

SHOWBIZ

WINTER 2017

Our Ekka
special
edition



RNA

THE ROYAL NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL AND
INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION
OF QUEENSLAND



ROYAL
INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION CENTRE
BRISBANE AUSTRALIA



The official magazine of the RNA

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Royal Queensland Food & Wine Show
We are the champions

Welcome

The Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) presented by RACQ is delighted to be celebrating a remarkable milestone this year - its 140th anniversary.



From the very first show in 1876, the Ekka has been bringing the country and city together to celebrate and champion agriculture and the critical role it plays in our everyday lives.

Queensland's largest and most loved annual event has a remarkable history, being staged every year except for just two - in 1919 due to the Spanish Flu epidemic and in 1942 when the grounds were used as a World War II staging depot.

Over the past 140 years, more than 30 million people have attended the show, making family traditions and childhood memories to pass down through generations.

The Ekka is the people's show and this year we're celebrating its 140th by giving back to the people who have made the show what it is today.

For the very first time, a Twilight Ticket is on offer, meaning people can enter the Ekka from 6pm until late for just \$16 - half the price of an adult ticket.

As the sun sets, they'll enjoy the new Children's Fireworks presented by MG Motor inspired by the colours of the Great Barrier Reef, the spectacular world-class night show EkkaNITES and premier food precincts Gourmet Plaza, Woolworths Fresh Food

Pavilion and the award-winning Royal Queensland Steakhouse presented by JBS Australia, which will all stay open longer until 9pm.

We're also bringing back the Community Stage presented by Colorbond Steel after a two year hiatus, so dance schools, community groups and entertainers can showcase their talents.

Ekka is a true family affair and since 1875 the RNA has been the proud custodian of this historic event, which we aim to preserve and build on for future generations to enjoy.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our hard working Ekka staff, stewards, judges, volunteers and sponsors, who all play an essential role in staging this iconic event.

I look forward to welcoming our RNA members, Ekka exhibitors, competitors, volunteers and visitors to this year's show.

We hope you enjoy Ekka 2017, as we celebrate our 140th anniversary.

David Thomas
RNA President

A night of grape grazing

More than 850 people raised their glasses to the newest wines from the nation's best winemakers, at the third Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) Grape Grazing by Night - Celebrating Australian Wine event.

Held at the Brisbane Showgrounds in early July, the exclusive event gave the public the rare chance to sniff, swirl and sample more than 1,600 top drops, including the Royal Queensland Wine Show (RQWS) award-winners and new vintage of season.

While toasting to the exceptional drops, the wine lovers indulged in award-winning produce from the RQFWS, with grazing stations featuring Australia's best cheese, lamb and beef.

Grape Grazing by Night continues to grow in popularity each year, with tickets to this year's event selling out. To register your interest for 2018 please email sales@royalqldfoodwineshow.com.au



Hundreds enjoy Ekka fun

More than 450 Ekka Media Launch guests were given a taste of what to expect come August 11, when the 140th Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) kicks off.

Two major announcements were made at the July launch to celebrate the milestone - a half price Twilight Ticket allowing entry to the show from 6pm and not one, but two fireworks shows with the introduction of a

children's display.

The entertainment line-up was also revealed, with guests given a sneak peak at a death-defying straight jacket escape performed by daredevil Sam Powers, the new Bananas in Pyjamas kids show, the 'Back to Nature' themed Natural Fibres Fashion Parades and a tribute to the much-loved Holden Precision Driving Team.

Some of the state's finest produce, including Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) award-winning beef, lamb, cheese and wine were on offer, along with show favourites the iconic strawberry sundae and dagwood dog.

For more on the Ekka Media Launch, check out our episode of Ekka TV by clicking here.

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RACQ

It pays to belong

Guardian Early Learning's Barangaroo centre, which King Street will be similar to

Childcare centre coming to growing precinct

Families living and working at the Brisbane Showgrounds will soon have convenient access to childcare facilities, with Guardian Early Learning to open in King Street early next year.

The childcare centre is part of stage three of the \$2.9 billion Brisbane Showgrounds Regeneration Project.

The three level centre will include two large outdoor learning environments and an open plan kitchen, with the children able to interact with the cook.

It will also have an 'Out & About' excursion program, aimed at ensuring the children connect with and become active members of the local Brisbane Showgrounds

community.

The world-class early learning centre will be housed in Kings Co-op, along with Rockpool Dining Group and Urban Craft Brewing Co's food and beverage concept which is set to open later this year and studio spaces for the creative industries, all supported by a multi-story car park.

Timber building King breaks ground

Artists impression of 25 King

Construction is officially underway on the world's tallest engineered timber office building in King Street.

Acting Premier and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning Jackie Trad visited the Brisbane Showgrounds in late June, for the sod turn of 25 King.

At a height of almost 45 metres, the ground plus nine-storey tower designed by architect Bates Smart will be home to global engineering firm Aurecon.

The tower will also include three ground level retailers, 56 car parks, electric vehicle charging points, 152 bike racks, 16 showers and 158 lockers.

25 King is due to be complete by late 2018.

Driving forward with Kings Co-op car park

The pixel design on Kings Co-op car park was inspired by the continual flow of people, ideas, producers, livestock and culture through the Showgrounds

The five level, 380 bay Kings Co-op car park is on track to open in time for the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka).

