



# The Ekka Courier

The newspaper of the Brisbane Show Camp



# Online 2022

Thursday

11 August 2022

## DAILY HIGHLIGHTS

- \* 9 am – 11 am: Sheep Judging
- \* 9:30 am – 4:30 pm: Cradle-a-chick
- \* 9am – 6pm: Pisciculture Display
- \* 9 am – 6 pm: Agriculture Displays
- \* 11 am, 1 pm & 2 pm: Bluey & Bingo Show
- \* 6:45 pm – 7 pm: Vintage Speedway Cars

The Brisbane Show Camp is a joint program of Education Queensland and the Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland. Conducted by the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre. Ph- 3552 7111



## SHOWBAGS

By Madeline



Sample bags have been at the Ekka since 1902 and the modern showbag is still a crowd pleaser.

The first Ekka sample bag, containing a lump of coal, was handed out free to anyone visiting the Ekka. Coal was used to heat homes and cook and was expensive for most families at the time.

In 1931, during the Depression, the Commonwealth Bank had a sample bag for those in need. It contained a filled pencil case for school.

The bags and their contents have changed over time. The early bags were paper bags with handles. This year the paper bag has returned for the ever popular Bertie Beetle Bag. Plastic bags were introduced in the 1970s.

There were less options to choose from. Some were free and promoted the businesses, some included samples of household items.

In the 1950s and 60s there were small packets of groceries, small cans or bottles of soft drink and

small packets of lollies. The Bank of New South Wales had coins, farthings, as well as money boxes and booklets on topics that would help with school projects.



Girls with Showbags 1946



Most bags would also have a comic.

Sherry Black has been coming to the Ekka since 1954. She recalls that the items in the sample bags were not always appealing to children. Often,

they contained things like furniture polish.

“Now they are full of surprises that don’t last, but they are fun,” she said.

With nearly 400 showbags available this year, there is something for everyone. From home and lifestyle, cosmetics and health to movie, TV or computer game themed selections. We can not forget the favourites of chocolate, liquorice and other sweets.

Some are supporting community programs with a percentage of the price being donated to the charity.



Even during the COVID-19 lockdowns, showbags were still available for purchase online.

The showbags always have been, and always will be, a favourite with visitors to the Ekka.



Showbags Pavilion 2016