

The

EKKA Courier

The newspaper of the Brisbane Show Camp



NUMBER 10-3

TUESDAY, AUGUST 14, 2001

ATTENDANCES ARE UP



by Todd Jackson, Joseph Marstella, Johnathon Solli

More people have flocked to the EKKA this year to see it at its best.

There are two innovations - *The Man from Snowy River* Spectacular and the availability of family passes which have brought more people through the EKKA gates.

The over-capacity crowds have forced the RNA to install a second big screen on number two oval near the wood chopping arena so that people who are unable to find seats in the main ring can still watch all the action.

If you are intending to watch ring events in the main ring, get there early. If not, see everything live on the big screen on number two oval.

Family passes, allowing a family of four to attend at a reduced entry fee, have proven to be very popular and may account for increased attendances.

From the numbers of people in the grounds, it also seems that people are arriving slightly later in the day with crowds peaking at about the time of *The Man From Snowy River*.

The "Ekka Courier" is a publication of the Brisbane Show Camp. The camp is conducted by Education Queensland for students from years six and seven in Queensland State Schools.

Camp management is a program of the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre



ANIMAL FUN

by Joseph Marstella, Todd Jackson and Megan Stein

Do you like patting, playing or just watching animals? From baby emu to miniature cows you can see them all at the Animal Nursery and Farmyard Friends.

In the Animal Nursery you can see baby animals like goats, miniature ponies and emus.

You can also see mother and children combinations such as miniature cows and calves, hens and chickens, ducks and ducklings, sheep and lambs, pigs and piglets, donkeys and foals, alpaca and cria, turkeys and poults, dogs and puppies, goats and kids, geese, ganders and goslings and rats that are for sale. Emu eggs that are hatching and emu chicks can also be seen.

The Mouse Circus located here contains mice that perform on trapezes, tight ropes and running

wheels. This is a great exhibit for the whole family.

Farmyard Friends is a petting zoo you can enter and interact with the animals. In this exhibit there is a human-free area where the animals can go if they are just born or if they are tired of being petted. Animals found in the petting zoo are goats, sheep, piglets, calves, hens, ducks, geese, turkeys, llamas, a donkey and a miniature pony.

If you go to the Animal Nursery or the Farmyard Friends areas, we assure you that it will be the greatest time you will have at this year's EKKA and you won't regret it one bit!!



Super Sand Sculptures



by David Reushle, Steven McCormack and Alexander Wenzel

Two amazingly talented artists, Bruce Phillips from the U.S.A and Dennis Masoud from Noosa, have begun making individual sand sculptures around the EKKA.

They create sand sculptures as a job and also for fun. So far they have completed a dragon morphing into an Airtrain, a horse's head within a horseshoe, two dogs, another dragon and a bunyip. They are expecting to sculpt around twelve works of art by the time the EKKA finishes if the weather remains fine.

Bruce has been working on sand sculptures around the world for about ten years and estimates that he has made two to three thousand sculptures so far. He began by helping groups of people create sand sculptures at beaches around the world and it soon turned into a professional hobby.

Within eight hours a mere pile of sand is transformed into a wonderful specimen of shape and detailed beauty.

PAT THE PIGLETS

by Georgina Stevenson

At the Pig Expo, located near the dairy goats, you can pat piglets and sows.

The pigs come in very many different colours and sizes.

The youngest pigs are still with their mother as they are just over one week old.

There is a shop in the pig pavilion called, *Pigs 'n' Things* where you can purchase all kinds of things to do with pigs, like models of pigs and pig t-shirts.

This is a very good opportunity for young children to see the pig in its live form and not as one of our favourite meats.

Mousecapades

by Lynda Douglas, Teneille Hamwood, Bonnie Hope

From running around in circles, to tight rope walking, these little critters will go to extremes just for a treat.

Most sleep while others are playing around in little running wheels and making things go up and down.

Some play on see-saws and there is even a little springy thing that they can stand on and bend.

They dance to the circus music and some even look as if they're trying to sing to the music as well.

For all these tricks the mice are rewarded with a food treat.

The mice are not forced to do these tricks, they really just do what they please.

POLICE BEAT

Proud To Serve you.

by Amy Bergen

Police are proving to be good friends to the public in a variety of ways at this year's EKKA.

Police believe they have found around one hundred lost children, during the past week. While the children are waiting for their parents to claim them, they are kept entertained by books and games.

There have been many crimes committed with handbags, wallets and mobile phones being stolen.

During one evening program, a pregnant woman collapsed and went into labour. Police and ambulance worked hard to get the woman to the hospital in time.

The big problem that the police officers are finding

stressful is the crowd build-up in the main arena.

The crowds are getting so large in the evening program that it is becoming dangerous, with the police having been forced to stand at the gates of the arena and closed them before the grandstands get over-crowded.

There has been a new big television screen put on the number two oval so that the people unable to fit in the main arena can see the program as well.

Our police are earning themselves recognition for their EKKA service.



LOVELY LAMBS

About three to four years ago a man named James Kemp moved from Texas to Brisbane and saw a need for city people to get close to country life.

Mr Kemp has a small space in the sheep and wool pavilion that you can walk through which is full of orphan lambs and sheep that can be petted.

He also has a business, called Barnyard Babies, which specialises in animals such as llamas, goats, alpacas and includes pony rides.

by Ashlie Lomax,
Heidi Enchelmaier,
Jana Kister
and Amy Perkin

Barnyard Babies visits birthday parties, schools, child care centres and shopping centres just to name a few.

The Barnyard Babies is open at the EKKA from 8.00am to 9.00pm every day but the lambs are put into their pens for the night at 5.00pm.