Construction commenced following the 2016 show and will be complete before the Ekka gates open on August 11.

The latest work to be carried out included the installation of pixels on the façade of the car park, making up a first of its kind artwork in Brisbane, designed by local QUT student Tom Emmett.



Un-pho-gettable Banoi

Vietnamese restaurant Banoi has been a popular addition to King Street, since opening its doors in June.

The restaurant serves traditional Vietnamese dishes, including fragrant beef and chicken pho, vermicelli noodles with tofu or pork belly, beef curry, crispy pancakes and for dessert banana fritters with coconut tapioca.

There's also a takeaway counter for those eating lunch on the run, with rice paper rolls that come with a range of dipping sauces on offer.

The two owners and cousins, Michael Nham and Viet Nguyen, sourced the recipes from their grandma which have been nurtured through three generations - hence the name 'Banoi' which means grandma in Vietnamese.

The restaurant dished up free lunch and dinner sets on its opening day on June 16, serving more than 700 people.

Opening hours:

11.30am - 9.30pm, Monday to Saturday



Pining over the Pine Kitchen

Modern Lebanese restaurant, The Pine Kitchen, has been bringing the traditional flavours of the Middle East to King Street since opening in May.

The restaurant serves a selection of hearty share plates, tasty tapas and Lebanese inspired breakfast, lunch and dinner dishes, including Middle Eastern breakfast favourite shakshouka eggs, along with traditional dessert Turkish delight meringue topped with spiced crème fraiche and Turkish delight.

While for lunch and dinner some of the favourites include chargrilled rosemary and lamb shoulder, falafel burgers, cardamom and beetroot marinated wagyu beef rump and spiced lamb kofta.

For those wanting a glass of wine or a beer to enjoy with their meal, it's BYO and there's no corkage fee.

Opening hours:

7am - 9pm, Monday to Wednesday and Sunday

7am - 10.30pm, Friday and Saturday



New barber offering modern men's makeovers

King Street now has its very own barber, with the Emporium Barber opening in late July.

Putting a modern twist on traditional barber services, they specialise in the cut-throat shave and trendy haircuts.

They'll also throw in a complimentary beverage, from craft beer to coffee from their stand-alone espresso bar.

But don't worry, if you're not in need of a shave or trim, you can still pop in and grab a coffee from their takeaway counter.

Opening hours:

7am - 6pm, Monday to Friday

8am - 6pm, Saturday

9am - 4pm, Sunday

RNA Council Welcomes David Fagan

One of Queensland's leading media and digital experts has been appointed to the RNA Council - former Editor of The Courier Mail David Fagan.

Mr Fagan was Editor in Chief of News Queensland from 2002 to 2013 leading the transition from print to multimedia and is currently the Director of Corporate Transition at QUT.

Mr Fagan's book on the digital world, Wake Up - The Nine Hashtags of Digital Disruption is to be published by QUT in October.

A passionate supporter of the agricultural show movement, in particular the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka), Mr Fagan has replaced outgoing councillor Tim Rothwell.

Mr Rothwell had served as honorary treasurer of the RNA since 2013 and was a member of the Executive, Finance, Audit, Development, HR & Remuneration, Industry & Sponsorship and Dairy Cattle & Goat Committees.

Councillor Susan McDonald has been appointed as the RNA's new honorary treasurer. Ms McDonald joined the RNA Council in 2016 and is Managing Director of Super Butcher, a retail group of six stores and online butchers, serving 10,000 people a week in south-east Queensland.



*Warm up with
us this winter*



RYDGES

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What's new at Ekka

What to expect this year at Queensland's largest and most loved annual event, the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka).



Kody Stevens keeps an eye on the beef cattle at Ekka 2016

140th Anniversary

Queensland's largest and most loved event is celebrating a remarkable milestone this year - its 140th anniversary.

From humble beginnings in 1876 when an estimated 15,000 to 17,000 people attended the show, the Ekka has grown into a world-class event attracting on average 400,000 people each year.

The Ekka is the people's show, full of traditions and childhood memories passed down through generations of families and this is why it remains such an iconic and popular event.

Turning 140 is a significant moment in Ekka's history and it will be commemorated in many ways, including an online history portal where people can upload their photos from an era long ago and through a special video played around the grounds.

Bringing the country to the city will always

be what Ekka is about. It is steeped in tradition and will long hold a special place in the hearts of Queenslanders.

Do you have an historic photo of Ekka? Upload it to our history portal by clicking [here](#) and take a trip down memory lane.

Twilight Ticket

For the very first time, a Twilight Ticket is on offer for this year's show, meaning you can enjoy Ekka for half price* from 6pm until late as you watch the sun go down.

For just \$16 a ticket, half the price of an adult pass, anyone over the age of four (those under four get in free) can enter the show from 6pm - and there's plenty to do and see after dark, including:

- Being wowed by the action-packed night show EkkaNITES
- Bringing the kids to see the new and colourful children's fireworks
- Going on a foodie adventure and enjoying a few drinks in Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion, including the new craft beer alley. The pavilion is now open until 9pm - an extra hour and a half than last year
- Tasting food from around the globe at Gourmet Plaza, while listening and dancing to the bands on stage
- Enjoying Australia's best steak, lamb, wines and cheeses at Ekka's famous Royal Queensland Steakhouse presented by JBS Australia, which is also now open until 9pm
- Braving the big rides in Sideshow Alley, including the new Beast which has a swing of 45 metres high

The Twilight Ticket is perfect for an after-work or after-school Ekka trip and is expected to be a hit.

