

John doesn't believe in any half measures

JOHN Coultis may be only half the size of most people, but in the world of motivational speakers, he's a giant.

With 700 emails a day and 300,000 hits a month on his website, he is a busy man as he answers the call to inspire people around the world.

Yesterday, he was in Cairns for a Step to the Future Youth Forum, which attracted about 400 students from throughout the region, and will tomorrow address Warree State High students.

"We're doing seminars all around Australia to get off their backsides and live life to the fullest," said Brisbane-based Mr Coultis, 34.

Born with a disability which resulted in the amputation of both legs, he has visited 190 countries, speaking to

Roz Pulley

pulleyr@tcp.news10.com.au

audiences of up to 30,000.

"I'm a popular half a man," he said.

"That's why I'm the No. 1 inspirational speaker in the southern hemisphere.

"There was a poll taken last year by 12 speaking bureaus around the world and that's how I found out."

Cruelly bullied at school, Mr Coultis's parents compensated with a loving and supportive home life.

"They told me about my limits - I've got no legs, so I'm not going to play football," he said.

"But instead of worrying about the things I can't do, they said let's look at the things I can do and make them happen."

Inspiring: John Coultis is in Cairns as part of a youth forum aimed at changing people's lives.

Picture: NELLIE PRATT

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zlotkowskim@tcp.news10.com.au

1 ON THE MOVE

(up from 778) and 157 doctors (up from 146).

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