

# SHOWBIZ

THE OFFICIAL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE RNA.

Spring Edition, 2011

## QUEENSLAND UNITES

400,000 join  
Ekka celebrations  
pgs 4-13

## BEEN BREWING?

Unearthing Australia's  
best beer pg 14

## THE WIGGLES ARE COMING

20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary  
celebrations pg 15

## THE NEXT MILESTONE

Showground Hill  
launched pg 3

# CONTENTS

Regeneration update	3
RNA Council changes	3
Showcasing Queensland's spirit	4 – 13
Foodie's haven wins praise	7
Recipe from Dominique Rizzo	8
Classes cancelled, we're off to the Ekka	10
Liam's big day out	11
Best in show	12 – 13
Unearthing Australia's best beer	14
The Wiggles are coming	15
Events calendar – What's coming up	15

**Cover picture:** Woodchop continues to be one of the Ekka's most popular competitions, attracting more than 1,400 entries and thousands of spectators each year. Josh Smith (pictured) put everything he had into his many chopping and treefelling events at the 2011 competition, which ran everyday of the Ekka.



Allan Warby OAM and his wife, Margot, have been involved in the show for a remarkable 51 years.

## INTERVIEW WITH IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

**After 51 years of involvement with the Royal Queensland Show and the RNA, Allan Warby OAM has retired from his role as RNA President.**

He served as a cattle steward for 12 years before being elected to council in 1972 and becoming president in March 2010.

RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny paid tribute to the former president who was awarded an Order of Australia Medal in 2006 for service to primary industry through the RNA and to horse racing in Surat and Dalby.

"Allan is part of a fifth generation farming family whose service to the Royal Queensland Show has been outstanding," he said.

"During Allan's tenure the Royal Queensland Show's cattle competition has grown to become the biggest in Australia, which is a great achievement."

### 1. What is one of your best memories whilst serving on the RNA Council?

It's hard to single out one as some of the best memories revolve around the people I have met and the friendships made throughout the show world. It has been very rewarding to see the development of the cattle section throughout my 39 years of involvement, and to see the number of schools and young people exhibiting their animals.

### 2. What was one of the most satisfying achievements under your presidency?

Keeping show sections and competitions strong and producing a very successful Ekka, while at the same time progressing the regeneration plans. Together with seeing the RNA Council sign off with Lend Lease, Queensland Treasury Corporation and the ULDA and having the first stage well underway by show time.

### 3. What is your vision for the RNA Showgrounds in the future?

I envisage the Ekka precinct developing into a place which will be used with great appreciation all through the year by Queenslanders and visitors of all ages. I see it as an ideal venue for our popular events, other than the Ekka, and I look forward to seeing the evolving convention and exhibition centre become a fantastic facility for numerous and varied events.

### 4. What are your plans now that you have retired from the RNA Council?

I haven't had time to think about future plans but for the moment having more time with family, including our 11 grandchildren, would be high on the list, and my golf certainly needs more time spent on it! Walks on a nearby beach are also one of life's pleasures I haven't had time for lately. Down the track, seeing more of outback Australia would be on the wish list.

### 5. How will you continue to be involved with the RNA and Royal Queensland Show?

I will not have any direct involvement but will certainly be a very enthusiastic spectator and will enjoy having time to see the show at a slower pace. Our family cattle business has been a successful exhibitor in the prime cattle section for many years and will continue to be involved.

### 6. What message would you like to leave with RNA members?

Our membership is very strong and it is so important that members continue to support the Ekka through competitions, attendance, visiting the wonderful displays and enjoying all the educational and fun things on offer. The state finals of so many competitions are held during Ekka – Miss Showgirl, Rural Ambassador, Young Judges and the Young Auctioneers Competition. Their coming together creates enthusiasm for the show movement and the rural industries amongst our younger supporters and their families. The Future Directions Committee do a great job of involving and informing younger members.

My many years of involvement have been very rewarding for me and for my wife, Margot. We send our warmest good wishes and thanks to everyone involved with making the Ekka the very special and successful Royal Show that it is. I particularly thank all the stewards and volunteers who contribute so much of their time.



**From left:** Lend Lease Head of Development David Rolls, Premier Anna Bligh and RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny announced the next phase of construction on September 7.

## RNA SHOWGROUNDS REGENERATION PROJECT UPDATE

### Construction on first apartments set to begin

**The first residential, commercial and retail precincts of the RNA Showgrounds \$2.9 billion Regeneration Project were recently unveiled by Queensland Premier Anna Bligh.**

This next phase of construction, Showground Hill, is expected to pump \$4 billion into the economy and create more than 15,000 jobs over the life of the 15 year project. Once completed it will be home to more than 3,000 residents and 15,000 workers.

Construction on the 300 residential apartments and 30,000m<sup>2</sup> of office space is expected to begin in early 2012 with work on related infrastructure starting immediately.

Premier Bligh said the project was a major boost for the Queensland economy.

"It couldn't come at a better time for the construction, retail and commercial sectors," she said.

RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny said the success of the recent Ekka showed how the state's largest annual event can operate seamlessly during the regeneration project.

"Construction is timed to minimise disruption for next year's Ekka and over the life of the project, and the public will notice new and improved facilities not just during the annual show, but for our other major events," he said.