*Adult ticket price only 50% off normal RRP.

Ekka

EkkaNITES

Time	EkkaNITES program
5:15pm	Queensland Harness Racing presented by Racing Queensland
5:30pm	MG Motor Tri Nations Challenge - Ride, Drive & Chop
5:45pm	LED Sheep Dog Demonstrations presented by Walkabout Working Dogs and QCWA
5:55pm	National Anthem - Sung by Mikayla Jade
6:00pm	Children's Fireworks presented by MG Motor: 'Colours of the Great Barrier Reef'
6:05pm	Roman Riding High Speed Stunt Challenge
6:20pm	Topsy-turvy Sideways Car with Beno the Clown
6:25pm	Horse Archery Combat Show
6:35pm	Jaws of Death Aerial Straight Jacket Escape sponsored by Tingalpa Crane Hire
6:50pm	The Rooftop Express Brumby Muster
7:10pm	Ekka's Tribute to the Holden Precision Driving Team presented by Trackskill V8 Show
7:20pm	Monster Trucks - Devils Taxi & Tropical Thunder featuring the RACQ LifeFlight Helicopter
7:25pm	Showtime FMX - Battle for the Golden Helmet
7:40pm	EkkaNITES Fireworks Spectacular
7:55pm	Meet the Stars of EkkaNITES

Not one, but two fireworks shows!

For the first time ever, two fireworks displays will go off with a bang in the Main Arena each night of show.

A special early Children's Fireworks presented by MG Motor has been introduced at 6pm - it'll be inspired by the Colours of the Great Barrier Reef and feature bright coloured pyrotechnics to represent the beautiful corals, along with giant fish and whale kites.

The new display will ensure the little ones get to see some fireworks action, as they're often asleep before the Ekka's major fireworks finale at 7.40pm.

The fireworks spectacular, which ends the three hour EkkaNITES show, will once again be a stunning display and this year it'll feature world first human stilt performers shooting pyrotechnics off their backs.

Flames and fireworks will also shoot from 115 positions, including from the four light towers surrounding the Main Arena in an Ekka first.

Let us entertain you

Apart from fireworks, EkkaNITES will also feature plenty of action-packed acts and this year it's all about catering to the kids.

There'll be more fun, family entertainment including the never before seen Rooftop Express Brumby Muster featuring 30 horses and a talented kid from the bush; a death-defying world first Jaws of Death Aerial Straight Jacket Escape presented by Tingalpa Crane Hire and starring renowned escape artist Sam Powers; fearless FMX riders and airborne Monster Trucks.

As Ekka is celebrating its 140th, there'll also be a Tribute to the Holden Precision Driving Team (HPDT) presented by Trackskill V8 Show - and the kids will see lots of side-splitting antics from Beno the clown.

Fun for the entire family



Making feathered friends



The high dive show heats up

Xpogo Stunt Team

When: 11:30am, 1pm & 2pm Daily & 4:30pm August 12, 13, 16 & 19

Where: King Street (I-12)

The world's best extreme pogo demo crew are bouncing over from the USA and will reach new heights as they fly through the air and even jump a vehicle.

For the first time at Ekka, the Xpogo Stunt Team featuring championship pro athletes Michael Mena, Anthony Staubs and Nicholas McClintock, will jump more than 10 feet in the air, throwing down flips and incredible tricks - all on extreme pogo sticks.

In a heart stopping move, high-flyer Michael will get some serious air as he jumps the full length of a vehicle - is he hopping mad?!

With 10,000 performances across 24 countries and 14 Guinness World Records under their belts, the Xpogo Stunt Team is sure to be a highlight.

Heritage Bank Western High Dive Show

When: 11am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm & 4:30pm Daily

Where: Stockman's Rest (O-5)

Taking extreme diving to wild new heights, the Heritage Bank Western High Dive Show will see international and national professional divers make a splash from 25 metres in the air - and one will even be on fire, literally!

The theatrical storyline will see four divers take giant leaps from three, 10, 15 and even 25 metre high diving boards, as they perform spectacular sky-high stunts, twisting, turning and tumbling through the air.

As the show heats up, one of the wild west divers is set on fire, plummeting 10 metres into the water below in a spectacular flame dive.

These professional high divers will thrill with their incredible stunts, as they take the plunge three times a day at Ekka.

Feathered Friends Bird Flight Show

WHEN: 2pm August 11 & 12, 3pm August 12-20, 4pm August 11 & 13-20 & 5pm Daily

WHERE: Entertainment and Fashion Stage (G-12)

For the very first time at Ekka, six of Australia's most beautiful bird species will take flight as they soar across the audience and show off their unique personalities.

You'll watch on in awe as these stunning birds free-fly right above your head to take centre stage - and the most intelligent bird in the team, the cheeky Sulphur Crested Cockatoo, will even demonstrate how he picks money from wallets!

From the colourful Eclectus Parrot and Blue and Gold Macaw to the wise old Barn Owl, you'll love getting to know your new feathered friends.

