why wouldn't I go?"

Jason left on Monday 27 March on the Qantas flight to Cairns to spend the week in Innisfail helping restore power.

"We're missing him," said Jason's wife, Kylie. "But I wasn't surprised when he said he was going. That's just like him."

Craig Morgan of **Rivercity Carpentry** couldn't join the tradesmen as part of the Operation Sunrise expedition, but heard what Jason was doing and wanted to help with a donation towards his expenses.

Lyn Prowse-Bishop, MVA ASO, Owner/Manager of **Executive Stress Office Support**, saw the same program and wondered how her virtual assistance practice could help. "I know Jason and wanted to help him so made a donation towards his efforts, but wanted to do more". Lyn contacted the Disaster Relief Centre in Innisfail and later the Department of State Development to offer her services free of charge to the businesses of the area who have lost everything.

"Just because I'm not a tradie doesn't mean I can't help", said Lyn. "Those businesses are without power and equipment, but still have to operate. I'm able to look after things for them like calls, faxes and emails to their contacts, suppliers and customers, do web searches, post information onto sites - and whatever other administrative support services I can provide."

To advise of businesses who may need support services in the cyclone-affected area, or for more information on virtual assistance, contact Lyn Prowse-Bishop on 07-3375-5613 or 0417-648172, or visit: www.execstress.com.

Buzz Electrical - 24 hour emergency breakdown service - domestic, commercial, phone and data - phone: 0434-919-448; email buzz.electrical@hotmail.com

Rivercity Carpentry - Extensions, decks, fencing and renovations - phone: 0418-765-059.

Contact:

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Lyn Prowse-Bishop, MVA, ASO is manager of Executive Stress Office Support®, established in February 2000 and providing global executive assistant, office support and admin services to independent consultants and professionals, and small businesses. For more information visit www.execstress.com.

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24 hour emergency breakdown service - domestic, commercial, phone and data.