"For the 2012 Ekka, the ground floor of the newly transformed Industrial Pavilion will be back in use and we are currently finalising where the dog competition and the Agricultural Hall will be temporarily located."

Once completed the RNA Showgrounds will be home to 340,000m<sup>2</sup> of new residential, commercial and retail precincts.

### AT A GLANCE

- 15 year \$2.9 billion regeneration project
- First residential precinct starting in early 2012
- 300 residential apartments
- 30,000m<sup>2</sup> of office space
- Expected to create 15,000 jobs and inject \$4 billion into the economy over the life of the project
- Once completed it will be home to 3,000 residents and 15,000 workers

# NEWS IN BRIEF

#### New president

Following the retirement of Allan Warby OAM, David Thomas was elected president of the RNA on September 30. Elected to the RNA Council in 2002, David has been heavily involved in the annual Ekka and the vision and planning of the RNA's \$2.9 billion 15 year regeneration project.



#### Retirement

RNA Councillor Harold Thompson last month announced his retirement after 11 years on the council. In recognition of his service, the RNA elected him as an RNA Honorary Councillor. Harold's family has been exhibiting and associated with the RNA for more than 80 years including four generations of life members.



#### Council appointments

Changes in the RNA Council have led to the appointments of Dan O'Connor as Senior Vice-President, Angus Adnam as Junior Vice-President and Professor Peter Little to the Executive Committee.

#### New staff

The RNA has appointed Sue Hocking as General Manager – Sales and Marketing and Sujoy Dey as General Manager – Operations. The roles involve managing the operations of the RNA Showgrounds precinct and the sales and marketing strategies to promote it as a leading events venue.



# SHOWCASING QUEENSLAND'S SPIRIT

## 400,000 come together to celebrate what makes this state great



For the second year in a row, more than 400,000 people flocked to the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) to enjoy the unique experience, great atmosphere and first class competitions.

RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny said this year's show received a huge response from the public and demonstrated the importance of bringing the city and country together.

"After such a devastating start to the year for many people, it was wonderful to see the Queensland spirit showcased at their event and their celebration," he said.

"Some farmers who lost crops earlier this year in the floods rallied with their communities to make sure their displays featured in the Agricultural Hall, and it's that kind of resilience and community support we saw at the Ekka this year."

Mr Tunny said there were a few standouts which proved popular with visitors.

"This year featured handmade gourmet ice-cream in the Ekka Strawberry Sundaes, Australia's very first free Royal Show iPhone app and the biggest bull in 20 years, weighing in at 1.5 tonne," he said.

Planning for Ekka 2012 is already underway as Queenslanders restart the countdown.

The Ekka's sideshow alley lights up the night sky.



## Ward visits with a difference

Two days before Queensland's biggest event kicked off, the RNA visited its oldest and nearest neighbours to deliver an enjoyable Ekka experience.

For the second year in a row, the RNA has taken treats, sideshow games, baby animals and loads of fun to those at the Royal Children's Hospital, who aren't able to go to the show.

RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny said the day was designed to take a slice of the Ekka to the kids at the hospital so no one missed out.

"For weeks in advance they can see all the rides being set up from their windows, so this is our way of making sure they can enjoy a few of the best bits of the Ekka," he said.

Mr Tunny and former president Allan Warby delivered 300 showbags to children in the wards and brought visits from Brisbane Roar players and Smurf characters.

The day relied on the generosity of showbag operators, animal owners and those who volunteer their time at the hospital.



Two year old Laura Crocker from Emerald loved the Ekka farm animals' visit to the Royal Children's Hospital.

# 14,300

children participated in the Brisbane City Council Ekka Learning Trail.

# Networks roll out the big guns

Gold Logie winner Karl Stefanovic and his Today Show co-host Georgie Gardner were part of more than 600 media personnel on grounds this year to provide coverage of the state's biggest event.

Channel 9's national flagship breakfast program, The Today Show, broadcasted live from the Ekka for the first two days of show followed by the Kerri-Anne show on B105 People's Day. The Footy Show also crossed live to Dobbo for their iconic Ekka segment at the Bundaberg Rum Stockmen's Bar and Grill.

A fortnight before the gates opened, Channel 9 began building its fully functional broadcast centre which was the set for three daily news bulletins and regular news updates. More than 40,000 Ekka visitors were given a peak into the behind the scenes workings of television on daily tours.

The Ekka also attracted comprehensive coverage on Channels 2, 7 and 10 with nightly crosses made to reporters outside the gates.



The Today Show came to the Ekka for the first two days of show.

For the first time, B105 built their own interactive studio while Triple M's breakfast team was live on grounds for the first day of the Ekka. Comprehensive radio coverage also appeared on the ABC and 4BC stations throughout the show.

The Ekka featured heavily in Queensland Newspapers' Courier Mail and Sunday Mail publications with highlights including the popular Showguide, feature articles and weekend magazines, while Brisbane Times concentrated on interactive cutting edge multimedia coverage.

The show's online presence continued to expand this year with many news websites and blogs regularly uploading articles and photos.



The 6pm Channel 9 nightly news was broadcasted live from the Ekka every night capturing the sights and sounds of the show.



Kerri-Anne broadcasted live from the Ekka on B105 People's Day.

**18,471**

The Ekka's Facebook friends increased by 225% to 18,471.

