

# Realtors suck the blood from clients

**BLOODY GREAT EFFORT**  
**WORDS: ROWENA SMITH**

THE description of real estate agents as blood suckers will take on new meaning with one agency set to host a Halloween party asking clients to donate blood – to support Mater Medical Research Institute (MMRI).

David Veeman, a sales consultant at Bees Nees City Realty at South Brisbane, said while the event poked fun at his profession, the agency took the cause seriously.

"Not many lives are left untouched by cancer. A research breakthrough can change the world, especially for patients and their families," Mr Veeman said.

"Anyone can make a difference." MMRI Research nurse Sonia Hancock said every drop of donated blood was vital for providing new treatment for illnesses and diseases including cancer, diabetes, psoriasis, bone marrow and solid organ trans-

plants.

"When a new treatment becomes available it is inevitably the result of many years of hard work and hundreds of laboratory experiments," Ms Hancock said.

"Our research teams use the blood to carry out experiments in the lab to study how cells behave and respond under various conditions."

Ms Hancock said people who couldn't donate blood to the Red Cross may be able to give to research.

"The blood we collect is used in the lab and not being given to another person so we can accept blood from donors who, for example, lived in the UK between 1980 and 1996."

The Bees Nees Halloween party is from 5pm on October 31. RSVP to [rsvp@beesnees.com.au](mailto:rsvp@beesnees.com.au) or phone 3214 6888.

■ **Become a blood donor at MMRI. Phone 3163 2555.**



**BLOOD CALL:** Bees Nees Real Estate sales consultant David Veeman and MMRI clinical operations manager Sonia Hancock. R0155773

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