



STRATHPINE

Sights are set

HOW TO FUNDRAISE FOR AEIOU

Bernie Dowling

TEN thousand Queensland children of school age are living with autism and Strathpine's Luke Lockie is one of them.

Autism Awareness month started on Sunday and Luke's Mum Karen Davis and Specsavers in the Strathpine Centre are raising money for the AEIOU Centre at Bray Park which helps preschool children with autism.

Luke, 10, was three years old when he was diagnosed with autism.

"He would go to bed at 7pm and he would start screaming for hours," Ms Davis said.

"Luke would have night terrors and refuse to eat most food."

It was hard for Ms Davis to cope at times.

"People can judge you for everything you do," she said.

Ms Davis said Luke changed dramatically when at age five he started attending the AEIOU centre for a year.

"I noticed the change in

the first two weeks," Ms Davis said. "He still had issues but he was a lot happier and he started singing."

Luke is still regarded as non-verbal but his Mum said his communication was improving as he matured.

"There will always be some behavioural problems but as each year passes he is maturing. He is basically a very happy child."

Ms Davis said it was difficult to get funding for respite care for Luke.

 **Tell us your story at**
editorial@pineriverspress
.com.au

HELPING OUT

WHAT: Karen Davis AEIOU Foundation cent auction fundraiser with more than \$2000 in prizes and 20 lucky door prizes.

WHERE: Club Pine Rivers, Sparkes and Francis roads, Bray Park.

WHEN: This Sunday, April 9, doors open at noon; cent auction starts at 1.30pm.

COST: \$5 entry, tickets \$1 for a sheet of 20.

PHONE: 0400 771 810.



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CUT STRAIGHT TO YOUR NEWS

press clip



Nick White, from Specsavers, Karen Davis and Luke Lockie are supporting the AEIOU Centre at Bray Park which helps preschool children with autism.

Picture: CHRIS HIGGINS