Ekka

Natural Fibres on parade



Honouring
Queensland
grown natural
fibres at Ekka's
Media Launch

*Natural Fibres Fashion Parades
presented by Spotlight*

*When: 12:30pm, 1:30pm and
2:30pm Daily*

*Where: Entertainment and Fashion
Stage (G-12)*

From the farm to an Ekka first dual runway, this iconic fashion event will celebrate all things natural this year with a 'Back to

Nature' theme, while introducing a new Speaker Series and Natural Fibres Market.

From Queensland-grown wool and cotton to fashion favourites leather, bamboo and silk, the parades directed by Laura Churchill will feature 27 established, emerging and regional designers for one fabulous display of style.

The designers will showcase garments across categories including daywear, racing/occasion, regional designers and the popular

formal/bridal segment – all on an Ekka first dual runway, offering more opportunity for those coveted front row seats.

With an emphasis on education, a new speaker series has been introduced this year offering a snapshot of four key aspects of the natural fibre fashion industry and there'll also be a Natural Fibres Market with natural fibre fashion pieces and accessories for sale.

Right on target



*Darts Championship -
Ekka Invitational presented by Formula Sports*

When: 10am - 4pm August 16

Where: XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill (O-6)

It's either bullseye or goodbye, as competitors aim for victory in a darts competition being held at Ekka for the very first time.

Brisbane Northern Suburbs Darts Club, consisting of 23 teams and 160 members, are bringing their competition to the show and Australia's only world champion Tony David will be competing.

Ekka guests will marvel at the skill of these pros and even have a go themselves, as they see how many darts they can land on the board.

Opening Ceremony



When: 12pm August 12

Where: Main Arena (L-8)

The official Opening Ceremony, which welcomes Ekka guests from across the state, will now be held on the second day of show.

It'll be followed by not one, but two livestock parades this year, along with a stunt vehicle display paying tribute to the Holden Precision Driving Team.

The ceremony, traditionally held on the opening night of show, has been moved to accommodate these parades, giving people more chance to see the big beef cattle at Ekka.

Australian Army
Band Brisbane rocking
the Plaza Music Stage

Ekka

Presented by **RACQ**

ROYAL QUEENSLAND SHOW



Country music
queen Brooke
Schubert



Sound of Ekka

*Don't miss the new toe tapping talent at Ekka this year,
belting out tunes across our many music stages.*

Plaza Music Stage presented by Tinamba Turf (J-12)

With the introduction of the Twilight Ticket, the Plaza Music Stage presented by Tinamba Turf has extended its hours this year, with performers keeping crowds entertained from 10am to 9.45pm.

Some of the new talent to take to the stage include Mackay musician Heath Milner, whose career has gone from strength to strength since winning the Open Category at Ekka's Country Music Showdown Competition last year.

The 17 year old auditioned on TV show The Voice AU earlier this year and while he didn't turn any chairs, he certainly stole the spotlight when coach and music icon Boy George gifted him a ticket to Nashville to continue his country music dream.

Also gracing the stage for the first time at Ekka will be the Stevenson St Trio. This high energy covers band has a repertoire

covering five decades of popular music, from top 40 tunes from the sixties through to the latest hits.

There are also nine artists from QUBE Effect performing over the 10 days of show. They're fresh from Brisbane City Council showcasing Brisbane's best new musical talent at QUBE Effect 2017.

Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion (K-14)

For the very first time, Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion will be open late until 9pm, so Ekka guests can enjoy some jazz with their shiraz.

As they sample the best in wine, beer and food, they'll enjoy the sounds of the Dan Quigley Jazz Trio from 5.30pm.

Dan has been performing as a professional musician for more than two decades, with one of his highlights playing with well-known trumpeter Wynton Marsalis in a

private concert in New York.

XXXX Stockmen's Bar & Grill (0-6)

This popular Ekka bar will have the crowds up and dancing each night of show, with performers pumping out tunes from 8pm.

For the very first time at Ekka and fresh from this year's season of The Voice AU, Brooke Schubert will belt out all the country classics.

Brooke toured Australia with country music legend Keith Urban in 2014 performing the duet 'We Were Us' and she has also been a support act for Tina Arena and Rick Price.

Also adding to the country vibe will be Rob McGowan, who has been performing for 45 years.

Rob will use 'looping' technology to enhance his performance, piecing together guitar parts and harmonies on stage without any backing tracks.



For the little ones

Children's Fireworks presented by MG Motor: 'Colours of the Great Barrier Reef'

When: 6pm daily

Where: Main Arena (L-8)

Kids won't have to wait up past their bedtime to see spectacular fireworks light up the Ekka sky, with new children's fireworks at 6pm.

Inspired by the colours of the stunning Queensland Great Barrier Reef, bright coloured pyrotechnics designed especially for the show will fire high into the sky to replicate the beautiful corals and giant kites featuring fish, dolphins and whales will swim and sway effortlessly through the sky.

The fireworks display will be enhanced by sound tracks from Finding Nemo, Little Mermaid and the Wiggles, through to the bubble-gum pop Top 40 Hits of Taylor Swift, Bruno Mars and Katy Perry.

Each night a lucky child will win the chance to push the special fireworks plunger, getting the stunning display off to a firing start.

