

Jim Henson's™



*Main Stage,
Channel 7 Pavilion (G-13)*

NEW - Dinosaur Train

WHEN: 11AM, 12PM, 1PM DAILY FROM AUGUST 10-16

All aboard as the Dinosaur Train bounds onto the main stage for the very first time. The characters from the popular cartoon come alive and take you onboard their journey through the Mesozoic era onboard the Dinosaur Train.

Join Buddy the T-Rex and his adoptive Pteranodon family as they deliver fun facts about dinosaurs, play games and host a singalong.



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DAY-TIME ENTERTAINMENT

ZimboyZ Acrobatic Troupe

WHEN: 2PM & 4PM DAILY

Chinese pole, fire hoops, human pyramids and chair balancing are just a few of the acts that will leave you speechless throughout the ZimboyZ show. These three talented acrobats are set to dazzle Ekka crowds with their zest for fun, everlasting energy and cheeky sense of humour. Watch raw acrobatic talent in action as these talented performers deliver the spirit of Africa in the form of breathtaking, gravity defying displays loaded with fun and laughter.

Community Dance Groups

WHEN: 9:30AM - 5PM DAILY

More than 50 community dance groups presented by Teddy & Co Funland!!! will take to the Main Stage over the nine days of show. A range of dance genres from Bollywood to ballet and Taekwondo to jazz, with a sprinkle of contemporary and hip hop in between. Each group is given 20 minutes to showcase their talents on stage for Ekka visitors.

Multicultural Plaza Music Stage

WHEN: 9:30AM-7PM DAILY

A diverse line-up of acts will entertain Ekka goers from the Multicultural Plaza Music Stage over the nine days of Ekka. From LESI Little Drummers and the QPS Band of Blue to solo serenaders and jugglers, there is something for everyone.

Farmyard Friends

WHEN: 10:45AM, 11:30AM, 12:15PM, 1PM, 2PM, 2:45PM, 3:30PM, 4:15PM DAILY

Everyone's favourite farmyard friends Milo the Sheepdog, Daisy the Dairy Cow, Hayden the Horse and Barbara the Sheep will be roving the Gourmet Plaza daily with Rhonda MacDonald. Be sure to have your camera ready when these loveable Ekka mascots gather together at the Multicultural Plaza Music Stage for selfies with their fans.



Gregory Terrace

Music on the Move

9:30AM-5PM DAILY

Marching to the beat once again in 2024 is Music on the Move. Moving in tune along Gregory Terrace daily will be a range of marching bands from 17 local school and community groups to the popular Army PEP Band. The street will come alive as the music moves through the show, with fans following the performance.

King Street

Precision Reptiles – Reptile Show

WHEN: OCCURRING EVERY HALF HOUR FROM 9:30AM-4:45PM DAILY

Admire the sensational Australian wildlife and get wrapped up with friendly pythons at the Venomous Snake and Reptile Show.

At Precision Reptiles' Reptile Display there will be a range of Australian reptiles to come along and learn about. Handlers will have gentle snakes, lizards and even a baby Saltwater Crocodile you can hold and get up close to in the non-venomous photo booth. There will also be the world's most venomous snakes in the snake pit, where you will also learn some vital information about snake awareness and snake bite first aid.

Show Ring

Horsing Around Show presented by Queensland Off-The-Track

WHEN: 11AM, 12PM, 2PM & 3PM DAILY

The Horsing Around Show presented by Queensland Off-The-Track will see acclaimed horse trainer Dave Manchon proudly showcase the Queensland Off-The-Track program. Dave will be joined by some well-known retired racehorses, as he talks about his training methods and how they can apply to these off the track stars. This educational show will demonstrate what is possible with some of these equine super athletes once they slow down.

XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill (O-6)

Queensland Armwrestling Championships

WHEN: 10AM-6PM ON AUGUST 10

Witness raw strength as more than 40 men and women compete in the Queensland Armwrestling Championships presented by the Australian Armwrestling Federation. The battle of the biceps will take place across lightweight, middleweight and heavyweight classes in a double elimination competition. The competitive arm wrestlers range from world title contenders to husbands and wives. This display of strength is sure to be arm-believable!