## JACK VIDGEN'S AND SHANNON NOLL'S SURPRISE PERFORMANCES

Winner of Australia's Got Talent, 14 year old Jack Vidgen, surprised more than 20,000 people in the ENERGEX Community Arena with an impromptu performance of the National Anthem and two of his brand new singles on B105 People's Day. Earlier that day, runner-up on the first series of Australian Idol, Shannon Noll, also performed to a selected Ekka crowd in the B105 Interactive Studio at the show.

14 year old Jack Vidgen, winner of Australia's Got Talent, performed the National Anthem and two of his own songs in front of a surprised Ekka crowd of more than 20,000.

**32,134**

Australia's very first free Royal Show iPhone app was downloaded by 32,134 people.





Calais vocalist, Guy Stacey, rocking out in front of a capacity crowd of 1,400 after winning the right to open for Wolfmother.

## NUDGENE BOYS BECOME WOLFMOTHER'S OPENING ACT

In the lead-up to Ekka 2011, unsigned bands were invited to enter a competition which could see them open the show for rock gods Wolfmother. Brisbane bands uploaded their performances to Facebook before 2,700 cast their vote on the 37 bands entered. Two current and two past Nudgee students who formed Calais, a four piece rock band, won the competition earning the right to open for Wolfmother on the final night of Ekka 2011.

# Wolfmother raises the benchmark

Australia's very own Wolfmother attracted a full house of 1,400 to their first ever performance at the Ekka, with many more lining out the door. The Grammy Award winners took to the stage on the final night of the Ekka for a spectacular closing night concert.



Grammy Award winners Wolfmother closed the Ekka for 2011 in front of a capacity crowd.

**622,000**

Showbags were viewed 622,000 times on the Ekka iPhone app.

Eight days earlier brought the return of Grinspoon who previously performed at the Ekka in 2005. Frontman Phil Jamieson, bassist Joe Hansen, guitarist Pat Davern and drummer Kristian Hopes fronted hundreds and rocked out all their best hits on the second night of the show.



Grinspoon performed at Ekka on the second day of the show.



Operatic ensemble, The Ten Tenors, proved popular on B105 People's Day at the Ekka. Currently making their way around Australia showcasing their tenth studio album 'Double Platinum', The Ten Tenors have previously performed at London's Royal Albert Hall, the Sydney Opera House and The Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles.

This year's Ekka line-up included some of the best voices in Australia – The Ten Tenors.

# TEN TENORS ON SONG

## WHAT THE FOOD CRITICS THOUGHT...

### MasterChef contestant Ellie Paxton-Hall

The Courier Mail, August 14, 2011

- “I was actually really surprised by the variety of food. It suited every demographic pretty much.”
- “I thought the overall quality was really good. Everything was well made, there were quality ingredients. I think it's a really impressive selection of food.”
- Strawberry Sundae - “Absolutely delicious. I think I could have about 10 in a row. It was lovely and fresh, and a good balance of cream and ice-cream and strawberries, an absolute winner.”

### Restaurant Two owner-chef David Pugh

The Courier Mail, August 12, 2011

- “Something for everyone, from the budget-conscious cheese toastie to the best steak in Oz.”
- “The experience is extremely good value for money.”
- Strawberry Sundae – “Au natural and a great Queensland success story. Rich and creamy and bursting with strawberry flavour, with a surprise ending. Best-ever Ekka sundae.”  
Score: 9.5/10
- Ekka pie – “Piefection by name and in the eating. The Jack Daniels is packed with tender braised pork enveloped in crisp, flaky pastry.”  
Score: 10/10
- Shucked oysters – “Unbeatable value at the Seafood and Wine Bar. 10 plump Coffin Bay oysters that taste sweetly of the ocean.” Score: 9/10

### Brisbane Times Wining and Dining Editor Georgia Waters

Brisbane Times, August 12, 2011

- “The strawberry sundaes are so, so good.”
- “I don't remember them ever being as good before as they are this year - it must be the ice-cream.”
- “Just get one. It will be the best \$4.50 you'll spend at the Ekka (or maybe ever).”

# FOODIE'S HAVEN WINS PRAISE

The RNA's commitment to improved food choices at the show has pushed the Ekka closer to becoming a foodie's haven for 10 days each year. Some of Brisbane's leading food critics praised The Sunday Mail Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show Stage spearheaded by Dominique Rizzo, the facelift of the Ekka's iconic Strawberry Sundae and the brand new Royal Queensland Steakhouse serving up Australia's best steak. The Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion was again one of the Ekka's most popular attractions featuring 70 vendors and serving everything from yum cha to cupcakes.



One of this year's biggest hits – freshly shucked Coffin Bay oysters from the Seafood and Wine Bar.

## SHOWSTOPPERS!

- 40,000 oysters devoured, smashing last year's record of 15,400.
- Prawn sales tripled with almost 24,400 consumed during the show.
- Glasses of wine were five times more popular at the Seafood and Wine Bar, with 8,616 glasses drunk.
- CWA sold 10,600 scones during the show, compared to 4,375 last year.
- More than 500kg of Wagyu steaks were eaten at The Royal Queensland Steakhouse.
- Dagwood dogs are still a show favourite, with at least 180,000 consumed.
- Gotzinger sold more than 12,000 mini hotdogs – a new show favourite perhaps?
- More than 23,000 Coon Cheese toasties were devoured.
- 14,450 steak sandwiches and burgers were cooked, sold and eaten.
- The Peanut Van sold more than two tonne of peanuts.
- One tonne of Greek yoghurt was sold during the show.

