

The Courier Mail  
**BusinessDaily**

**EXPAND ASSETS  
TO OVERCOME  
DOWNTURN**  
MONEY SAVER HQ, P32



# Breath of fresh air

## Innovative medical device

HAYDEN JOHNSON

MILLIONS of people will breathe easier thanks to the revolutionary technology developed by a growing Logan business.

Therabubble is the key product developed by Physiotherapy Innovations.

Company co-founder Kathryn Potter said Therabubble was developed after noticing makeshift devices designed out of single use plastic bottles being used for bubble positive expiratory pressure (PEP). "Bubble PEP or bottle PEP, a water-based device for airway clearance and improved ventilation, has been a common treatment intervention for decades around the world," she said.

"Patients reported to me they felt embarrassed using the makeshift devices. Working with a physiotherapist colleague, Rebecca Houweling, we designed the Therabubble.

"It was our aim to provide an affordable and accessible airway clearance device that maintained the dignity of patients."

Therabubble secured \$100,000 through the State Government's Ignite Ideas program.

Ms Potter said the cash would be used to expand its global exports and give more people access to the affordable medical device.

Innovation Minister Kate Jones said the funding would grow the business in the multi-trillion dollar global medical technology industry. "We have some of the best and brightest minds in the world in this space - we're supporting them to develop



**QODE** 24-25 MARCH  
Brisbane

new technologies that will create jobs for Queenslanders," Ms Jones said. "This world-first patented device has the potential to help millions of people around the world."

Ms Jones said the Therabubble device helped people suffering from a range of respiratory problems to improve their breathing.

"This product has already been a real game-changer for hospitals and health services in Australia and New Zealand," she said. "We're supporting this business to export further afield to create jobs in Queensland."

Ms Potter, an indigenous woman, has used her company to advocate for improving the health of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people. "Rates of respiratory disease for indigenous people are known to be higher than those of their non-indigenous counterparts," she said.

Learn more about jobs of the future at QODE, Queensland's largest innovation and technology gathering for entrepreneurs, investors, business executives, start-ups and government, held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre from March 24-25.



INNOVATION: Therabubble co-founder Kathryn Potter. Picture: Annette Dew

## Anger over trade hours

THE National Retail Association is demanding the Queensland Government review trading hours following reports businesses lost cash during the controversial six-hour Christmas Eve holiday.

Association chief Dominique Lamb said anecdotal reports from Queensland retailers showed the public holiday, which ran from 6pm to midnight, had a negative effect on businesses already doing it tough.

Ms Lamb said "dismayed" store owners chose to close or work themselves instead of paying penalty rates.

"Time will tell on what that did to our figures," she said.

"We're hearing from retailers the imposition meant they lost money."

Following the passing of the legislation on November 27, Industrial Relations Minister Grace Grace said the public holiday would ensure "proper compensation" for people who worked the night before Christmas.

## Education sector lifts

QUEENSLAND'S international education sector posted decade-high growth over the 2018-19 financial year, according to new data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

The value of international education and training rose 16 per cent - a post-GFC benchmark for Queensland - in the 12 months to July 1.

The period eclipsed the 8 per cent average yearly increase over the last decade.

Data from the Department of Education showed China and India represented Queensland's largest international student cohort.



Not the customer's real name/image.

**Rosie tucks into a delicious. 12-month digital magazine subscription.**

You could too with **The Courier Mail Plus Rewards**

Rosie and thousands of people like her, enjoy everyday savings, freebies, amazing discounts, tickets, competitions and unforgettable experiences, with new rewards added each and every month. Get an eligible subscription\* to The Courier-Mail today and enjoy access to +Rewards. Already a member? Then start enjoying the benefits of your membership today.

**The Courier Mail Plus Rewards**

[couriermail.com.au/plusrewards](http://couriermail.com.au/plusrewards)

\*Not all subscribers are eligible. Print only subscribers are not eligible. Certain limited types of digital subscribers or digital with newspaper home delivery subscribers are not eligible. +Rewards offers are accurate at the time of publication, subject to change, subject to availability and provided you remain an eligible member. For full details, see plusrewards.com.au for full terms and conditions. \*12-month digital magazine subscription offer available provided you remain an eligible member.