

AROUND THE GROUNDS

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A WORD FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER PETER THORPE



What an amazing year we have had at Sydney Showground. These past few months we hosted some of the most exciting shows, matches, performances and exhibitions. Nothing was more nail biting than watching our home team the GWS GIANTS, smash their way through to their first AFL Grand Final! Alongside this, there were a series of successful events all with

record numbers in attendance and revenue streams. The Dog Lovers Show had over 30,000 attendees lining up to meet over 800 dogs, Caravan Camping Show back for their 3rd year with their numbers still climbing and Oz Comic-Con moved their show to the venue for the first time with incredible success. To capture all the new and returning shows a photographer came in to shoot our new events,

and what was captured only highlighted the fun and scale of events that run in our space. From our work at the Dog Lovers Show, the team is now a finalist in the EEAA 2019 Awards for Excellence for Best Venue Team.

Behind the scenes, there have been some BIG updates to the stadium with the installation of 370 metres of LED panelling on the parapet tier. What this means is, with our new digital signage you can not only rotate your messaging but also light up your brand in the Stadium. In other news, over the past few months a detailed and exhaustive tender process for the provision of cleaning services across the site had been undertaken. The process was all worth it as the business welcomed the Quayclean team who will be with us for all events from the Sydney Royal Easter Show to concerts and exhibitions. What a couple of months it's been here, we are now looking forward to our summer of festivals, sports and the ICC Women's T20 World Cup coming early next year. Here's to an even bigger and busier 2020!

NEW SHOWS - OZ COMIC-CON 2019 & DOG LOVERS SHOW

There were two incredible and big events that took over the site in these last few months. The Dog Lovers Show and Oz Comic-con 2019 both had stand-out figures.

More than 30,000 dog lovers attended the Sydney Dog Lovers Show this August, breaking the attendance record for its 6th Show and making it the most successful event since its 2014 inception. Almost doubling in size, the site provided the ideal venue space for the event.

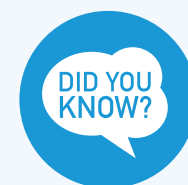
Similarly, Oz Comic-con had its debut on the 28-29th of September with thousands of people flocking to the event.

The event attracted cosplayers, fans of film and TV with celebrities Hayley Atwell, Michael Eklund and KJ Apa. The crowds of adults and children dressed as superheroes and villains truly highlighted the diversity of events that are held here. Oz Comic-con took over the Dome, Exhibition Halls and also activated Riverina Avenue.

Both events exceeded expectations, the team cannot wait to see the Sydney Dog Lovers Show and Oz Comic-con come back next year.

ANNOUNCEMENT – QUAYCLEAN

Sydney Showground is proud to announce that it has engaged Quayclean in a multi-year contract incorporating all our events including the Sydney Royal Easter Show. Announcing Quayclean's contract win Chief Operating Officer, Darryl Jeffrey highlighted "Quayclean was selected from a quality group of tenderers. Their extensive experience within major public venues, leadership and reference points within the industry were first class and on this basis were awarded the tender to work in partnership with the Sydney Showground."



With the opening of the new M4 tunnels, if you are driving from the Sydney CBD to Sydney Olympic Park your trip could be slashed by 20 minutes or more. From bypassing 22 sets of traffic lights, the length of your trip could be more than halved.

UPCOMING EVENTS

November – April 2020

- **RnB Fridays Live**
16th November 2019
- **Pop-up Christmas Carnival**
23rd November 2019 –
9th December 2019
- **Hot Import Nights**
23rd November 2019
- **Festival X**
30th November 2019
- **Iceman Wim Hof Experience**
8th December 2019
- **Sydney Thunder**
v Melbourne Stars – 2nd January 2020
v Brisbane Heat – 6th January 2020
v Hobart Hurricanes – 11th January 2020
v Sydney Sixers – 18th January 2020
v Perth Scorchers – 26th January 2020
- **Fatboy Slim Tour**
31st January 2020
- **World Travel Expo**
1st - 2nd February 2020
- **Sydney Gift Fair**
21st -24th February 2020
- **ICC Women's T20 World Cup**
Australia v India – 21st February 2020
South Africa v Pakistan – 1st March 2020
England v West Indies – 1st March 2020
Pakistan v Q2 – 3rd March 2020
West Indies v South Africa – 3rd March 2020
- **Jay Chou Concert (SOLD OUT)**
14th March 2020
- **Sydney Royal Easter Show**
3rd April – 14th April 2020