Australia's best steak was served up at the RNA's brand new Royal Queensland Steakhouse this year. The award winning AAco Master Kobe Wagyu took out the title earlier this year at the RNA's Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show and became the most popular dish on the steakhouse menu for 2011. Delighting diners, the char grilled Wagyu rump was served with red onion relish, potato and onion rosti, seasonal vegetables and pepper sauce.



**30,000**

More than 30,000 Ekka-goers visited the iconic Cotton and Wool Parades.

# TIPS FROM THE TOP



Ekka food ambassador Dominique Rizzo cooking on The Sunday Mail Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show Stage at the Ekka.

# 100

All 100 chicks hatched from their eggs.

Turn your kitchen into a restaurant with this recipe made on The Sunday Mail Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show Stage by Dominique Rizzo.

# 2,700

More than 2,700 iPhone app offers (virtual coupons) were redeemed during the Ekka.

## Banana layered ice-cream terrine with macadamias, caramelised banana and chocolate (Serves 8-10)

- 1.2 litres of banana ice-cream
  - 1 quantity of bought sponge cake, sliced to fit the tin at a thickness of 1.5 cm
  - 2 tbsp lychee liqueur
  - 1 medium banana, diced into 1cm chunks
  - ¼ cup toasted shredded coconut
  - An extra 3 medium sized Cavendish bananas, sliced on the angle about ½ cm wide
  - 50g caster sugar
  - 50g unsalted butter
  - 1 tbsp verjuice
  - 100g dark chocolate, chopped into chunks
  - 80g toasted macadamia nuts, roughly chopped
  - Dollop of fresh cream to serve
1. Line a 25cm x 11cm x 7cm loaf pan with plastic wrap, allowing extra to hang over the sides. Remove the ice-cream from the freezer to soften slightly.
  2. With a pastry brush, moisten both sides of the first slice of sponge with some of the lychee liqueur.
  3. Place the diced banana and the coconut into the base of the tin. Smooth over half of the banana ice-cream. Press the moistened sponge into the ice-cream. Freeze for 1 hour or until firm.
  4. For the bananas, sprinkle the sugar into a heavy based non-stick pan and melt over a moderate heat. Once the sugar has completely melted, turn the heat to high and cook to a mid-golden brown.
  5. Stir in the butter then add the bananas and toss to coat in the caramel. Cook for 1-2 minutes until slightly golden and just tender but not mushy.
  6. Pour in the verjuice tossing the bananas around the pan to loosen the mixture. Allow the bananas to cool slightly and then spread these over the chilled sponge. Top with another layer of lychee moistened sponge and press down gently. Re-freeze for 15 minutes.
  7. Into the remaining banana ice-cream, stir in the chopped chocolate and toasted macadamia nuts and then spread this onto the sponge. Place a piece of baking paper onto the ice-cream and then wrap over the extra plastic. Re-freeze for at least 2 hours until firm.
  8. To serve remove from the freezer and allow to soften for 5 minutes, invert onto a plate and then slice and serve with a dollop of fresh cream.



This amazing terrine recipe was created by Dominique Rizzo and features gourmet ice-cream made by Olympic silver medallist Tatiana Grigoveria. Tatiana's Ascot Caffè e Gelato Milany's special banana ice-cream won the gold medal and the title of Australia's best ice-cream at the RNA's Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show earlier this year. Photo courtesy of The Courier Mail.



# THE NEXT SPIELBERG

Two Queensland high schools have taken out top honours in a recent Ekka film competition with their creative 60 second videos which won praise from television and advertising professionals.

In a comedic video game based take on the Ekka, Coombabah State High School slid into the top spot for senior teams while Anglican Church Grammar School's creativity was awarded in the junior section for their humorous outlook on a day at the show.

Entries soared this year to 48, up from 21 in 2010, with the challenge set to create, film and edit an ad for the Ekka in only 48 hours.

As the only contest of its kind run by a Royal Show in Australia, the ENERGEX Race Around Ekka Competition is designed to demystify the filmmaking process and make it more accessible to students.

The top films from the junior and senior teams each won \$2,500 in prize money for their school and the opportunity to learn from the best at the Channel Nine television commercial production department. The winning ads were shown on the big screen in the ENERGEX Community Arena during the final night of the Ekka.



This year's Stud Beef Competition at the Ekka featured the biggest bull in more than 20 years, weighing in at 1.5 tonne and a hip height of more than 1.5 metres.

## BIGGEST BULL IN 20 YEARS – 1.5 TONNE AND GROWING

The 2011 Ekka got even bigger with the addition of a 1.5 tonne Black Angus bull, Monk, to the Stud Beef Competition. Hand-reared at the Pine Creek Angus Stud in Bylong, New South Wales, Monk was the biggest bull at the Ekka in more than 20 years. Monk certainly impressed show-goers and even made a couple of television appearances with visits from Channel 9 news and The Today Show. At just under three years old and a hip height of more than 1.5 metres, he will be even heavier by Ekka 2012.