Bananas in Pyjamas Live Show

presented by Australian Bananas

When: 10am, 11am & 12pm Daily (except no 10am show August 12)

Where: Entertainment and Fashion Stage (G-12)

Australia's favourite mischievous twins, B1 and B2, will be coming down the stairs and onto the stage at Ekka for the very first time.

The coolest bananas in town will have a birthday party to organise for their teddy bear friend Lulu - but will they manage to get everything done, or will they run out of time having too much fun along the way?

After the show, Australian Banana Growers will give each kid a healthy banana to eat - it's nature's energy snack and will help get the children through the rest of their action-packed show day.

Farmyard Friends Talent Show

When: 9:30am & 11:30am Daily (except no 9:30am show August 12)

Where: Entertainment and Fashion Stage (G-12)

Everyone's favourite farmyard friends will take

to the stage in a talent quest full of laughs, in this brand new show debuting at Ekka.

Hayden the Horse, Barbara-ann Streisand the Sheep, Daisy the Cow and Milo the Sheep Dog will battle it out with their moves and microphone on 'The Choice.'

The cuddly characters will have the crowd in stitches as they boot scoot and line dance, while singing parodies of Top 40 songs including 'I'm too Handsome for this Farm' and 'Farmloose.'

Hay-mazing Maze

When: Daily

Where: The Old Museum (D-15)

Trying not to get lost like a needle in a haystack, kids will navigate their way through the Hay-mazing Maze - which is made of hay of course.

They'll come across six checkpoints, all featuring a fun quiz question about hay - a correct answer will give them the right directions to the next checkpoint, but if they get the answer wrong they'll be sent the other way.

COME JOIN US AT THE



Royal Queensland Steakhouse

PRESENTED BY



JBS Australia is proud to once again be the presenting partner of the Royal Queensland Steakhouse. Bigger and better than ever before, the Ekka will play host to what we think is Australia's best 'pop up' restaurant giving visitors the opportunity to savour the juicy and succulent flavours of our award winning beef brands.

Our menu will feature grass fed, grain fed and Wagyu beef across a wide range of cuts. Not sure what to order? Our Beef Sommelier will guide you through the menu and help you pick the ideal cut for your preferences!

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Gus Hargraeve enjoying
last year's Ag Education
Hall activities

Ekka

Queensland's largest classroom

Agricultural Education Hall (I-12)

This year the newly named Agricultural Education Hall will feature more educational activities for children than ever before, as it's vital the next generation understands that everything starts with agriculture, from the food they eat to the clothes they wear.

Field to fork

Kids will discover how food gets from the field to their fork, in this brand new interactive rural journey. In order of the agricultural cycle - composting, soil analysis, growing and planting, harvesting and processing - they'll follow the arrows taking part in the following activities:

Composting

This activity highlights the importance of compost in soil health. The kids will take part in fun interactive activities including lifting flaps to find composting fun facts and pulling out drawers to see the different layers of a worm composter bin.

Street Science - soil analysis

Kids will learn about soil health, as they gather data and assess the health of crops. They'll get hands-on as they test the soil - looking at drainage, soil pH, nutrient levels and the soil community including ants, worms and microbes.

Drones - soil analysis

Kids will be inspired as they learn about the usage and importance of drones in agriculture.

Steminabox - soil analysis

Kids will continue their tech journey as they explore the use of robotics in agriculture. They'll learn how robotics can help log environmental data such as soil moisture, temperature and humidity.

Growing and planting

Kids will learn how to identify different types of fruit and vegetables. They'll get their hands dirty as they dig through the farmers patch, finding five different types of vegetables

including potatoes and carrots.

Growing fruit, vegetables and herbs - growing and planting

By visiting the hydroponics and aquaponics stations, kids will learn how edible plants can be grown without the use of soil. They'll see fruit and vegetables growing in water and straw including lettuce, capsicum and strawberries.

Vegepod and Bee Yourself - growing and planting

Raised garden bed kits will be used to teach kids how to grow edible food in an urban environment. They'll even get to plant seeds themselves, while also learning how bees are great pollinators for their gardens.

Steampunk Academy - harvesting

Using specifically created food-related robots, kids will undertake several challenges with Mindstorm EV3 Robots. They'll even get to control their very own 'food-bot' wirelessly with an iPad.

Farming Simulator - harvesting

Kids will be given 15 minutes to carry out farming related tasks on a PS4 game such as harvesting, looking after farm animals, selling fresh produce and investing in farming vehicles and tools.

The Grain Chain - processing

Kids will learn all about the grain to flour process and what's involved in turning grains into consumable commercial products. They'll even get to have a go at grinding wheat, oats and barley.

Get Kids Cooking - cooking

Kids will be inspired as they learn to make a delicious and healthy cheesy corn muffin using the flour milled in the Processing activity. In this step by step cooking class they'll get hands-on as they measure, mix, grate, chop and bake.

All Field to Fork activities run from 9am to 6pm, except for Get Kids Cooking whose last session starts at 5pm.

