



Kay Tommerup

WHAT'S NEW

COMPETITION FACILITIES

- **The CRT Pavilion**
The CRT Pavilion is the new home for large and small animal breeds during show.
This year, the ground and first floor will be home to beef and dairy cattle, poultry and dairy goats - another two football fields of space where visitors can see animals at Ekka.
It's the only building of its kind globally and has been specially designed to house animals during show.
- **Woodchop Arena**
The new Woodchop Arena has expanded the popular competition area by 50 per cent.
The undercover space will make woodchop one of the most entertaining arenas at the show, with events now held later until around 7.30pm.

TECHNOLOGY PRECINCT

- This year's Ekka features a brand new technology hub located in the Technology Precinct on the upper floor of the Royal International Convention Centre.
- The tech hub will showcase the latest in virtual reality technology and agri-tech, with interactive activities including:
- **Virtual Barambin** - interactive virtual reality experience where

Ekka visitors will walk in the footsteps of Aboriginal people from the 1770s

- **Snow Slingers** - multi-player virtual reality experience, where users will sling snowballs at each other in a chilly snow environment created by Lightweave
- **Ace Aviation** - where Ekka visitors will fly micro-drones around an obstacle course in a netted area
- **Telstra** - will roll into the tech hub with Australia's first 5G Connected Car and run coding activities for kids

EKKA APP

The new Ekka App to plan the perfect day at show and pick your favourite showbags.
Connect the App to your My Ekka account to share your day with friends and store your Ekka tickets.
Once at the show, use the App to easily navigate around the grounds, activate augmented reality content and receive special offers.
Developed with Brisbane creative studio, Lightweave, the Ekka App is free and will be available from iTunes and Google Play.

MEET A FARMER

Scenic Rim dairy farmer, Kay Tommerup is helping the RNA to build a strong connection between farmers and the community.

Celebrating and showcasing agriculture has been at the core of Ekka since the first show in 1876 and this year the RNA is inviting everyone to meet a farmer.

Kay said she partnered with the Ekka because she wanted to shine a light on the importance of farming.

The RNA will be sharing Kay's and other farmers' stories on the Ekka website at www.ekka.com.au/meet-a-farmer and on social media @theekka in the lead-up to the show.

TICKETS

For the first time in 15 years, the RNA has dropped the gate price of a Family Pass to just \$80 - it's even cheaper if families buy online, with more discounts on offer through promotional codes.

We have also frozen the price of the combined Adult and Child Pass and Concession Pass plus we have dropped the price of a Childs ticket by \$1. New \$100 and \$50 ride cards are available this year, with savings of up to 20%.

The first ever Ten Day Pass has been introduced, allowing those who can't get enough of the show to visit for the equivalent of just \$10 a day.

RIDES

New rides at Ekka this year include:

- **XSCREAM Soundwave** - the closest thing you'll find to a Sideshow Alley nightclub! With bright flashing lights, lasers and the latest music tunes pumping, riders will experience varying levels of g-force as the car they're in spins, rises, falls and accelerates fast
- **Dragon Castle** - Australia's newest spooky ghost train features

two levels of frights. Those who dare will be transported through the castle in gruesome carts, encountering crazed criminals, mad scientists and plenty of blood and gore

EKKANITES SUPPORTED BY RACQ LIFEFLIGHT

Featuring a world first and Ekka firsts, the new night show includes:

- A futuristic fireworks spectacular featuring a world first 'fireball' vehicle and Australian first remote control cars strapped with pyros that will zoom around the Main Arena at more than 100km an hour
- A Wild Colonial Wagon Chase featuring a ground shaking cattle stampede of 20 bulls and a talented stockman who leaps from a galloping horse onto a moving Cobb & Co carriage
- The Ekka's very own Bronco vs Cowboy Lowd V8 UTE challenge featuring awe-inspiring precision driving and a thrilling race
- A monster truck competition that will see father and son drivers balance the four and a half tonne vehicles on their rear wheels
- Flawless aerial tricks from ShowTime FMX's new show - Battle for the Golden Helmet II
- A 10 seater monster truck for the 4KQ Greatest Seats in the House vehicle, custom built in the USA

NIGHT TIME BINGO

- **Drag Queen Bingo** presented by Priscilla Queen of the Desert musical

Frock up for the fabulous Drag Queen Bingo at XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill on Thursday 16 August at 8.30pm.

Hosted by Queens Ball 'Drag Performer of the Year' Volle LaVont, the free event will feature several bingo games and drag performances,



The Queensland State Shearing and Wool Handling Championships is new to the show



The Open Men's Invitational - Australia vs New Zealand is a new woodchop highlight

proving bingo isn't only for the oldies!

■ **Cow Paddy Bingo**

A cow will dump for dollars at XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill on Saturday 11 August for Cow Paddy Bingo from 8.30pm.