## MISS SHOWGIRL WINNER

Samantha Gluer was crowned the 2011 Miss Showgirl and is actively encouraging other young Queenslanders to participate in their local shows. Growing up in Crow's Nest, Samantha is currently completing a Bachelor of Biomedical Science at QUT, where she hopes to return home and specialise in paediatrics. This year marked the 29th anniversary of the Miss Showgirl awards.



showgroundhill

# Green with envy

Modern inner city apartments from \$350,000 at the iconic RNA Showgrounds

Sales & Information Centre open from 14 October, 482 St Pauls Tce. Register now for an appointment. Visit [thegreenbrisbane.com](http://thegreenbrisbane.com) or call 1800 448 757



the green  
apartments brisbane

- The most significant urban renewal project undertaken in Brisbane since South Bank
- Selection of 1 & 2 bedroom apartments
- Located in the \$2.9billion RNA Showgrounds redevelopment at Bowen Hills
- Five mid-rise buildings surrounding over 3,000sqm of lush courtyard gardens
- A major public transport hub, only 1.6km from the Brisbane CBD
- Close to Brisbane's finest schools, universities and recreational facilities
- \$10K Queensland Building Boost and \$17K First Home Owner Double Dip Bonus applies\*
- First Release in a multi-staged masterplan development. Due for completion mid 2013

The information contained in this advertisement was correct at time of publication. However, the developer reserves the right to make changes without notice. Prospective purchasers should rely on their own enquiries. Artist impressions are for illustration purposes and are indicative only. A Sustainability Declaration is available for every apartment type upon request. \*Eligible parties need to apply for State Government Grants. More information can be found on [boost.treasury.qld.gov.au](http://boost.treasury.qld.gov.au)

Lend Lease

# CLASSES CANCELLED, WE'RE OFF TO THE EKKA

**The Ekka has helped give a Queensland primary school devastated by the January floods the chance to come together and refocus in a unique bonding experience, according to its principal.**

The RNA, together with ENERGEX, brought Murphys Creek State School Principal Jo Sinclair-Jones and her entire school down for a day at this year's Ekka.

RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny said it was a small gesture and the least ENERGEX and the Ekka could do for a community which had suffered so much from the floods.

"We wanted the kids to have a great day at the Ekka and join in the celebration of what makes this state great," he said.

Principal Jo Sinclair-Jones said the positive feel around the school is back since coming to the show.

"It was that turning point of giving us a fresh start and it did a world of good for all of us to refocus again, and I think it was a good bonding time for us," she said.

"It was lovely; it really brought us all back together."

Jo said the students haven't stopped talking about their day at the show.

"None of them had been to the Ekka before so they were blown away, and so were the teachers," she said.

"The little ones really loved the main arena; they sat there for ages just watching the horses, and the prep students loved the chooks and they kept wanting to go back and have another look.

"I think the animals, more so than anything, was their favourite part, and obviously going on all the rides is a huge thing for kids.

"I remember walking through sideshow alley with the kids and their mouths were wide open looking at these rides because they'd never been to a huge show like that.

"It was just lovely watching the kids."

Jo said the students have now raised their expectations for next year's excursions.

"They're all asking to come back next year and I think we will," she said.

"We're trying to work it into a curriculum based activity so we can come back."

The RNA was also honoured to have Jo and students Joshua Ragnoni, Zac Keogh, Jesse Sheehan and Ava Sinclair officially launch this year's Ekka on July 21.

"It was lovely; it really brought us all back together."



Murphys Creek State School students Niki Cook, Molly Wilson and their classmates enjoyed a day at the 2011 Ekka.

86

86 lambs were born in the Sunny Queen Little Miracles Newborn Corner.

# LIAM'S BIG DAY OUT

A suburban newspaper article which grabbed the attention of Ekka organisers led to a once in a lifetime adventure for four year old Liam Little.

Born with a very rare auto-immune condition known as IPEX Syndrome, Liam isn't able to do everything that other children can do including going to crowded places, such as the Ekka.

RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny said once the RNA heard about Liam's condition, the Ekka team decided there was something they could do.

"The Ekka is about children having a wonderful experience and creating lifelong memories," he said.

"Liam couldn't have this experience when the crowds were here so we thought why don't we open the gates for him a day early so he gets to experience what millions of others have over the years."

Liam's mother Natasha Little said he had an absolute ball and still talks about it two months later.

"Whenever he sees the word Ekka somewhere or sees it on the TV he still to this day talks about how much fun he had," she said.

"He got really into it and was going around trying to pat the little chickens and he really enjoyed that."

Natasha said although he talks about the entire day his favourite parts were definitely the rides he went on, while the Ekka Strawberry Sundae was also a hit.

"He ran straight up to the counter, grabbed a sundae and took a big lick out of it," she said.

"We've tried to make our own at home but it certainly isn't the same as the Ekka one."

Natasha said her and her husband Angus hadn't been to the Ekka before this year either which made a very special day for the whole family.

"It was something that we thought we'd save until we had kids and then obviously not realising we'd have a child with major health concerns who wouldn't be able to do something like that," she said.



RNA Chief Executive Jonathan Tunny opened the Ekka gates a day early for four year old Liam Little.

"Suddenly for us it was something we were never going to experience either so it was a big deal for Angus and I as well.

"Any mention of his special day at the Ekka and Liam gets really excited.

