

Tuesday 15 August 2023

People's Day, the mighty Matildas, plus visits by Albo and Matt Damon!

Come and enjoy People's Day tomorrow and stay to watch the Matildas in their history-making match.

More than 55,000 people are expected for Brisbane's iconic show day holiday, an institution since the first Ekka in 1876, when the people of Brisbane were granted a day off work to attend the show.

With the Matildas capturing the nation's hearts, the Ekka will have screens broadcasting the game live at XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill, the Royal Queensland Steakhouse & Bar presented by Kilcoy Global Foods. Plus on the Multicultural Plaza Stage screen on Gourmet Plaza.

Today, the Ekka was visited by Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and then Hollywood superstar Matt Damon was back for the second year in a row visiting the B105 Sideshow Alley, the Courier Mail Showbag Pavilion and the Woodchop Arena presented by AAM.

Today, more than 35,000 people will have passed through the gates by night's end. Here's what's in store tomorrow for the 144th People's Day:

DAY 5: WEDNESDAY 16 AUGUST – HIGHLIGHTS

MEDIA DOORSTOP:

11.30am with RNA President David Thomas on Heritage Hill overlooking the Main Arena.

JUDGING HIGHLIGHTS:

- From 8am – Horse Competition Judging highlights include Champion and Reserve Champion Novice Galloway Hack of Queensland in Ring 3, the Best Australian Pony Colt or Filly in Ring 2, Supreme Champion Clydesdale in Ring 1 in the Main Arena.
- From 8.30am – Showjumping Competition – Judging Junior and Young Riders in Main Arena
- 9am – 5pm – Canine Competition presented by Sushi Hub – Utility Judging including Boxers, Schnauzer, Newfoundlands, Canadian Eskimo Dogs, and many more at the Sushi Hub Dog Pavilion.
- 9am – 11am – Dairy Cattle Competition - Youth Team Challenge, Level 1 in Large Animal Pavilion
- From 9.30am – Woodchop & Sawing Competition including the 325mm Australian Women's Single Sawing Championship at 2.15pm and the 450mm Australian Double Handed Sawing Championship at 4.15pm

WATCH THE MIGHTY MATILDAS

When: From 8pm

Ekka is getting into the Matildas spirit! Come and enjoy People's Day and stay to watch the Matildas take on England in their history-making match. The Showgrounds will feature three screens at the XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill, two screens at the Royal Queensland Steakhouse & Bar presented by Kilcoy Global Foods. Plus, the big Multicultural Plaza Stage screen off Gourmet Plaza will be broadcasting the game LIVE.

GRAND PARADE

When: 4.30pm

Where: Main Arena

More than 500 animals and competition winners will be on display in the highly anticipated Grand Parade, held on People's Day. The parade features the champions of Ekka from the tiny Grand Champion Fish of Show to the huge Grand Champion Stud Bull, along with goats, dairy cattle, cats, dogs, horses, horticulture, Showgirl entrants and more. The iconic Grand Parade evolved from displays of livestock, especially after 1901 when a full parade of cattle and horses was held to welcome the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York.

UDDER DELIGHT

When: From 5.30am (Milking Competition) and from 9am (Judging)

Where: Dairy Pavilion Ring in LAP or the Main Arena

The cream of Queensland's Dairy Cattle industry has been gathering at the Ekka for more than a century. Around 65 head of dairy cattle will be judged on the Main Arena from 16 to 18 August. Five breeds will be displayed, competing on the quality of their milk and appearance. An extra \$10,000 in prize money is on offer this year, making it one of the richest competitions of its kind in Australia. The additional prize money takes the total amount on offer to \$32,000. A competition highlight is the Dairy Cattle All Breeds Youth Show tomorrow at 3pm which encourages the next generation of exhibitors.

FLOURISHING FLOWER BEARDS

When: 2pm

Where: Brisbane City Council Flower and Garden Precinct

Florists will decorate Brisbane's best beards in this People's Day tradition. Around 15 men will undergo a facial fuzz floral transformation, with judges crowning the competition winners. The quirky competition will be emceed by well-known landscape architect Costa Georgiadis. The entrants will also be showcased in the Ekka's iconic Grand Parade on the Main Arena at 4.30pm.

BOOT SCOOTIN & LINE DANCING HOEDOWN

When: 11am – 3pm

Where: XXXX Stockmen's Bar & Grill

Kick up your heels and join in the fun at Ekka's Line Dancing Hoedown delivered by Domino's. The event will include social dancing, competition demonstrations, beginner workshops for the public and the Queensland Club Challenge. The hoedown will involve more than 80 boot-scooting dance instructors, club members and students from across Queensland.

CONFIDANCE CLOGGERS

When: 3.30pm

Where: XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill

Kids and adults will once again be clogging at XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill. Clogging is an energetic and percussive dance form from the mid-1700s. Over time, the influence of tap dancing and Canadian step dancing shaped the modern clogging we see today. It is a dance form enjoyed by all ages from 8-year-olds to 80-year-olds. Brisbane's Confidence Cloggers dance to a wide range of music including

pop, country, hip hop, bluegrass and latin.

NOSEY DOGS TO SNIFF OUT

When: From 10am

Where: Stockman's Rest

New this year is the RNA Scent Work Trials, which will see canines take on the role of a working detection dog to sniff out different odours. This will be held at Stockman's Rest from 10am.

PREENED TO PURR-FECTION

When: From 9.30am

Where: Sushi Hub Cat Precinct

Group Judging and Supreme Highlights include the crowning of the Supreme All Breeds Cat of Show from 2pm.

Ekka Essentials:

- Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) August 12-20, 2023
- 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 2023 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/media-kit/

And download the Ekka App from Google Play or the App Store.

For the latest updates, follow us on social media @TheEkka



MEDIA ENQUIRIES:

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

Kelly Hawke – 0438 340 989
Ann Rainbow – 0411 482 792
Natalie McKeering – 0418 986 084
Nicole Clifton – 0417 451 775