2024 Australian Strongman Alliance Invitational

WHEN: 10AM-6PM ON AUGUST 11

Watch as some of Australia's top strong men and women take on five gruelling events in an Australian Strongman Alliance competition. The first event will be the Axle Overhead Anyhow where competitors will have three attempts to lift the heaviest axle (50mm diameter barbell) over their heads. This is followed by the Strongman Cornhole where competitors will throw five 10kg sandbags approximately eight metres into a giant cornhole board or over a crossbar for additional points. The third event, aptly named the Truck Tyre Deadlift, features competitors trying to deadlift the heaviest three repetitions they can manage. Rounding out the afternoon will be Event 4: Farmers Walk (competitors race 15 metres up and 15 metres back) and Event 5: Atlas Stones, where six of the large said stones must be hoisted over a one metre crossbar as fast as they can. Each of the five events will run for approximately 45 minutes, with break interspersed with displays to get the crowd involved.

This is just the second time the Ekka has hosted the only Queensland qualifier for one of the biggest events internationally, the 2024 Magnus Ver Magnusson Strongman Classic, held in Iceland later this year.

Country Music Showdown presented by Ariat Australia

WHEN: 9AM-12:30PM (JUNIOR CATEGORY) & 12:40PM (JUNIOR PRESENTATIONS); 1PM-5PM (OPEN CATEGORY) & 5:10PM (OPEN PRESENTATIONS) ON AUGUST 17

This year the Country Music Showdown presented by Ariat Australia celebrates 10 years of unearthing rising stars.

Rising country music stars aged 12 years and over will prove their worth in the ultimate music experience, taking to the XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill stage to perform performing two songs to Ekka crowds.

The ultimate search for Queensland's next 'big thing' in country music goes up a level with more than \$70,000 in cash prizes for the Open and Junior winners.

Competitors will be battling it out for career-boosting prizes including website design and creation by Deeper Look, music video production by Slow Cooked, a scholarship to the Troy Cassar-Daley Academy of Country Music, season pass and chance to perform at the Gympie Music Muster, scheduling of a performance profile package by Capital Country Radio and Country Music Bulletin, photoshoot and images by Renee Brazel Photography, musical equipment gift packs from Guitar Brothers, guitars from Riffs & Licks Music, airplay on Kix Country and best of all (at least in our opinion!) performance opportunity and tickets to Ekka 2025.

Ekka's Line Dancing Hoedown

WHEN: 11AM-3PM ON AUGUST 14

Kick up your heels and join in the fun at Ekka's Line Dancing Hoedown. This interactive showcase provides entertainment for everyone from social dancing to competition demonstrations and beginner workshops for the public to the Queensland Club Challenge. The hoedown will involve more than 80 boot-scooting dance instructors, club members and students from across Queensland.

Brisbane Cloggers

WHEN: 3.30PM-5.30PM ON AUGUST 14

Kids and adults will once again be clogging at XXXX Stockmen's Bar and Grill. Clogging is an energetic and percussive dance form dating back to the late 1800s, hailing from the USA's Appalachian Mountains, but this dance form didn't arrive in Australia till the 1980s.

These days Clogging is enjoyed by people of all ages from 8-year-olds to 80-year-olds. The Brisbane Cloggers will dance to a wide range of music including pop, country, hip hop, bluegrass and Latin.

Ekka's Keppel Dagwood Dog Eating Competition

WHEN: 12PM-2PM ON AUGUST 18

The ultimate food challenge returns to the Stockman's Bar and Grill, celebrating its fifth anniversary at the Royal Queensland Show. Ekka's Keppel Dagwood Dog Eating Competition is back by popular demand and will feature two classes - Amateur and Professional. Competitors will have 10 minutes to eat 20 Keppel Dagwood Dogs, or as many as possible.

The competition will feature the returning champion - J Webby Can Eat - who is Australia's number 1 competitive eater and ranked fifth in the world.



Stockman's Rest

Variety of Entertainment

Stockman's Rest will be jam packed with a variety of entertainment over the nine days of Show.

From dogs demonstrating their skill and agility to all things blacksmithing with forging and farriers competitions - Stockman's Rest has it all! You'll also see poets belting out bush ballads and goats in yogic poses, in an exercise designed for you to find your Ekka zen while having a chuckle.

Goat Yoga

**WHEN: 10:30AM, 11:30AM, 12:30PM, 1:30PM & 2:30PM
AUGUST 11**

'Breath-in, bleat-out!' Enjoy the vibrant energy from baby goats while embodying the peaceful art of meditation. These cuties will nibble, nuzzle and bleat at Ekka goers striking a yoga pose, leaving them with a smile and some great selfies! Instead of perfectly posing in spiritual silence, the sessions by Karmably Goat Yoga will guide people to compassionately observe the chaotic beauty provided by the baby goats - embrace the present madness and flow with the moment.