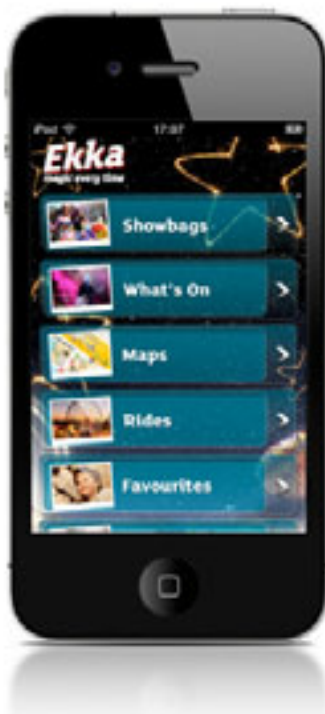
"As a parent, just to see your kids that happy, that was the highlight for us.

"It was an unbelievable day and gave us a memory we're going to have for the rest of our lives."

"As a parent, just to see your kids that happy, that was the highlight for us."

## IPHONE APP PULLS RANK

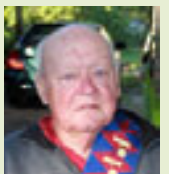
For more than a week the brand new Ekka iPhone app placed in the top five free entertainment apps in Australia as more than 32,000 show visitors hit 'download'. Showbags trumped as the most popular feature by far, with more than 622,000 page views made. The average user spent more than one hour on the app and saved money by redeeming a total of 2,700 virtual coupons. This was a huge response from the public and also from exhibitors who made good use of the interactive map.



On average, users spent 1 hour and 5 minutes using the Ekka iPhone app.

### HE'S AN EKKA LEGEND

A man who has dedicated 31 years of service to the dairy cattle competition has been awarded the 2011 Ekka Legend award. Don Protheroe of Kallangur began stewarding in the milk room in 1976 and continued on as the Dairy Superintendent until retiring in 2007. The Ekka Legend award is presented each year at the Royal Queensland Show President's Reception and recognises the resolute dedication and effort made by an individual to both the RNA and the Ekka.



# BEST IN SHOW

More than 23,000 entries were vying for the prestigious blue ribbons during the 2011 Royal Queensland Show. Competitions came to a head with the announcements of the coveted Grand Champion winners, the ultimate accolade at the Royal Queensland Show.

The RNA congratulates the following 2011 Royal Queensland Show winners.

## STUD BEEF

### **Champion of Champions Breed Pair**

Charolais Bull – Rangan Park Redemption E42E – J & C Noller, Wandoan QLD

Cow or Heifer – Crathes Estella 3 – Crathes Charolais, Greenmount QLD

### **Interbreed Champion Small Breeds**

Bull – Vitulus Exceptionabull (Australian Lowline) – M Hayes, Thornton QLD

Cow or Heifer – Allambie Perfect Petal (Australian Lowline) – K & T Falkenhagen, Boonah QLD

## PRIME BEEF

### **Grand Champion Pen of Show**

Droughtmaster X – Horsley Park Pastoral Company, Moonie QLD

## LED STEER

### **Grand Champion Led Steer**

Champion Mediumweight Led Steer – G & L Ball, Singleton NSW

### **Grand Champion Led Steer Carcase**

Champion Mediumweight Carcase – D & J King, Inverell NSW

## THOROUGHBREDS

### **Supreme Champion Thoroughbred of Queensland**

Champion Mare – Great Northern – J McMillan & V Corvi, Noosa Heads QLD

## STUD HORSES

### **Supreme Champion Australian Stockhorse of Queensland**

Champion Stallion – Riverdale Voodoo – Stellarpark, Yamanto QLD

Thoroughbreds, stud horses, showjumpers, horses in action and farriers and blacksmiths were all vying for a piece of the \$121,739 prize pool in this year's horse competitions.

### **Supreme Champion Clydesdale of Queensland**

Champion Mare – Duncan Valley Tennessee – Goodall Family, Goombungee QLD

### **Supreme Champion Riding Pony of Queensland**

Champion Mare – Euston Dancestar – M & S Sambrooks, Woodford QLD

## HORSES IN ACTION

### **Champion Hack of Queensland**

Cinabar – V Corvi, M Beggs & T Cowan, Elimbah QLD

### **Champion Gentleman Rider of Queensland**

Christopher Ware, Duri NSW

### **Champion Show Hunter Galloway of Queensland**

Sheldene Arcarde – S Newman, Pomona QLD

### **Champion Pony Hack of Queensland 12.2 hands and over**

Smithfields Toy Dancer – Swift Family, Chambers Flat QLD

### **Champion Medium or Heavy Horse in Harness of Show**

Carberry Estate Archie – T Kohler, Pittsworth QLD

## SHOWJUMPING

### **Champion Showjumping Rider of Show**

Kristy Bruhn, Mount Gambier East SA



## DAIRY CATTLE

### Supreme Dairy Cow of Show

Plana Magic Grace (Holstein-Friesian) –  
A D & S L Barron, Cambooya QLD

## CANINE

### Best in Show

Dalmation – Ch. Paceaway Atrosemount  
– F E L Matthews, Gumdale QLD



Almost 2,500 dog entries competed in hope of  
being awarded with the Best in Show ribbon.