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Growing The Old Museum precinct

Community Stage presented by Colorbond Steel highlights

What	When
Graham Ross from Better Homes & Gardens	Saturday 12 August, 10.30am Sunday 13 August, 12pm & 2.30pm
Queensland Cheer Elite	Saturday 12 August, 4pm
Australian Academy of Tai Chi	Tuesday 15 August, 10am
Costa Georgiadis from Gardening Australia	Wednesday 16 August, 10am & 2.30pm
Showbiz Express	Thursday 17 August, 11.30am
The Flamenco Studio	Friday 18 August, 1pm
Watkins Academy of Irish Dance	Saturday 19 August, 9.30am & 4pm
Don Bourke	Saturday 19 August, 12pm & 2.30pm
Queensland Bellydance Academy: Blue Lotus Dancers	Saturday 19 August, 3pm
Annette Roselli Ballet	Sunday 20 August, 10am

For the second year, The Old Museum (D-15) will be buzzing with a hive of activity.

In 2016, the Old Museum came home to Ekka for the first time in 119 years, becoming the base for the show's Flower and Garden precinct and Quilts Across Queensland.

Built for the RNA in 1891, The Old Museum was originally called the Exhibition Building and Concert Hall. The Queensland Government took control of the building and grounds in 1897, when the RNA was forced into liquidation by the economic depression. It then became home of the Queensland Museum in 1899.

There are many new additions to enjoy at The Old Museum this year, from a giant grass throne to a jam packed speaker and dancing

schedule on the revived Community Stage.

Community Stage presented by Colorbond Steel

The revived Community Stage is returning to Ekka after a two year hiatus.

Themed 'Dancing in the Garden,' the stage will give dance schools and community groups the chance to showcase their talents in front of an audience, while providing a platform for plenty of interesting gardening demonstrations and talks.

The Community Stage MC will be Hortiman (aka Matthew Carroll) who has more than 15 years experience in the gardening industry and is up on all the latest garden trends.

Ekka Makers Markets

The brand new Ekka Makers Markets will

be dedicated to showcasing Queensland's handcrafted products.

Makers Street will be located along Gregory Terrace to provide a vibrant link between the Agricultural Education Hall, the Plaza, the Main Arena and The Old Museum.

Featuring 34 exhibitors, many homemade products will be for sale including jams, sauces, fudge and pottery.

Grass of Thrones presented by Tinamba Turf

Standing at four metres tall, the giant Grass of Thrones is the perfect selfie opportunity.

A quirky take on the Iron Throne from the popular TV series Game of Thrones, Ekka guests will feel like king or queen of the garden as they sit proudly upon the supersized chair.

Ekka

Rides and showbags

Sideshow Alley is a firm favourite with families, featuring around 100 rides and games, plus more than 380 types of showbags



The Beast

True to its name, The Beast is the largest travelling ride in the Southern Hemisphere – it's 25 metres tall with a swing of 45 metres high and weighs a whopping 86 tonnes.

This new ride is bound to get even the seasoned adrenaline junkie screaming as it swings back and forth like a pendulum, getting higher and higher, reaching speeds of 120kms an hour.

With the force of a fighter plane, this fearsome ride has a 360 degree rotation – if riders don't have their eyes closed at 147 feet in the air, they'll be guaranteed of a stunning view.

The Beast gets its name from king of the jungle King Kong and it'll certainly be the king of rides at Ekka this year.

Star of the Show

Sit back and admire Sideshow Alley from Australia's first rotating gondola Ferris Wheel.

At more than 32 metres high, riders will enjoy wonderful 360 degree views as they spin in their fully enclosed gondola.

The rotation of each of the 24 gondolas is manually controlled by the rider, allowing them to spin at their desired speed.

Families will love stepping aboard this new Ferris Wheel and being whisked high into the sky.

Selection of new showbags

- Emoji (the official brand) - \$28
- Fast and Furious - \$26
- Captain Underpants - \$26
- Dr Seuss - \$26
- Barbie Dreamtopia - \$26
- Men's Style - \$28
- Dolly x Roxy - \$22
- Stella Athletic, an Athleisure Showbag - \$28

- Paris Hilton Fragrance - \$26
- Kiss & Makeup - \$22
- Gloss & Glamour - \$22
- Toolman - \$22
- Brain Licker - \$10
- Mega Builder - \$26
- Mega Doll - \$26
- Mega Cop - \$26
- Mega Ninja Warrior - \$26
- Le Tan Self-Tanning - \$25
- Trolls - \$30
- Despicable Me 3 - \$26
- Cars 3 - \$26
- FC Barcelona - \$28
- Mad Science - \$25
- Monster Wheels - \$40
- My Fairy Friends - \$30
- Sewing Star - \$30

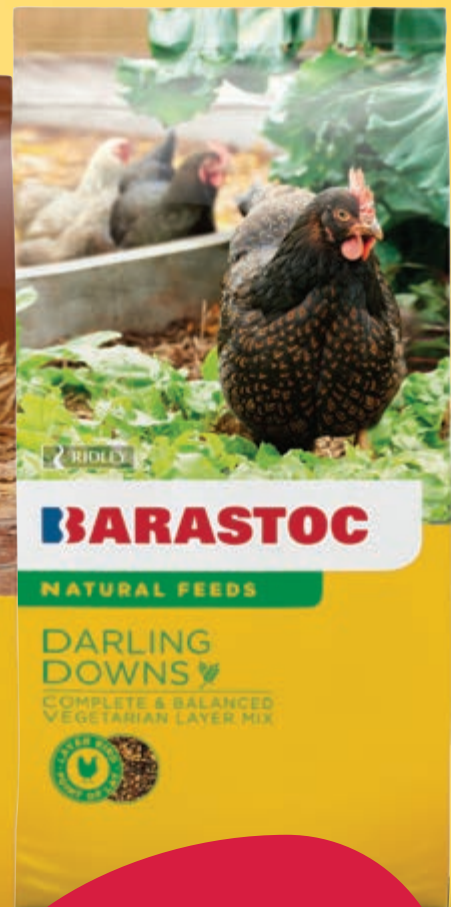
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A foodie mecca

Dedicated to unearthing and celebrating the state's finest food and beverage offerings, the Ekka will once again be a foodie's paradise.

