## **MEDIA RELEASE**

## **PIGS WILL FLY**

Freestyle Productions' spunky little porkers have learned even more tricks to delight patrons at this year's Ekka.

Since their debut at the Royal Queensland Show three years ago the celebrated porcine sisters, Miss Piggy and Miss Beauty, have continued to build their repertoire and venture into areas where no pig has gone before.

With Ham Bone, Pork Chop, Bacon Rasher and Crackling, the sisters are ready to show their racing pace, hurdling and diving skills have reached a new high.

Fans of the troop will be able to meet the porky characters close up and personal by means of a transporter with platform and viewing area. The wide viewing window makes it easy for small toddlers as well as adults to see how the pigs travel in style and to watch the heat lamp drying process for the diving duo.

Enhancing the pigs' performance are two human Sunny Cowgirls, Sophie and Celeste Clabbum, who provide a musical backdrop to antics on the starting blocks.

Alternating with the Racing Pig Spectacular, Michael Vandeleur will present his **Should've Been a Cowboy** with his purebred Appaloosan partner, **I'm a Roman Prince.** 

Dressed in a dazzling Western costume and twirling his six-shooters, Michael brings the excitement of the old West alive with fancy gun work, whip artistry and rope spinning stunts that invite audience participation.

Australian National Open and Junior Whip Cracking Champion at the age of 11, Michael made the most of the four years his family later spent in the United States and revelled in the opportunity to live in the fascinating country of Wild West tradition on the outskirts of Houston, Austin, Nashville, Dallas and Fortworth.

He chummed up with legendary characters such as Iron Eyes Cody, Ben Johnson and Wilfred Brimley with World Champion Rope Spinner, Gene McLaughlin, becoming his mentor.

He has helped stunt co-ordinators on film sets and on a trip to Tombstone was invited by the man dubbed the Fastest Gun in the World, Wes Flowers, to visit his private shooting range.

Michael unofficially broke the world record and has been invited by Wes to try for the World Title in California. Michael Vandeleur certainly **Should've Been a Cowboy.** ends

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