## FELINE

### Best in Show

Abyssinian – Osiris (V) Talk Dirty To Me  
– Jenni McKernan, Dayboro QLD

## POULTRY

### Grand Champion Fowl of Show

Bantam Modern Game – Black Tail  
Wheaten Hen – Ryan Harris, Dubbo NSW



Ekka visitors got a glimpse of the weird and  
wonderful flock in the Poultry, Pigeons, Birds  
and Eggs Pavilion.

Some of the top  
selling showbags for  
Ekka 2011 included the  
Harry Potter bag, Cadbury  
Dairy Milk and  
show favourite  
Bertie Beetle.

During its peak, the  
Ekka iPhone app was  
ranked as the third most  
popular free entertainment  
app and the 27th free overall  
app in Australia.

### Grand Champion Waterfowl of Show

Muscovy – White Duck – Reuben  
Stallwood, Logan Village QLD

### Grand Champion Pigeon of Show

Jacobin – Old Hen – Gordon Jones,  
Capalaba QLD

## BOER GOATS

### Supreme Standard Boer Goat of Show

Senior Champion Standard Doe –  
Mugambi Ice-Man – Paul & Janette  
Ormsby, Forbes NSW

## DAIRY GOATS

### Supreme Dairy Doe of Show

Champion British Alpine Doe –  
Glendowen Miss Hatley– Lesley & Tom  
McDowell, Baan Baa NSW

## ANGORA GOATS

### Grand Champion Angora Goat of Show

X19 Tarren – Warwick State High  
School, Warwick QLD

## ALPACA

### Supreme Champion Huacaya of Show

Champion Junior Male – “Karawill  
Fagan” – W J & K D Gilbert,  
Armidale NSW

## FLEECE

### Grand Champion Merino Fleece of Show

J F & A M Doak, Bundarra NSW

## PISCICULTURE

### Champion Fish of Show

Northern and Central American Cichlids  
– Cary Bielenberg, Wamuran QLD

## QUILTS ACROSS QUEENSLAND

### Best of Show

“Fairy Fantasia” – Winsome Cadoo,  
Deception Bay QLD

## FINE ARTS

### Cookery

Grand Champion Cake Decorating  
Exhibit of Show – Brenden Clem,  
Brisbane QLD



More than 100 beautifully decorated cakes were  
on display for all to see at the 2011 Ekka.

## CREATIVE ART AND CRAFT

### Grand Champion Exhibit of Show

Smocked Dress Matching Bonnet –  
Alexis Parkinson, Kuttabul QLD

## PAINTING AND DRAWING

### Champion Portrait of Show

“Peter” – Louise Corke, Oxenford QLD

## SCULPTURE

### Champion Sculpture of Show

“The Dancer” – Peter Stellar, Wellington  
Point QLD

## PHOTOGRAPHY

### Champion Print of Show

“Renee In Mono” – Gordon Dixon, Eight  
Mile Plains QLD

# UNEARTHING AUSTRALIA'S BEST BEER



## Head brewer on the judging panel



Stimulating the taste buds of every thirsty Queenslander, the RNA's Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show Beer Competition is set to unearth Australia's best brew.

This year the competition has expanded and will now unearth the nation's best lager, ale, stout, porter, wheat and strong beers, before awarding an overall champion on October 26.

Now in its second year, the competition features a well respected judging panel including Head Brewer for Carlton United Brewers at the Yatala Brewery, Geoff Day (pictured).

In his role, Geoff manages the entire brewing process from raw materials to the finished product for more than 30 beer brands.

### Q. How long have you worked in the brewing industry?

A. For 26 years since joining CUB at the Carlton Brewery in Melbourne in 1985.

### Q. What do you enjoy most about your job?

A. Working with the people in the brewing industry. There is a certain culture in the industry which always has a positive vibe. In a brewery there is always something changing, such as new products being brewed or upgrading brewing technology. Also at the end of everyday there is tangible evidence of the job completed with beer transferred into the warehouse and trucks fully loaded leaving the brewery.

### Q. How long have you been judging and what competitions are you involved with?

A. I have been judging for six years at the Australian International Beer Awards in Melbourne – the second largest beer competition in the world.

### Q. Why is this an important competition in Australian culture and for our consumers?

A. It gives recognition to the art and science of brewing by assessing and publishing the many excellent beers brewed here in Queensland. There is actually more beer brewed in Queensland than any other state in Australia.

### Q. What are the current trends in the beer industry?

A. Beer trends are changing. Consumers are looking for new experiences and as a result their beer repertoire is broadening. Consumers are also becoming more health conscious and looking for beers that are easy drinking and don't knock them around the next day. This has led to the growth in the new world beer segment. Overall alcohol consumption per capita is declining and many consumers are looking for quality, resulting in a shift towards international, domestic premium and craft beers. Whilst beer is still a "blokes" drink, more female consumers are enjoying beer and look to gender neutral beers like Pure Blonde and sweeter flavoured beers like Carlton Dry Fusion.

### Q. Where do you see the industry moving?

A. New products will continue to drive growth in the industry and whilst "low carb" has become "wall paper", consumers are starting to look for healthier options, more "pure" ingredients. They also look for brands that speak to what they stand for and who and where they want to be. For example, Great Northern speaks to escaping the rat race, getting away and enjoying Queensland and everything on offer.

