

News you can use!

April 7, 2010

Major New Platypus Exhibit set to bring more visitors to Brisbane

Barak, the first platypus to be bred in captivity in 55 years, has arrived at Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary all the way from Healesville Sanctuary in Victoria. After journeying on an aeroplane seated amongst passengers and getting escorted by the captain of the aircraft, Barak arrived safely in Brisbane and went on display March 30, 2010.

It has been 20 years since there was a platypus at Lone Pine and Barak is now ready to show off his wonderful new \$1 million dollar home by splashing, grooming, hunting yabbies and hanging out with his new keepers in his 24,000 litre tank. Lone Pine is delighted to welcome this bizarre-looking venomous *monotreme* (egg-laying mammal). Many locals are unaware that the platypus is native to the Brisbane area and we hope this will help educate them about keeping our water ways clean.

The Platypus is expected to help Brisbane compete with Sydney as a tourist destination. At a special event, Barak's home was open for a sneak peak. "Everyone there loved the platypus and his new home and I am very excited about opening it to the general public", said Jacqui Brumm, Lone Pine's Curator.

For more details about Barak the Platypus and the Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary, please visit www.koala.net.



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