Royal Queensland Steakhouse presented by JBS Australia

**WHERE: Upper Royal International
Convention Centre (F-10)**

The critically acclaimed Royal Queensland Steakhouse presented by JBS Australia is the only restaurant of its kind where guests can try the nation's finest steak, lamb, wines and cheeses all at the one location.

Its unique menu is sourced directly from the prestigious Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show's (RQFWS) medal-winners and it was so popular last year that it's moving to a new location and extending its opening hours.

Previously housed at the back of the Royal International Convention Centre (Royal ICC) Halls, the Steakhouse is moving closer to Gourmet Plaza this year and will be open until 9pm, giving people more time to enjoy a juicy award-winning steak.

Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion (K-14)

Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion is certainly a favourite with food, wine and beer lovers and this year it'll be open until late.

With around 70 stalls, it offers a huge selection of fresh and delicious local produce for tasting or purchasing, including all the latest trends like coffee in a cone and cotton candy ice cream.

There will also be plenty of beverages to try, with a new craft beer alley complete with world-class beers and sample classes, craft rum and of course wine.

New this year:

- Cotton Candy Ice Creamery - an ice cream cone filled with cotton candy and topped with ice cream and lollies
- Coffee in a cone from the Coffee Galleria - a piccolo in a chocolate coated cone
- Portuguese Custard Tart from Lisboa Café - the most iconic Portuguese sweet, this tart has a traditional custard pastry consisting of a crème brûlée-like custard, caramelised in a crust of puff pastry
- Craft beer alley - up to nine breweries will be represented, including two of the champion breweries from the Australian International Beer Awards - Balter Brewing and Green Beacon
- Famous Funnel Cakes - a fried dough favourite returning for the first time since 2014

Gourmet Plaza (I-11)

New to Tastings this year will be King of the Wings, serving a range of chicken wing flavours from southern style and American BBQ to chill. There will also be a new beef jerky stand and donuts with injectable

flavours and ice cream donut sandwiches.

Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) Tastings will also make a return for its second year, offering tasting plates of award-winning beef, lamb and sausages for just \$5.

While Queensland winery, Sirromet, will also be back, with their locally produced wines on offer at the Sirromet Wine Bar.

Around the grounds

Once again there'll be plenty of food and wine stands around the grounds, including the ever-popular dagwood dogs, potato slinkys, German sausages and course the iconic Ekka Strawberry Sundae.

New this year is Cocowhip - vegan ice cream topped with superfoods like goji berries and chia seeds.

In the Upper Royal International Convention Centre (Royal ICC), Ekka guests will once again find the Mumm Champagne Lounge offering a taste of luxury and the Pepperjack Bar featuring the Barossa's best wines.

Members Bar Happy Hour

Enjoy XXXX Happy Hour at the Members Bar.

Between 5 - 6pm each day of show RNA Members can purchase \$5 pots - what a deal!

What's new at Ekka

Back to basics

Chef Dominique Rizzo will host the 1950's themed cooking stage



Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) Cooking Stage presented by The Healthy Baker Flour

Where: Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion (K-14)

Focussing on back to basics in the kitchen, the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) Cooking Stage presented by The Healthy Baker Flour will follow a 1950s theme this year.

Hosted by Dominique Rizzo, one of Queensland's leading female chefs, Ekka guests will be encouraged to cook from scratch again - turning the ordinary into the extraordinary by learning the basics and building on them.

The cooking stage is the perfect place for the aspirational cook, foodies and those wanting to experiment in the kitchen - with the bonus of tasting the delectable dishes prepared by the presenting chefs including Dominique herself.

New this year is an Easy Pasta Cooking Class and Step-by-Step Gnocchi Class, Brisbane Dining Room segments featuring some of Queensland's leading restaurant chefs, My Ekka Hamper showcasing 140

years of iconic food at the show and the My Sweet Obsession specials featuring sweet tooth entrepreneurs.

Dinner with Dom

When: 5.30pm August 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 18 & 19

Following on from the sell-out success of last year's very first Dinner with Dom, this year's dinner will feature a flavourful five course degustation tasting menu, to be cooked and served over seven scrumptious nights.

For just \$39 a ticket, 30 people each night will have the chance to chat to the producers, taste produce from some of Queensland's leading local providores and enjoy a unique dining experience.

There are two different themed dinners this year - Corks & Forks (August 12, 16 & 18) featuring RQFWS award-winning wines paired with produce including medal-winning meats and Harvest & Hops (August 11, 13, 15 & 19) featuring a selection of craft beers paired with Queensland produce.

To see the menus and to buy your tickets [click here](#).

