

Extra's Ekka blues

THE dreaded Ekka lurgy has blown into Brisneyland early and hit Channel 9's *Extra* hard. Nine's savvy cross-promo had lined up the Nova brekky crew for some "extracurricular" hosting this week, but only Kip Wightman, left, has been on air, with Ash Bradnam, centre, and David "Luttsy" Luttler, right, confined to bed.

"Luttsy's been crook the last couple of days and Ash has come down sick now," Kip says. "It's just been me so far, but hopefully they're going to come good."

If they can crawl out of bed, Ash and Luttsy could face more lurking lurgies as they are due to host *Extra* from the Ekka tomorrow and on Friday. (A dagwood dog and strawberry icecream should set them right.) If not, expect to see more Kip. "It may just end up being the week of Wightman," the Kipster suggests. "I'm giving myself permission to shine."

The self-described radio guy hasn't hosted any TV since a Perth telethon in 1997. He admits his hands were a tad clammy when the camera light turned red, but thankfully avoided any Cindy Brady-style camera fright.

"It's a little bit weird having to worry about my appearance. I was trying to get a haircut... but my hairdresser doesn't work Mondays, so I had to rough it."



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