

MEDIA RELEASE

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Sick kids embrace country life ahead of the Ekka



Ronald McDonald House families staying at Herston House in Brisbane enjoyed an early taste of the Ekka last night (Wednesday 5 August).

Treasury Casino & Hotel and Jupiters Hotel & Casino treated the heroic kids and their families to their own mini show, organising a range of roving performers, displays and tasty carnival treats at their home away from home while they're undergoing lifesaving medical treatment.

They marvelled at magic tricks, had their faces painted, watched balloons get sculpted into animals, judged cakes prepared by the chefs at Treasury and Jupiters and enjoyed a specially-crafted carnival menu including mini dagwood dogs, beef medallions, corn on the cob, salads, strawberry ice creams, fairy floss, popcorn and more.

Treasury and Jupiters Managing Director, Queensland Geoff Hogg said the reality for many of the sick kids staying at Ronald McDonald Houses in Brisbane is they won't get to the show this year.

"Many of the young patients are too sick to go to this year's Ekka, so we brought the show to them," Geoff said.

"We feel privileged to be able to bring a little Ekka cheer to some very brave children and their devoted families."

Treasury and Jupiters have a proud partnership with Ronald McDonald House South East Queensland (RMH SEQ). Last year they pledged to raise \$3 million over three years to contribute towards the development of the charity's new South Brisbane House, located on the doorstep on the recently-opened Lady Cilento Children's Hospital.

"We are very proud of our partnership with RMH SEQ and the support it will provide to the families of seriously ill children – now, and in the future," Geoff said.

Ronald McDonald House South East Queensland CEO Christopher Macaulay said the event was a major boost for families dealing with difficult circumstances.



“Enabling families to embrace the festivities of the Ekka right inside our Herston House ensures we are able to provide them with a distraction whilst they dealing with caring for a seriously ill child as well as giving our regional families the opportunity to experience the fun of the Ekka whilst in the city,” Christopher said.

“We are always blown away by the amount of detail and effort Treasury and Jupiters devote to these wonderful events which always give our families a reason to smile.”

RMH SEQ’s new South Brisbane House, which will be one of the largest Ronald McDonald Houses in the world, is due to be completed by mid-2016 and will accommodate up to 450 guests per night, doubling the capacity of the existing facilities.

Echo Entertainment Group, which operates the Treasury and Jupiters properties in Queensland, is proud to have been selected as the Queensland Government’s preferred proponent for the Queen’s Wharf Brisbane project.

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