Flower and Garden Precinct

Flower Beard Competition

**WHEN: 11:30AM (COMPETITION)
AND 1:30PM (DISPLAY IN MAIN
ARENA'S GRAND PARADE) ON
AUGUST 14**

**WHERE: FLORISTRY STAGE,
AG EDUCATION HALL**

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 MC'd by well-known landscape architect and ABC TV personality Costa Georgiadis. The entrants will also be showcased in the Ekka's iconic Grand Parade on the Main Arena at 1.30pm.

Main Arena

Ekka's Beaut Ute Display & Parade presented by Motorama Mitsubishi Moorooka

**WHEN: 9AM-1PM (DISPLAY NEAR LAP PAVILION) AND
1:30PM (MAIN ARENA GRAND PARADE) AUGUST 17
(PARADE)**

Dating back to the 1930s, the humble Aussie ute has been a mainstay for almost a century. Known as the home of choice for kelpies to toolboxes and much more, the Ekka's Beaut Ute competition pays homage to these souped-up much-loved machines.

Once again, engines will be revving when Ekka's Beaut Ute Parade drives into the Main Arena with up to 20 utes and their proud owners competing for a share in \$1,000 in prize money.

Back by popular demand, the Beaut Utes come in all shapes and sizes, so this competition features several classes - Street, BnS, 4x4 and Novelty. Prizes will be awarded in each class. The utes from clubs including OutKast Ute Club and Dukes Utes will also be on display beside the Large Animal Pavilion from 9am to 1pm.



Lunchtime Entertainment – Main Arena

RAAF Roulettes

WHEN: 12:20PM-12:30PM AUGUST 14

Ekka entertainment will go sky high this year with the return of the Roulettes, the Royal Australian Air Force's aerobatic display team.

Marvel as these aeronautical acrobats fly as close as three metres apart, showcasing the level of visual judgement and hand-eye coordination that pilots in the Air Force are able to achieve. These skills are an extension of the formation, aerobatics, low level flying and airmanship skills taught to all Air Force pilots during training that are then developed throughout their career.

The Ekka Roulette displays will consist of up to 6 Pilatus PC-21 aircraft performing a number of manoeuvres flown in various formations at low level, sometimes as low as 80 metres, at speeds of up to 370 knots (685km/h), whilst the pilots experience up to six times the force of gravity (6G) during the display.

Trackskill Precision Driving Utes

WHEN: 1PM AUGUST 11, 12:30PM AUGUST 13-18

The Precision Driving Team has always been an Ekka crowd favourite and this year we pay tribute once again to them with a skilful display and drive down memory lane.

Former Ekka Councillor and rally car driver Lloyd Robertson formed the team at the Brisbane Showgrounds for the 1969 Ekka and after 40 successful years, the team disbanded in 2006 with Lloyd retiring.

Re-enacting the iconic Precision Driving Team, four V8s, two Holden and two Ford, will hit the main arena, performing the awe-inspiring driving manoeuvres that were performed by the original team years ago. This includes nose-to-nose driving, handbrake flicks, spins and slides with a time trial challenge between Holden and Ford as the finale.

Taking to the steering wheels behind the powerful engines are some of Australia's leading V8 drivers – Gary Baxter, Michael Baxter, Tim Ramage and Graham Edwards.

As Ekka celebrates the nostalgic traditions of 145 Shows, we are excited to bring precision driving back to where it all began – this is one show to sure stir up childhood memories of the Ekka.

Aussie FMX Motocross

WHEN: 12:45PM AUGUST 11, 13-18

The Aussie FMX Motocross Team push the limits on what is possible with their heart-stopping, high adrenaline displays. Combining aerial feats with motocross mastery, riders Tom Robinson, Tyler Wakeford and Brodie Carmichael will have your heart in your throat as you watch them fly upside down on their bike, more than 20 metres in the air.

NEW – Little Pony Roller Race

WHEN: 1PM AUGUST 13-14

In this zany show, watch as riders wearing jockey silks and rollerblades roll around the arena while mounted on miniature ponies. The rollerblades will do all the heavy lifting as the jockeys vie for first place in this riotous race of miniature proportions.

Grand Parade – Special Performance by the Star of Tina – The Tina Turner Musical, Ruva Ngwenya

WHEN: 1.30PM ON AUGUST 14

The star of the hit musical Tina - The Tina Turner Musical Ruva Ngwenya will perform at the start of the Ekka's iconic grand parade on People's Day.

