

# IGA Perth Royal Show

1st October to 8th October 2011



**October 8, 2011**

## **2011 IGA Perth Royal Show ends today**

Tens of thousands more children have attended this year's IGA Perth Royal Show thanks to the State Government's free entry for kids as part of CHOGM celebrations.

Free kids and great weather led to a record breaking opening day and Show Tuesday.

By the end of the Show, it is expected that up to 440,000 people would have enjoyed the fun, wonder and discovery at Claremont Showground.

According to President of the Royal Agricultural Society of WA, Hugh Harding, this year's event has been an outstanding success.

"The State Government's initiative to provide free entry for those aged 12 and under has given children the opportunity to learn about the world from an agricultural perspective.

"It is really important that children understand where their food comes from, that they appreciate the work of farmers in this State and they realise that everybody benefits from our agricultural industries," he said.

Mr Harding said that he was proud of the event's showcase of competitions, 10,000 animals; one-off exhibits such as the Amazing Albany Experience and Guest Nation Malaysia to firm favourites such as cow milking and the IGA Follow the Yellow Brick Road trail through the agricultural pavilions.

"This year we have also hosted the National Shearing Competition which draws competitors from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa," he said.

Mr Harding said that the Show remained relevant and popular after almost 180 years because it was a celebration shared with family and friends.

"Everyone knows someone who enters or judges a competition, volunteers their time or mans an exhibit. Many people have been involved in the Show for decades and their children and grandchildren follow suit," he said.

## Show Stats

The competitions attracted people of all ages and walks of life, from leading rein riders as young as six to Scotty Curtis, an 84-year-old woodchopper.

Around 2,000 people per day enjoyed the Skyview Observation Wheel, the largest ferris wheel in the southern hemisphere.

The most popular rides in Sideshow Alley were the new Thunderbolt ride and the Nitro.

248 different types of showbags were on sale. The most expensive, at \$150, was the bag containing 30 specially created macaroons from award winning patisserie Jean Pierre Sancho, while Blinky Bill cost just \$1.

Biggest selling showbags included AC/DC, Crusty Demons, Dora The Explorer, Harry Potter, the Glow Bag and Bertie Beetle.

One of the most popular Show novelty items was the animal hat and scarf available with the Greatest Showbag on Earth.

About 17,500 families followed the Yellow Brick Road, enjoying fun-filled activities on the trail around the Showground.

Yellow Bricker Road users left their name and handprints on half a kilometre of calico.

Over 60,000 pieces of fruit were handed out on the trail.

Around 5,000 balloons were twisted on the trail.

FYBR was manned by 650 girl guides, 120 RAS volunteers, 27 paid staff and 15 entertainers.

About 400 kids a day watched the Ask A Farmer show. The most common question asked was, 'How do you milk a cow'. The most unusual was, 'How do pigs wee?' by a three-year-old girl.

Brownes has given out 200,000 samples of yoghurt and flavoured milk.

6000 children took part in the Brownes Chill 2 for 1 ride offer at Kiddie Rides.

Kid triplets were born in the Baby Animal Nursery.

There were 416 free entertainment shows watched by around 125,000 people.

Visitors consumed 50 litres worth of flavoured milk, 36 kilos of cheese, 120 litres of lactose free milk and 42 kilos of yoghurt at the Harvey Fresh stand in the Dairy Pavilion.

Award winning chocolate makers Fremantle Chocolate poured 18 kilos of chocolate a day in the chocolate fondue fountain on the Yellow Brick Road. 2100 strawberries a day were dipped in the fountain.

Boost Juice got through over 425 kilos of fresh bananas, over 110 kilos of passionfruit and over 2.1 tonnes of yoghurt

200 kilos of sausages were cooked and given away in the IGA Fresh From WA Pavilion.

2,000 cheese toasties a day were made and sold for \$2..

There were 2,290 wine entries this year from 371 vineyards across Australia.

About 50 chicks hatched in the Pigeon and Poultry Pavilion, where 540 chooks were on display. Kids painted 240 eggs daily.

4,000 people entered the guess the weight of the chicken competition. The chicken weighed six kilos. Most incorrect answer was 50 kilos.

25,000 toothpicks worth of Steggles chicken and turkey were sampled in the IGA Fresh From WA Pavilion.

Show goers sampled 800 bottles of wine.

Award-winning chocolatiers Whistler's sold approximately 20 tonnes of chocolate and gave away 100 kilos worth of free samples. It made eight batches of honeycomb a day, or 960 kilos worth over the week.

Golden Eggs gave away around 80 kilos of chilled egg and mayonnaise mix.

Show goers got through 9,920 slices of mushroom pizza in the IGA Fresh From WA Pavilion, made with 8,480 mushrooms.

Swan Street gave away 8000 samples of baklava.

Over in the Police Pavilion, 5,000 people took the opportunity to sit on the police motorbike on display.

About 150,000 people watched the IGA Fireworks Spectacular over the eight-day Show.

The Albany Experience got through nearly 24 litres of whisky and gave away 2500 beach balls.

Nearly 1000 entries were judged in the cookery competition.

2,500 trophies, ribbons and certificates were awarded.