DAY TIME ENTERTAINMENT

Sure to wow the crowds, new day time entertainment at Ekka this year includes:

- **Heritage Bank Racing Pigs** - last seen at Ekka in 2015. These brave little piggies will fly through the sky, dive into a pool of water and race each other around a track
- **Farmer Rob Show** - teaching kids how to grow seedlings at home and what products can be recycled
- **Praying mantis and beetle stilt walkers** - that will bring nature to life as they dance, wander and tiptoe through the crowds on Gregory Terrace
- **Dagwood Dog Eating Competition** - that will see competitors hungry for a win, including Australia's No.2 Ranked Pro Competitive Eater 'Hulk Smash Food' (aka Cal Stubbs), compete across amateur, professional and celebrity classes
- **i-Sing Karaoke** - performers will compete karaoke style in the Queensland state and national finals of the I-Sing Australia competition
- **Line Dancing Hoedown** - featuring social dancing, competition demonstrations, beginner workshops and the inaugural Queensland Club Challenge
- **Queensland State Shearing and Wool Handling Championships** - eight of the best sheep shearers and wool handlers will go head to head

FOOD & BEVERAGE

New food and beverage offerings at Ekka this year include:

The Taste Triangle is for foodies to get lost in. It includes the new and trendy Bavarian Beerhaus (German food and craft beer) and Welcome to Bowen Hills (food truck park), along with the popular Gourmet Plaza, Woolworths Fresh Food Pavilion, Royal Queensland Steakhouse presented by JBS Australia, Moët & Chandon Fashion Bar and the James Squire Plaza Bar

- **Vegan Ekka** - with the vegan lifestyle becoming more popular, Ekka has more vegan foods on offer than ever before
- **Puffles** - these Instaworthy creations in Gourmet Plaza are cheesy Hong Kong egg waffles stuffed with mouthwatering toppings like Korean fried chicken and bulgogi beef with Philly Cheese
- **Filipino style street food** - including pork belly skewers in a banana ketchup glaze from Hoy Pinoy in Gourmet Plaza
- **A double decker waffle** - from Crunchy's Waffles in Gregory Terrace featuring two waffles stacked and loaded with berries, ice cream, whipped cream and melted chocolate
- **A 40cm (16 inch) long King sized churro** - from Golden Churros in Gregory Terrace
- **A burger in a pie crust and a beef pie that looks like a donut** - from Mick's Bakery in Gregory Terrace
- **Organic grass fed beef hotdogs** - from the Cleaver's stand in Gregory Terrace
- **Charred** - slow cooked award-winning meats in a gourmet roll

THE OLD MUSEUM

Back for a third year, this growing precinct will feature the new:

- **Cosmic Star Dome** - which uses projection technology to provide a realistic recreation of the night sky from a rural landscape
- **'Making Gardening Accessible Everyone, Everywhere'** - display which was shown at the prestigious Chelsea Flower Show in London
- **Our Backyard by Claire Bickle** - showcases a collection of backyard designs featuring bean teepees, chicken coops and ponds
- **Workshop Marquee** - plenty for the kids from planting tomato seeds to looking at and learning about bugs
- **Sugarcane Maze** - children will get lost in the excitement
- **Floristry Competition** - entrants create wedding table, corporate table centrepieces and compete in mystery box challenges
- **Flower and Garden Stage** - Water Warriors show plus RSPCA show on pets and native wildlife

EDUCATION

There are plenty of new activities in the Agricultural Hall presented by seqwater this year, including:

- Free Rivers** - kids will learn all about the water cycle through an AR experience on an ipad at the seqwater stand
- Green Screen** - standing in front of a green screen at the seqwater stand, children will pick a water-related background to feature in
- New look 'Ekka Learning: A Dam Good Trail presented by seqwater'** - featuring 10 trail points, more than ever before

COMPETITIONS

This year's Ekka will feature new competitions, classes and locations:

- Canine** - new Tiny Tots Competition and Feature Utility Dogs Show
- Dairy Cattle** - now judged in the Main Arena
- Dairy Goats** - now judged in The CRT Pavilion, Level 1
- Education on Show** - now displayed at The Old Museum
- Fine Arts** - new live judging classes in Cookery
- Flower & Garden** - new Floristry Competition
- AMIC Ham, Bacon and Smallgoods** - first time held during Ekka
- Horses** - colour breeds will now be judged in Horse and there is a new Junior Riding class in Showjumping
- Little Sprouts** - new competition where kindy and daycare kids will grow carrots
- Pisciculture** - new PETstock School Challenge where 10 schools will each create an aquatic ecosystem in a fish tank
- Poultry, Birds and Eggs** - new classes in Red Factor Canaries and new poultry feature which is large hard feather - other than old english game, waterfowl and turkey. The competition also has a new location - The CRT Pavilion
- AMIC Sausage King and Best Butchers Burger** - now judged at XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill
- Hy-line Brown School Egg Laying Competition** - now judged in The CRT Pavilion
- Woodchop and Sawing** - now held in the Woodchop Arena. Open Men's Invitational - Australia vs New Zealand to be held at Ekka for the very first time
- Young Judges** - new competition section with photography added