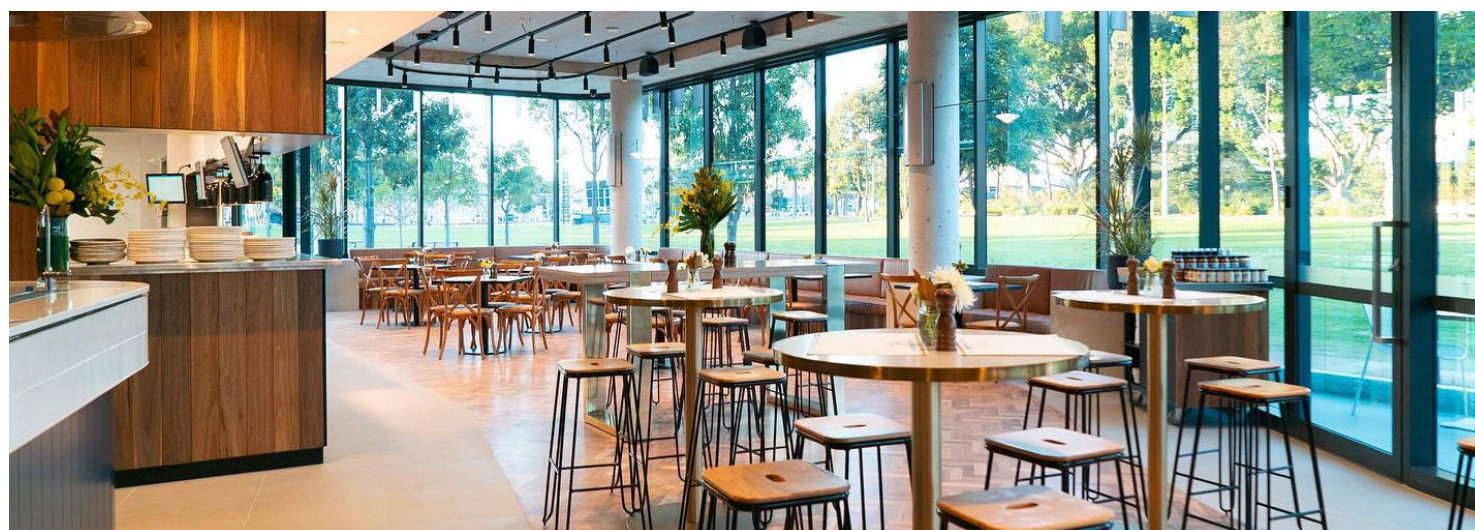
IT'S TIME TO PARTY!

It's heating up and the team cannot wait to have you dance the night away at our music events this summer. Coming up we have RnB Fridays Live, Festival X, Fatboy Slim and Jay Chou all in the next few months. The headliners are sure to impress. Janet Jackson is here to show us some of her moves at RnB Fridays Live, Calvin Harris is here to have you bopping to the latest beats at Festival X, Fat Boy Slim is ready to DJ just for you at his stand-alone concert and Jay Chou is here to belt out his latest tunes on one of the largest single stage builds the grounds have ever had. The team at Sydney Showground love live music and no one does it better than we do. Make sure you bring your family and friends to come party, sing-a-long and dance.

SUMMER OF SPORTS

There are a lot of different sports that go on here and every summer we gear up the grounds for one of our favourites – cricket. The Sydney Thunder are raring to come back to our Stadium and play their best games yet. The first game in January marks the start of a special season. Not only is the Stadium hosting the Big Bash League, but also the opening of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup on Friday 21 February, 2020. The Australian women's team are the defending champions in the sport, we cannot wait to host a loud and proud audience of supporters. Being chosen to host the opening ceremony is a testament to all the hard work from our team, we are counting down the days and cannot wait for the 21st of February.

NEW DEVELOPMENTS – THE LOCKER ROOM



Centrally located next to Sydney Showground, The Locker Room has already established itself as watering hole with a long saloon-style bar as well as separate drinking and eating spaces. This is the perfect pre-event meeting place for people attending shows. You can head up to the roof terrace to enjoy acoustic music and summertime sipping in and amongst the best venues in Sydney.



5 MINUTES WITH MURRAY WILTON GENERAL MANAGER – SYDNEY ROYAL EASTER SHOW

1. **HOW DID YOU BECOME INTERESTED IN THE EVENTS INDUSTRY?**
I joined the Royal Agricultural Society (RAS) in 2003 as a RAS Councillor. In 2013 I made the decision to apply for the then advertised position, GM of Agriculture. My career and passion has always been Media and Agriculture, so in 2013 I made the decision to leave radio and follow my other love, agriculture. My interest stems from my childhood and my father's involvement with the SRES.
2. **WHY DO YOU ENJOY WORKING AT RAS?**
The people, creative freedom and sense of pride
3. **WHAT IS THE MOST CHALLENGING PART OF YOUR JOB?**
You only get one crack at the SRES every year, so you have ensure you get it right. If something fails, you have to wait 12 months to go again. I'm not very patient, so it's challenging for me that I have to wait that long.
4. **WHAT'S YOUR BEST MEMORY ON THE JOB?**
Arriving on site early and heading to the cattle pavilion, surrounded by cattle and farmers at the wash bays preparing for the days competition. If I close my eyes now I can see the sun's rays hitting the air, a mixture of dust, water, and cattle bellowing. That's what makes me get up every day.
5. **WHAT WAS YOUR VERY FIRST JOB?**
At the age of 7, I worked for ABC Television in a TV Series and as GM, I think it was buying a microwave oven for the staff room.
6. **HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF IN ONE WORD?**
Fortunate
7. **WHAT ARE YOUR HOBBIES OUTSIDE OF WORK?**
I'm a made collector of stuff (as my wife calls it), but I also do a lot of target pistol shooting
8. **WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE ABOUT YOUR LIFE?**
Harrison Ford