

Policing Expo '88

On 30th April 1988 Brisbane's World Expo 88 opened. It was heralded as the leading international event of the Australian Bicentenary, and promised to be the most spectacular celebration of leisure, technical achievement and cultural exchange Australia had ever seen. It did not disappoint! The theme was 'Leisure in the age of Technology'. Acting Commissioner of Police Ronald J. Redmond acknowledged the heavy commitment of resources required, and the considerable policing challenge for the Queensland Police Force (as it was known then).

Officers were allocated a confidential handbook, as show above. As well as important and confidential police intel, the handbook included duties and responsibilities, laws and procedures, handy telephone extensions, and map with an index of pavilions and other important locations.

Queen Elizabeth II opened World Expo 88 and her arrival in Australia, and Brisbane, caused even larger crowds than the city thought possible. Police in all fields had a duty to oversee her visit and ensure the safety and security of Her Majesty, the entourage, and of course visitors to this exciting and world renowned event.

After Expo 88 finished the site was redeveloped as 'South Bank' with vibrant spaces for locals and tourists to enjoy. The area boasts a patrolled beach, lush green parkland, shops and eateries till you drop, and a host of cultural and artistic centres. It is policed by Southbank Station, and new *Segways* provide a swift and novel police presence.



Police officers and crowds await the arrival of Queen Elizabeth II for the opening of Expo 88.