

May 10, 2021

Teaching teachers the art of cheese making

Teachers from across Queensland will spend the next four days learning the 'whey' to make cheese during the RNA Teachers' Cheese Making Workshops at the Brisbane Showgrounds.

Starting from today, more than 30 teachers from 21 schools will get a lesson in the art of cheese making from Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) judge and dairy expert Russell Smith.

Taking part in the internationally awarded workshops are 14 Brisbane-based schools and several regional schools, including Fairholme College Toowoomba and Tamborine Mountain College.

The six-hour free workshop has been running for over 10 years and includes a mix of theory and hands-on practical work in blue and white mould cheeses.

Once back in the classroom, the teachers will share their 'un-brie-lievable' cheese making skills with their students, who will enter the Royal Queensland Show's (Ekka) Student Made Cheese Competition in September.

Russell Smith said the competition is a fun and engaging educational experience for students.

"Making the cheese takes about five hours, then it must rest for around six weeks to mature before it's ready to eat," he said.

"The process gives students an insight into the microbiology and chemistry of cheese making, which is both complex and fascinating.

"There are endless career opportunities in the food science industry, and this competition gives students an idea into career paths they might not have discovered otherwise."

When: 8.15am to 2:30pm, Monday 10 to Thursday 13 May

Where: Ernest Baynes dining room – Brisbane Showgrounds, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills

Participating schools:

- The Gap State High School
- Yeronga State High School
- Bray Park State High School
- Caboolture State High School
- Our Lady of the Southern Cross College
- Kelvin Grove State College
- Marsden State High School
- St John Fisher College
- St John's College

- Pimpama State Secondary College
- Burpengary State Secondary College
- Murrumba State Secondary College
- Craigslea State High School
- Fairholme College Toowoomba
- Morayfield State High School
- Morayfield State School
- Tamborine Mountain College
- Toogoolawah State High School
- Bracken Ridge State High School
- Caboolture State High School
- Mt Gravatt State High School

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MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

Veronica Carew
General Manager Communications
Ph: 07 3253 3930/ 0408 323 631
Email: vcarew@rna.org.au

Nicole Clifton
Media and Communications Officer
Ph: 07 3253 3931/ 0417 451 775
Email: nclifton@rna.org.au