Cooking stage timetable highlights:

- My Sweet Obsession - Nodo Donuts, 3.30pm August 11 and 10.30am August 17
- My Ekka Hamper - 140 Years of Iconic Food at Ekka presented by The Healthy Baker Flour, 4.30pm August 11, 13 and 18, as well as 5.30pm August 20
- Queensland Country Womens Association (QCWA) presented by Ruth Magazine, 12.30pm August 12 and 11.30am August 15, 17 and 18
- Cooking Class - Pasta, 4.30pm August 14
- Cooking Class - Gnocchi, 4.30pm August 17
- Brisbane Foodie Fleet - King of the Wings, 4.30pm August 16
- Showcasing Queensland on a Plate - Royal International Convention Centre Executive Chef Sean Cummings, 1.30pm August 17
- Sausage King and Best Butchers Burger Judging - The Australian Meat Industry Council (AMIC), 9am August 20

A large herd of red cattle is gathered in a paddock. In the background, a tall metal windmill stands against a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The landscape is dry with some green trees and shrubs.

Elders, proudly sponsoring the Royal Queensland Show

From Tamworth to Toowoomba, Mandurah to Mt. Gambier and Dubbo to Darwin, Elders are committed to partnering with the local grass-roots communities in which we operate to support the future of Australia's agriculture industry.

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Elders



We are the champions

The prestigious Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) is dedicated to celebrating the nation's best of the best and continues to unearth Australia's top food and wine products, year after year.

In 2017, the RQFWS attracted almost 3,400 entries across seven major competitions - the Cheese and Dairy Produce Show; Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Competition; Branded Lamb Competition; Branded Beef Competition; Royal Queensland Wine Show (RQWS); Sausage King and Best Butchers Burger; and the Ham, Bacon and Smallgoods Competition.

Third year for Darling Downs Wagyu

The Darling Downs did it again, with Wagyu produced in the region crowned Australia's best steak for the third year in a row, at the RQFWS Branded Beef and Lamb Competition presented by Super Butcher.

Stockyard's Wagyu Kiwami, produced at Jondaryan, grilled 41 other entrants to take out the coveted John Kilroy Cha Cha Char Grand Champion Branded Beef of Show, which was won by Australian Agricultural Company's (AACo) Darling Downs Wagyu in 2015 and 2016.

While Woodward Foods Australia claimed the title of Australia's best lamb for their HRW Tasmanian Lamb product, which Chief Judge Elaine Millar described as having a balance of sweet juiciness, silky

texture and complex yet delicate nutty and enoki mushroom flavours.

Queensland gelateria whips the field

A Queensland gelateria scooped the title of Australia's best ice cream for the second year in a row with a dark chocolate sorbet, at the RQFWS Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet Competition presented by Lendlease.

Milani House of Gelato, from Hamilton in Brisbane, beat 164 ice cream, gelato and sorbet entries to win the Grand Champion title, along with taking home all six champion awards.

While in the Cheese and Dairy Produce Show presented by Lendlease, Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese from South Gippsland in Victoria won the Grand Champion title for the third year in a row with their Riverine Blue, made from buffalo milk.

Renowned international dairy expert and RQFWS Chief Judge Russell Smith described the blue cheese as consistently world class.

Chardonnay shines as the finest wine

Glasses were raised to a Margaret River Chardonnay, after being crowned Grand Champion Wine of Show at the Royal Queensland Wine Show (RQWS) Awards.

The Xanadu Wines Reserve Chardonnay 2015 was described by Chief Judge David Bicknell as being "as good as any Chardonnay in the world."

The Margaret River wine region in Western Australia continued to turn heads, with the historic Stodart Trophy for Best Young Red of Show going to Deep Woods Estate for their Estate Cabernet Merlot 2015.

It was the first time in recent history a Cabernet Merlot had taken out the trophy, with Shiraz usually dominating.

RQFWS Winners

Branded Beef

THE JOHN KILROY CHA CHA CHAR
GRAND CHAMPION BRANDED BEEF
OF SHOW
Stockyard - Stockyard Wagyu Kiwami

Branded Lamb

SUPER BUTCHER CHAMPION BRANDED
LAMB OF SHOW
Woodward Foods Australia - HRW
Tasmanian Lamb

Ice Cream

LENDLEASE GRAND CHAMPION ICE
CREAM, GELATO OR SORBET OF SHOW
Milani House of Gelato - Dark Chocolate
Sorbet

Cheese

LENDLEASE GRAND CHAMPION DAIRY
PRODUCT OF SHOW
Berrys Creek Gourmet Cheese - Riverine Blue

Wine






GRAND CHAMPION WINE OF
SHOW TROPHY
Xanadu Wines - Xanadu Reserve
Chardonnay 2015

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-  Expert tips for a healthier, happier Dog with free talks on training & behaviour on KONG Stage featuring Dr Chris Brown & Dr Katrina Warren.
-  Discover why providing a loving home through adoption can be a wonderful experience in the Dog Adoption Zone with dozens of Rescue Groups from across Queensland.
-  Military Working Dog Tribute, Insta-Pooch feature, free vet advice, doggy face-painting, hundreds of exhibitors, everything to spoil your pooch, show specials & loads more!

* Sorry, but visitors are not permitted to bring their Dogs due to health & safety reasons (see website for details)



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*Dr Chris Brown
and Reg*



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