



MEDIA RELEASE

WHAT: Purple Day For Epilepsy

WHERE: Worldwide

WHEN: Thursday 26 March 2020

WHY: To raise awareness and spread information about one of the world's most common serious brain disorders – epilepsy. Go [HERE](#) for more information

Purple Day for Epilepsy is recognised worldwide on **26 March**. Each March local community Purple Heroes raise awareness and vital funds to assist Queenslanders living with epilepsy. Townsville has its own Purple Heroes, Naomi and Emmett Dollisson.

Emmett was just three years old when he was first diagnosed with epilepsy. Now five, Emmett is celebrating two years seizure free thanks to his daily medication. “He luckily doesn’t have too many side effects,” says his mother Naomi. “He does get quite tired, but that means he is a good sleeper which is great,” she laughs.

With Emmett now in prep, Naomi says that having a routine is the best treatment for him. “Just making sure he isn’t climbing up trees or doing anything that could be potentially dangerous if he were to have a seizure is very important,” says Naomi. “We have had to show his teachers some videos of what his seizures look like so they know what to look out for. We are hoping to ween him off his medication in the near future so it will be very important for them to have the proper training to know when and how to act.”

This Purple Day, Naomi is planning on baking a purple cake and cupcakes for Emmett to take and share with his prep class. “We will also keep an eye out for the Purple Day activation at the Oxley Street fountain.”

Everyone can get involved with Purple Day. You can:

1. Visit the Oxley Street Fountain. The fountain will Go Purple for Epilepsy Awareness from 19-25 March thanks to Townsville City Council. Take a snap of your Purple Moment, share on Facebook or Instagram, use the hashtag #GoPurpleForEpilepsy and tag us @EpilepsyQueensland for your chance to win a purple iPhone 11.
2. Hold your own Purple Day morning tea or other fundraiser
3. Create your own fundraising webpage and share your story on Everyday Hero

4. Sell items from our new retail range at your work, school or local markets. Check out our new retail range including the newest member of our epilepsy family Myrtle the turtle or some old favourites that have been reduced.

5. Find out more about epilepsy on our website epilepsyqueensland.com.au.

MEDIA: If you would like further information or are interested in setting up an interview or photo opportunity, please contact Epilepsy Queensland's Communications Manager, Karen Furnivall on 07 3435 5000 / 0402 578 954 / kfurnivall@epilepsyqueensland.com.au. Photos can also be made available.

[Epilepsy Queensland Inc.](http://epilepsyqueensland.com.au) was founded in 1969 and provides vital services and support to the 100,000 Queenslanders diagnosed with epilepsy. Through information and counselling services, guided workshops, and community advocacy Epilepsy Queensland is the only Queensland based epilepsy organisation dedicated to improving the quality of life of people with epilepsy, their carers and families.