### Q. What should we expect to see at this year's beer competition?

A. A greater number of different styles of beers as brewers react to the trend for more diversity from consumers.

### Q. Golden lagers, dark lagers, pale and golden ales, dark ales, stouts, porters, wheat and strong beers are going head to head for the top trophy, what do you think will come out on top?

A. I don't expect much to be between the top beers so it's going to be a very open competition, because there are now so many great tasting beers brewed in Queensland.

### Q. Many Australians would think you have the best job so how do you become a beer judge?

A. You need a passion for beer and brewing. I guess my invitation was due to my practical experience working in the brewing industry where everyday we do tasting to assess the quality of the beers.

### Q. What do you look for in a champion beer?

A. Appearance, colour and clarity, appealing head retention, a good balance flavour through choice of malt, hops, yeast and water by the brewer; trueness to the style of the beer is important; technical quality in terms of how the beer was brewed by the brewer is also important as is the drinkability of a beer which is often overlooked. Lastly and most importantly...it must taste great.

### Q. What are you looking forward to at this year's competition?

A. I am really looking forward to trying all the great beers entered. While the judging will be tough work with so many beers to assess, I will soldier through the process.

### Q. What is your favourite beer?

A. My favourite beer is Pure Blonde. It's low in carbs but still has plenty of flavour and a clean finish. I also enjoy the hoppy character associated with the Hersbrucker aroma hops used in this beer.





## THE WIGGLES BIG BIRTHDAY IN THE BIG TENT

Australia's most successful children's entertainers, The Wiggles, are celebrating their 20th birthday at the RNA Showgrounds from December 9 to 11.

Anthony, Murray, Jeff and Sam will bring six shows filled with all the favourite songs and some new tunes that will have children, mums, dads and grandparents dancing in the aisles.

Blue Wiggle Anthony Field said he can't wait for the party to start.

"Moving out of arenas gives us the chance to get up close and personal with our wiggly audience in the warm and friendly environment of the Wiggly Big Tent," he said.

Come along to the RNA Showgrounds and celebrate 20 years with The Wiggles.

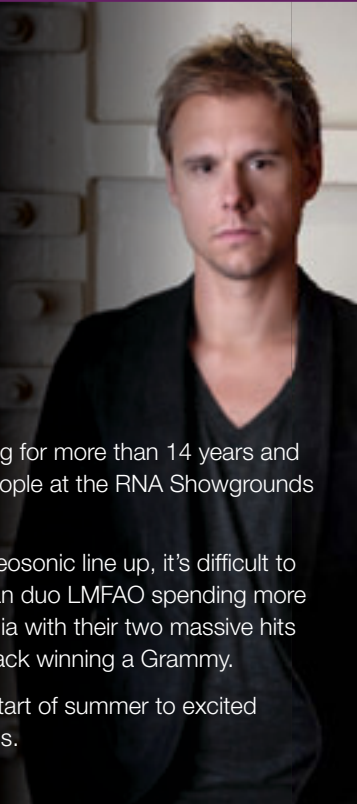
## ARMIN VAN BUUREN HEADLINES STEREOSONIC

The first DJ to be named number one in the DJ MAG Top 100 poll four times in a row will headline Stereosonic on December 4.

Armin van Buuren has been DJ'ing and producing for more than 14 years and will this year play in front of more than 20,000 people at the RNA Showgrounds in the 10 hour festival.

With almost 40 acts appearing in this year's Stereosonic line up, it's difficult to say who has had the biggest year. From American duo LMFAO spending more than 11 weeks at the number one spot in Australia with their two massive hits 'Party Rockin' and 'Shufflin', to fellow artist Afrojack winning a Grammy.

Now in its fifth year, Stereosonic will launch the start of summer to excited crowds on December 4 at the RNA Showgrounds.



## EVENT CALENDAR WHAT'S COMING UP ...

### OCTOBER 2011

**Oktoberfest Brisbane 2011**  
Friday 14 – Sunday 16 October

**Brisbane Retirement & Lifestyle Expo**  
Friday 14 – Sunday 16 October

**2011 Pre Christmas Caravan & Camping Sale**  
Thursday 20 – Sunday 23 October

**Brisbane Relay for Life (Cancer Council)**  
Saturday 29 – Sunday 30 October

### NOVEMBER 2011

**Supanova Pop Culture Expo**  
Friday 4 – Sunday 6 November

**MO Fest 2011**  
Saturday 12 November

**Collectorama Antiques and Collectables Fair**  
Friday 25 – Saturday 26 November

### DECEMBER 2011

**Stereosonic**  
Sunday 4 December

**The Wiggles**  
Friday 9 – Sunday 11 December



## Only the best at your next barbeque

Showcasing the humble 'banger' in an entirely new light, the Sausage King competition at the Ekka awarded Queensland's best pork, continental, traditional Australian, gourmet and poultry sausages. Here's where to buy the best snags in Queensland:

**Traditional Australian Beef** – Norm Milner Butchers

**Traditional Australian Pork** – Carey Bros

**Australian Lamb** – Prime Specialty Meats, Lamb, Tomato and Onion

**Continental** – Circle T Meats, Chorizo

**Poultry** – Village Meats Rosalie, Duck and Orange

**Gourmet** – Narangba Select Meats, Beef, Bacon, Cheese and Tomato

# Many thanks to our sponsors.

## Grand Champion



positive energy



## Champion



## Blue Ribbon



Dedicated to a better Brisbane