Ruva has performed in a string of successful musicals; We Will Rock You, Beautiful: The Carole King Musical, Ragtime and Moulin Rouge The Musical, solidifying her as one of musical theatre's most sought-after performers.

The smash hit musical, currently playing at QPAC, has been wowing Brisbane audiences, capturing the hearts of audiences with its powerful storytelling, incredible performances, and iconic music.

The grand 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.

It 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.



Sheepdog Demonstration

WHEN: 1.15PM AUGUST 13-18 AND 6PM AUGUST 10-18

Watch as Kelly the clever canine demonstrates her mustering prowess. Kelly will take 20 sheep through their paces around the Main Arena, as well as separating individual sheep upon command from handlers Jonathan and Mikayla. This demonstration will go next level as the sun goes down, with the sheep donning coloured LED vests and the dogs an eye-catching LED collar to add to the excitement and spectacle.

The sheep industry uses coats for sheep to keep them warm after they have been shorn during the colder months of the year. They are also used in high quality wool production to keep any dirt out of the wool so as to not damage it whilst growing on the sheep. On this occasion, the vests will collectively be fitted with more than 3000 LED lights to add to the mustering spectacle.

Woodchop Arena presented by AAM

*2024 AWWA Australian
Whipcracking Championships and
World Bullock Whip
Championships presented by
R.M. Williams & Packer Leather*

WHEN: 10AM ON AUGUST 18

The best whipcrackers from across the nation return to the Ekka to compete in the 2024 AWWA Australian Whipcracking Championships and World Bullock Whip Championships hosted by the Australian Whipcrackers & Plaiters Association. More than 40 state champions will compete in classes including PeeWee (8 & Under), Juvenile (12 & Under), Junior (16 & Under), Ladies, Mens, Over 45s and the hotly contested World Bullock Whip Titles. Enjoy watching the current Australian Whipcracking Women's Champion and Men's Champion defend their titles and break the sound barrier as the crack of their stockwhips create a sonic boom. The national titles will be judged on accuracy, technical prowess, flow, the volume of the crack, and personal presentation. Fair crack of the whip...you're sure to see some cracking routines from these talented competitors.

Sushi Hub Cat Precinct (N-11)

Sheep Shearing

WHEN: 10AM, 11AM, 12PM, 2.30PM & 4PM DAILY

Sheep shearer Jonathan and roustabout Mikayla will showcase their skills in the shearing shed this year at Ekka 2024.

Jonathan will be showcasing the skills of shearing with machine shears as well as with the traditional blade shears. Mikayla will demonstrate her talent for throwing the fleece, along with her vast knowledge of wool. Together, they will teach Ekka visitors the process of shearing, grading wool and about the different products wool can be made into.

You may even be lucky enough to be picked to give the shearer a hand at shearing the sheep!

Bush Poetry

11:30AM AND 12:30PM ON AUGUST 10 AND AUGUST 12-18

Queensland's best bards will show off their rhythm as they recite poems in front of Ekka goers. These passionate poets will perform their favourite bush ballads for 30 minutes.



FINAL WEEKEND OF FUN!

Two of the biggest names in children's entertainment will be taking to the Main Stage in the Channel 7 Pavilion in Ekka 2024!

NEW - Emma Memma

WHEN: 11AM, 12PM & 1PM ON AUGUST 17

Orange butterflies will be fluttering when beloved children's entertainer Emma Memma takes to the Ekka stage for the very first time. Emma Memma, featuring Emma Watkins, loved her Ekka visit last year so much that she's returned, this time to perform on the Main Stage on the last two days of Show.

Join in this music and dance spectacular that gets the whole family twirling, with ARIA award-winning music by Emma Watkins and Oliver Brian. Come and flutter around with Emma and her friends such as BB Butterfly and the Memma mates as they encourage and empower the children to join in the singing, dancing and signing.



NEW - Bluey & Bingo

WHEN: 11AM, 12PM & 1PM ON AUGUST 18

See Bluey and her little sister Bingo during their Live Interactive Experience at the Ekka!

Bluey follows the adventures of a lovable, inexhaustible Blue Heeler dog who lives with her mum, dad and her little sister, Bingo. Bluey uses her limitless energy to play games that unfold in unpredictable and hilarious ways, bringing her family and the whole neighbourhood into her world of fun. Catch this adorable duo for three Live Interactive Experiences on Sunday 18th August on the Main Stage in the Channel 7 Pavilion.

Get ready to play Magic Asparagus, Magic Xylophone, Keepy Uppy and more with your favourite Heeler duo.



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