

August 12, 2025

## Ekka's People's Day – A time honoured tradition since 1876

Ekka Tuesday was teeming with people today and the excitement is building for Brisbane's iconic People's Day public holiday tomorrow on day five of the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) presented by Bank of Queensland (BOQ).

An institution since 1876, People's Day is traditionally reserved for the people of Brisbane who are granted a day off work to attend the show.

It was granted for the very first Royal Queensland Show in 1876 at the Brisbane Showgrounds, where 17,000 people attended out of Brisbane's total population of 22,000 at the time.

Today, close to 40,000 people will pass through the gates by night's end and for People's Day we are hoping for more than 60,000 visitors.

Here's what's in store tomorrow for People's Day 2025:

### **TOMORROW'S HIGHLIGHTS - Wednesday 13 August – DAY 5**

#### **MEDIA DOORSTOP**

11.15am with RNA President David Thomas or Chief Executive Brendan Christou on Heritage Hill overlooking the Main Arena.

#### **JUDGING HIGHLIGHTS:**

- From 8.30am – Canine judging – Terrier Group – in Sushi Hub Dog Pavilion. Plus, Scent Work Trials from 10am at Stockman's Rest
- From 9am – Cat judging – Group Specials and Supremes – in Sushi Hub Cat Precinct
- From 8am – Sheep Competition – School Wether Class, Large Animal Pavilion (Level 2)
- From 8.30am – Dairy Cattle Competition presented by Aussie Helpers - All Breed Junior, Intermediate Udder and Intermediate Classes Judging, Senior Dairy Cow Judging, Premier Breeder's Award and Most Successful Exhibitor, Main Arena
- From 9am – Young Judges presented by the Queensland Government (Wool), Large Animal Pavilion
- From 9am – Horse judging – Child's Show Hunter Galloway, Child's Show Hack, Novice Show Hunter Hack, Australian Ponies Led, Australian Saddle Ponies Led, Novice Show Galloway Hack, Open Show Galloway Hack, Main Arena

- From 9am – Showjumping Competition – Junior Jumping contest and Puissance Art, Main Arena
- From 9am – Woodchop & Sawing Competition –Open 325mm Treefelling Championship of Australia Final (2pm), Women's 350mm Single Handed Sawing Championship of Australia Final (2.15pm), Open 300mm Standing Block Royal Queensland Show Championship Final (3.30pm), Open 450mm Double Handed Sawing Championship of Australia Final (5pm), Ekka Woodchop Arena presented by AAM.

## **ALL ABOARD...FULL STEAM AHEAD TO EKKA**

Queensland Rail is celebrating 160 years of connecting communities with the return of steam train journeys to the Ekka for the first time since 2019. Tomorrow eight special steam train services will depart from Roma Street Station, offering Queenslanders a nostalgic and family-friendly way to travel to the Show – all for just 50 cents. This journey is more than a ride – it's a tradition that dates back to 1882 when Exhibition Station first opened, and a fitting tribute to the legacy of rail in Queensland. Leading the celebrations will be the historic BB18 ¼ steam engine 'Betty' - what a fantastic way to come to the Show with the kids on People's Day!

**When: Departing Roma Street Station at 9.05am, 9.50am, 10.35am, 11.20am, 12.05pm, 12.50pm, 1.35pm, 2.20pm**

## **TOP BILLING FOR TERRIERS**

Terriers will dominate centre stage at the Sushi Hub Dog Pavilion on Wednesday. Paws will be prancing and pose as handlers take West Highland Terriers, Cairn Terriers, Jack Russell Terriers, Bedlington Terriers, Bull Terriers and many more through their paces. Though often small in stature, they make up for it with their fearless attitude and can be determined, courageous and willing to go to the ground in search of their quarry.

**When: From 8.30am, Sushi Hub Dog Pavilion**

## **CHAMPIONS ON PARADE**

A spectacular Ekka tradition, the Grand Parade brings the very best of the Show into centre ring. From the tiniest Grand Champion Fish to the towering Grand Champion Stud Bull, the parade proudly showcases the champions across all competitions including goats, dairy cattle, cats, dogs, horses, horticulture, Showgirl entrants and more. Rich in history, the Grand Parade has evolved from early livestock displays, including in 1901 to welcome the Duke and Duchess of Cornwall and York.

**When: 1.30pm, Main Arena**

## **RAAF ROULETTES SET TO IMPRESS**

The Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Roulettes will soar above the Brisbane Showgrounds on People's Day, thrilling crowds with their high-energy aerobatic display. Flying the cutting-edge PC-21 aircraft, four

team members will demonstrate the precision, skill and teamwork of Air Force pilots – reaching speeds of up to 685 km/h and flying just metres apart. A crowd favourite, the Roulettes will be a spectacular highlight on Ekka's most attended day of Show.

**When: 12.20pm, Look up!**

## **DAIRY'S YOUNG GUNS**

Australia's youth dairy exhibitors will compete in this year's Dairy Cattle Competition presented by Aussie Helpers, showcasing the milk quality, conformation and production potential of their animals. Cattle will be housed on Level 1 of the Large Animal Pavilion, with judging held in the Dairy Pavilion Ring. Highlights include the Young Judges, Young Paraders and All Breeds Youth Show from 2:30pm on Wednesday.

**When: 8.30am, Dairy Pavilion Ring**

## **BEARD BEAUTIES IN FULL BLOOM**

Some of the best beards in the Sunshine State will be lining up for a floral transformation of their facial fuzz on Wednesday. Flower Beards has become one of the most popular inclusions in the Floristry Competition, with bearded men having their beards treated to a bouquet of beauty live on stage within a 60-minute timeframe.

**When: 11.30am, Floristry Stage, Ag Education Hall**

## **A HEEL-KICKIN' GOOD TIME AT STOCKMEN'S**

Kick up your boots and join the party at the Ekka's Line Dancing Hoedown presented by Ariat. With social dancing, competition demos, beginner workshops and the thrilling Queensland Club Challenge, there's something for everyone. More than 80 boot-scootin' instructors, club members and students from across Queensland will bring the energy and fun — so get ready to dance, laugh and maybe even learn a new step or two!

**When: 11am – 3pm, XXXX Stockmen's Bar & Grill**

## **CLOGGERS READY TO ROCK THE FLOOR**

Get ready for toe-tapping fun with the Brisbane Cloggers, a vibrant community dance group celebrating the energetic, percussive style of clogging. Blending elements of Irish step, tap, and line dancing, they perform upbeat routines to music ranging from pop and hip hop to country, bluegrass, and Latin. With dancers aged from 8 to 80, they promote confidence, creativity and community.

**When: 3.30pm – 5.30pm, XXXX Stockmen's Bar & Grill**

## EKKA ESSENTIALS:

- Royal Queensland Show (Ekka) August 9 – 17, 2025
- Brisbane Showgrounds, 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, Queensland
- Gates open at 9am
- Tickets are available online at [www.ekka.com.au](http://www.ekka.com.au)

## EDITORS PLEASE NOTE:

The 2025 Ekka Media Kit is available to download. It is the most comprehensive information guide to the show – to download please visit [Media Kit](#)

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



And don't forget to download the Ekka App.



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