

# TASTE OF THE SHOW

From traditional dagwood dogs to an American show favourite with an Aussie twist, there is plenty of food to satisfy everyone at this year's Ekka, writes **Rose Brennan**

**T**he food-lover will delight in what is on offer this year with American southern food as well as much-loved Ekka favourites to tantalise the tastebuds.

Florida-born Christina Webber, 30, is bringing her World Famous Funnel Cake business to the show again this year.

Webber says she was overwhelmed by the demand last year.

"Being from Florida I saw the gap in the

entertainment aspect of food in Australia.

"In America my backyard was Disney World and it was something I really wanted to bring to Australia because it's so much fun and it's something that's really missing as part of the food culture here," she says.

Funnel cakes are a mix between a churro, a waffle and doughnut with a fluffy inside and crunchy outside and are best served smothered in toppings.

"I knew how delicious the funnel cakes were and how popular they were and I knew Australians would love them so I put two and two together," Webber says.

"This year we're doing something different – we've put a funnel cake on a stick ... it's called the Twisty Trapeze."

Funnel cakes aren't the only US-inspired food available at the show with pulled pork rolls, slaw turkey legs and waffle dogs on offer.

Not to be outdone by the Americans, the Pink family from Bethania, in Logan, south of Brisbane, are continuing a family legacy with their traditional Ekka fare.

Jaze Pink, 41, and her husband Glenn, 50, will be joined by their seven children – from 19 years old to 18 months old – as they run

Pinkie's Big White Canteen.

"My children are the sixth

generation of our family. Together we've been at Ekka for the past four years. The family believe grandmother Thelma had a dog in the 1920s.

"A man came to the show and the American corn dogs were a taste of the batter and practised with plain flour and made her own. She made it," Pink says.

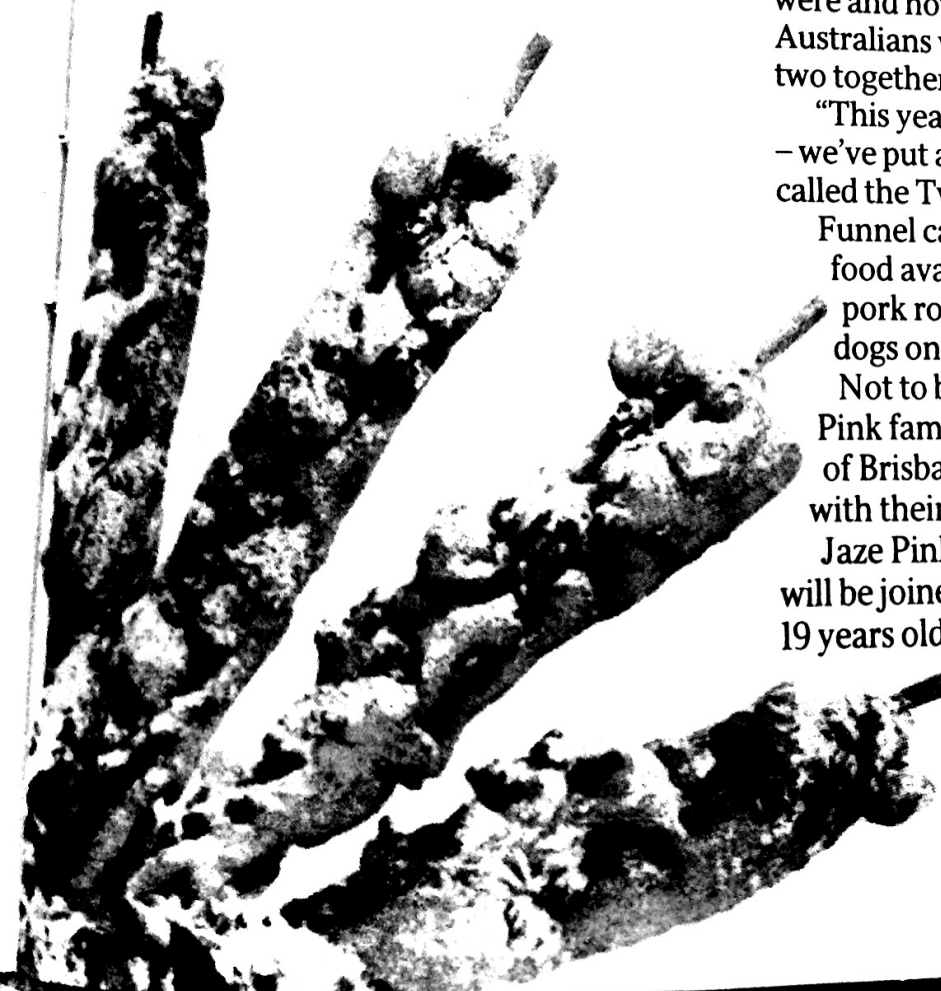
The family sold corn dogs at last year's Ekka.

"We were the only dogs and no one else," Pink says.

"Ekka is the only show I'm excited about. It's a tiring one but it's sure," she says.

Pink also believes in great, great grandmothers introduced fairy

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**SWEET FARE:** Chantel Charchalis (left) and Christina Webber with a funnel cake and below an Ekka dagwood dog.

generation of our family in the business.

Together we've been at the Ekka for the past four years but our extended family has been there for 70 years," she says.

The family believe Glenn's great, great grandmother Thelma invented the dagwood dog in the 1920s.

"A man came to the Sydney show who had the American corn dog and she didn't like the taste of the batter and she went home and practised with plain flour and self-raising flour and made her own batter and that's how she made it," Pink says.

The family sold two tonnes of dagwood dogs at last year's Ekka.

"We were the original sellers of dagwood dogs and no one can ever take that away," Pink says.

"Ekka is the one show everyone gets really excited about. It's a big one, a long one and it's a tiring one but it's the most fun, that's for sure," she says.

Pink also believes her husband's other great, great grandmother Mona Brown introduced fairy floss and waffles to the show.

"And then the families combined and that's one big beautiful thing now."

