

Mr Kelly McTaggart

CEO, North West Queensland Division of
Primary Health Care



takingaction Divisions of General Practice Network Forum 2004



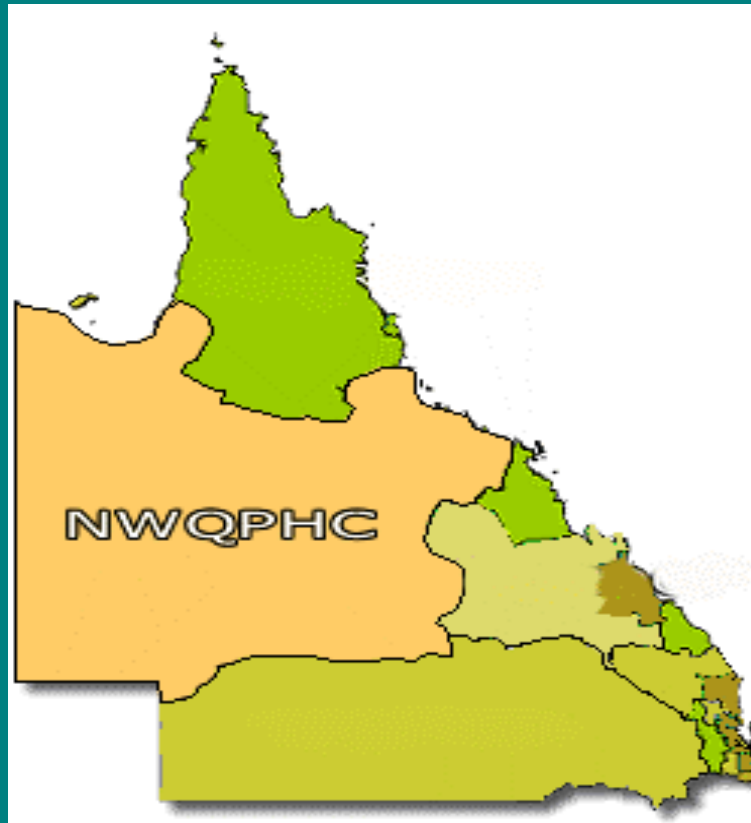
NORTH AND WEST QUEENSLAND PRIMARY HEALTH CARE



800,000 SQUARE KMS

116,000 POP

3 OFFICES; LONGREACH; Mt ISA; TOWNSVILLE



Population small we love them all



Active Ingham
we exist as part of our communities
not apart from them



If you've seen one country town,
you've seen one country town

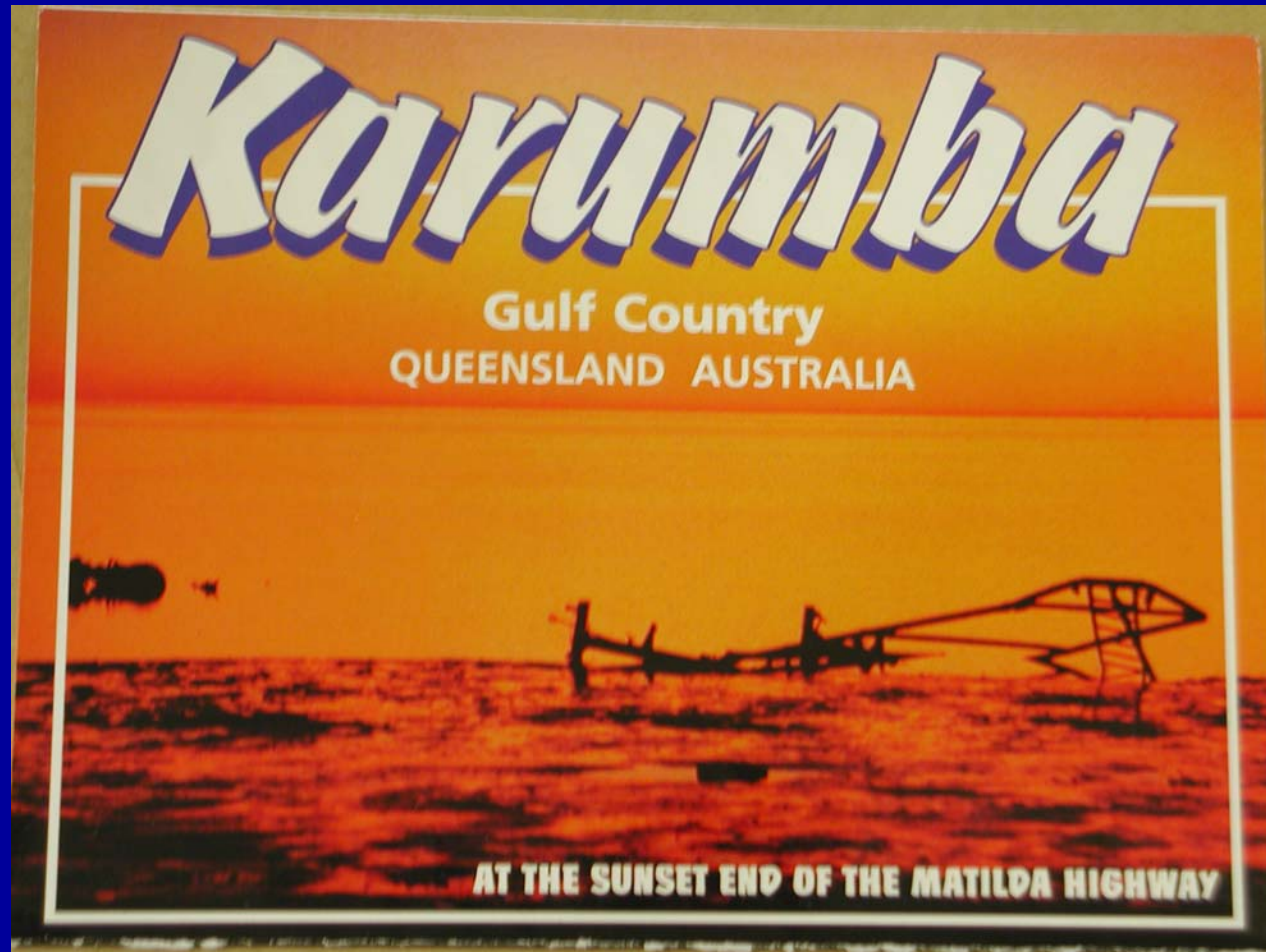
You're not
a real
Aussie
'til you've
been to .

.. THE ISA

Mount Isa - turn left at Townsville

MOUNT ISA
LARGER THAN LIFE

While their problems might be the same, their solutions are often not.



A bit like going from this



To this



In other parts there's not much of
anything



Recruitment and retention strategies: the Head

- PO3 salary
- Relocation expenses
- Child care
- Housing assistance
- Conference attendance
- A trip home each year
- Retention payment at end of contract
- Resigning payment
- Employment assistance for spouses
- Line management through allied health

The Mt Isa Allied Health Team early 2002



Recruitment and retention strategies: the Heart

- Professional discipline specific mentoring
- Community mentors
- Compulsory, funded Grad Cert in Rural and Remote Health Practice
- Multi disciplinary teams
- Primary Health Care Principles
- Community participation
- Supervision of discipline specific students from JCU
- A unique model

The more rigidly we define what something is, the more rigidly define what it is not



Providing high quality services to some of the most remote parts of Queensland



Sometimes the road is not all that
clear



And often problematic



And the Commonwealth may or may not be able to help



But the destination is worth the effort

