

15 August 2017

A day dedicated to the people

For 140 years a special day has been set aside for the people of Queensland to celebrate the best of the state - a tradition that is set to continue tomorrow with more than 50,000 people expected to attend People's Day.

In true Sunshine State style, the weather will be perfect for the annual show day holiday at the Ekka and to prepare, we'll have 30 + sunscreen at the gates and extra umbrellas around the grounds.

At the half way point of show, already more than 250,000 Bertie Beetle showbags have been sold – which makes Bertie not just the most iconic showbag of all time, but the most popular ever at Ekka.

Here's what's in store for Day 6 (People's Day tomorrow) at Queensland's biggest annual event:

MEDIA DOORSTOP: 11.30am with RNA President David Thomas or Chief Executive Brendan Christou on Heritage Hill overlooking the Main Arena.

Day 6: Wednesday 16 August – JUDGING HIGHLIGHTS

- 8am-5pm – Galloways and Australian Ponies – Main Arena
- 8.45am-5pm – Junior Showjumping – Main Arena
- 9am- 4pm – Young Judges (Dairy Goats, Stud Angoras, Mohair Fleece)
- 9am-5pm – Canine Judging – Group 2 – Terrier Dogs – Dog Pavilion
- 2pm-4pm – Woodchop – Tree felling, underhand, standing block – Woodchop Arena
- 2pm-5pm – Horse events – Medium / Heavy Harness over 14 hands classes – Main Arena
- 2.15pm – Young Riders Showjumping

IT'S A GRAND PARADE – THE BEST OF THE BEST

Undoubtedly the highlight of People's Day is the traditional grand parade. Around 500 of the best of the best animals will be on show in the iconic Grand Parade, held on People's Day. It's the parade of champions, from the tiny Grand Champion Fish of Show to the huge Grand Champion Stud Bull, along with ribbon-winning goats, beef cattle, dairy cattle, cats, dogs, horses and alpacas. Certainly a sight to see, the Grand Parade also features winners from the Flower & Garden and Fine Arts sections and even Miss Showgirl will make an appearance. The iconic Grand Parade evolved from displays of livestock in the early days, especially after 1901 when a full parade of cattle and horses was held to welcome the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York. **WHERE: Main Arena WHEN: At 1pm**

TROY CASSAR-DALEY SINGS OUR NATIONAL ANTHEM

Country music superstar Troy-Cassar-Daley will make a special guest appearance at Ekka tomorrow when he sings the national anthem, just before the grand parade. **WHEN: 12.55pm WHERE: Main Arena**

GREEN THUMBS AND BIG BEARDS RULE!!

Costa Georgiadis will be transforming the Old Museum into a hipster's paradise as he and 10 of his bearded brethren decorate their facial fuzz with flowers for the Grand Parade. At 9:50am tomorrow, the entrants of Ekka's Beard Competition will be paired with a florist who will have an hour of flower power to create a magnificent mane. It will be the people's choice on People's Day, as it's put to the public to determine the winner. The bearded blokes will march alongside Costa in the parade to show off the colour and creativity of the Flower and Garden Exhibition. Costa, the loveable host of Gardening Australia will also be presenting interesting gardening demonstrations and talks on the Community Stage presented by Colorbond Steel at 10:00am and 12:30pm.

BULLSEYE! EKKA'S FIRST EVER DART THROWING CHAMPIONSHIPS

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, before having a go themselves to see if they can land their darts on the board. In this sport, competitors will enjoy the thrill of the competition without the inconvenience of the exercise. **WHERE: Stockmen's Rest WHEN: 10am-4pm**

IT'S TERRIER TIME! Don't miss all the fun as it's time for the Terriers to take over the Dog Pavilion with Bedlington, Manchester, Staffordshire, West Highland White Terrier breeds all competing. **WHEN: 9am-5pm WHERE: Dog Pavilion**

STARS SET TO SHINE ON PEOPLE'S DAY

Two stars from Ch 7's new show Hell's Kitchen, supernerd Issa Schultz and Logie winning film and television actor Lincoln Lewis, will visit the Ekka tomorrow. They'll enjoy checking out the woodchop competition, conducting science experiments on the Street Science stage in the Agricultural Education Hall, dishing out cooking tips at the Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) Cooking Stage and meeting fans. **WHEN: 2pm - 4pm WHERE: 7 Live Studios (K-14) and above locations**

BACK TO BASICS COOKING MASTERCLASSES

Focusing on the basics in the kitchen, the RQFWS Cooking Stage presented by The Healthy Baker Flour follows a 1950s theme this year. Hosted by Dominique Rizzo, one of Queensland's leading female chefs, Ekka guests are encouraged to cook from scratch again - turning the ordinary into the extraordinary by learning the basics and building on them. Dom and her guests will be cooking up a storm tomorrow, with some of the segments including cooking with beer at 1.30pm, my sweet obsession at 2.30pm and one of the hottest food trucks around King of the Wings at 4.30pm. **WHERE: Woolworth Fresh Food Pavilion (K-14)**

A VISIT FROM THE PRIME MINISTER OF THE SOLOMAN ISLANDS

The Honourable Mr Manasseh Damukana Sogavare MP Prime Minister of the Solomons Island and Madam Mrs Emmy Sogavare will visit the Ekka tomorrow, contact Ekka media direct for more details.

EKKA ESSENTIALS

- August 11 – 20, 2017
- Brisbane Showgrounds, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, Queensland
- Gates open at 9am
- Tickets are available online at www.ekka.com.au

EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

The 2017 Ekka Media Kit is now available to download. It is the most comprehensive information guide to the show - to download please visit www.ekka.com.au/media-centre

Don't forget to follow us on social media #ekka



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