

The official magazine for the RNA

# SHOWBIZ

SPRING 2022

## FESTIVALS ARE BACK!



# Thanks to our great Ekka supporters

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# W E L C O M E

FROM RNA PRESIDENT DAVID THOMAS



"Since the first show in 1876, the Ekka has celebrated Queensland agriculture and the vital role it plays in our everyday lives."

I would like to start by expressing my sincere gratitude to the people of Queensland for their overwhelming support of the historic return of the Royal Queensland Show (Ekka).

After two long years, we were thrilled to finally bring back this treasured Queensland institution and reunite the country and the city.

More than 345,000 people came together over the nine days of Show, enjoying the traditional and unique Ekka experiences we had all dearly missed.

There was such a wonderful feeling around the Ekka this year, with Queenslanders rallying behind the People's Show following its cancellation in 2020 and 2021.

The return of the Ekka in its 143rd year was vitally important to help the RNA fulfil its mission of celebrating and championing agriculture.

This year we were delighted to once again reward and recognise our exhibitors across all 55 competition sections.

We received more than 20,000 competition entries, with our exhibitors travelling from right across the state to showcase their

talents at the Ekka.

Our competitions form the foundation of the Show and our exhibitors work tirelessly to produce the best of the best.

Since the first show in 1876, the Ekka has celebrated Queensland agriculture and the vital role it plays in our everyday lives.

We look forward to continuing this wonderful legacy, full of traditions and childhood memories passed down through generations of families.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our RNA members, exhibitors, competitors, judges and stewards, volunteers, sponsors and visitors for a successful show. Thank you also to my fellow RNA Councillors and the RNA staff for their dedication and commitment.

We look forward to seeing you again at the 2023 Ekka.

David Thomas  
RNA PRESIDENT





# A force for good

On the road and in communities, we see resourceful, resilient people who care for today, and for the future.

At RACQ, we'll meet that future with you, as prepared as we can be. We'll embrace technologies that tread more lightly on the earth. We'll help keep you safe at home, and as always, on the road.

As Queenslanders, when we all come together, we're a force for good.

That's how RACQ membership makes all the difference.

**RACQ**



# AROUND THE GROUNDS

Justin Joiner from Stomping Ground Brewing Co with his award for Australia's best beer for 2022



## UNEARTHING AUSTRALIA'S FINEST FOOD AND BEST BEVERAGES



Australia's best cheese 2022 - Blackall Gold Washed Rind by Woombye Cheese



Australia's best lamb 2022 - Tasmanian Royal by Royal Wholesale Meats



Australia's best steak 2022 - Stockyard Black by Stockyard Beef



Australia's best ice cream 2022 - Pandan Coconut by Milani Minus Eight Degrees



Australia's best wine 2022 - The Lowestoff Estate for their Single Vineyard Pinot Noir 2021

The hunt for the nation's finest produce is about to begin, with entries for the Royal Queensland Awards (RQA) starting to open next month.

The first of the six RQA food and beverage competitions to open for entries for 2023 is beer on November 7.

The Royal Queensland Beer Awards presented by Rallings Labels, Stickers and Packaging gives producers a platform to shine, be judged against their peers and get great consumer market exposure.

The competition was taken out by Victorian

brewery Stomping Ground this year, with their Czech Pilsner beating a record 570 entries to take the title of Grand Champion Beer.

The other competitions that form the RQA are Cheese and Dairy; Ice Cream, Gelato and Sorbet; Branded Beef; Branded Lamb; and the Royal Queensland Wine Awards (RQWA).

Since 2009, the RQA has nurtured innovation and excellence in the Queensland and Australian food and beverage sectors by providing a

comprehensive awards program which helps producers benchmark and promote their products.

It also forms part of the RNA's commitment to reward and recognise the nation's best of the best.

The beef and lamb competitions will open for entries in January, followed by cheese and dairy, ice cream and wine in February. More info at [www.rqa.com.au](http://www.rqa.com.au)

▶ Watch Ekka TV to see the winners take home the awards.

September's Listen Out Festival.



# MUSIC FESTIVAL

## SEASON KICKS OFF

The Brisbane Showgrounds is celebrating the return of live music, with the spring/summer music festival season underway at the venue.

Most of the music festivals to be held at the Showgrounds haven't taken place since 2019 due to the covid-19 pandemic.

Listen Out was the first festival to make a comeback in late September, with more than 30,000 people streaming through the gates.

Australia's primary dance and hip-hop festival brought a huge line-up of international and Australian artists including Disclosure, Tove Lo, JID, AJ Tracey and

Roddy Ricch.

More than 200 RNA staff worked at the large-scale event, which utilised 10 major venue spaces at the Showgrounds including the Main Arena.

It was the fifth year since 2014 the Brisbane Showgrounds had hosted the popular Australian music festival.

Next on the calendar for the home of Queensland's music festivals is RnB Fridayz Live on Friday 11 November.

The festival will feature some of the world's biggest names in RnB and hip-hop including headliner Macklemore, plus TLC, Akon, Shaggy and more.

The popular event is expected to draw a crowd of more than 30,000 people after a two-year hiatus.

Other music festivals to be held at the Brisbane Showgrounds this spring/summer include the following.

### **RÜFÜS DU SOL - 26 NOVEMBER**

Following the release of their fourth studio album, Surrender, Rüfüs Du Sol is bringing fans their biggest ever live show production. Well-known British producer Jon Hopkins will join the band this year, along with Australian house and techno newcomers Luke Alessi and RONA.



# BAVARIAN FESTIVITIES

BACK AT THE  
BRISBANE SHOWGROUNDS



## GOOD THINGS - SUNDAY 4 DECEMBER

Good Things has confirmed a huge line up for its return including popular British rock band Bring Me The Horizon as the headline act. Also joining the festival is American heavyweight Deftones and Japanese rockers One Ok Rock.

## WILDLANDS - SATURDAY 7 JANUARY

Wildlands has promised a vibrant oasis filled with the biggest and most exciting dance, electronic and hip-hop acts from Australia and around the world. The impressive line-up includes US rapper Denzel Curry, American DJ Diplo, English rapper Shygirl and more.

## ST JEROME'S LANEWAY FESTIVAL - SATURDAY 4 FEBRUARY

Laneway is bringing an all-star cast for its first festival since 2020. American sibling indie-rock band Haim will be headlining, joined by Japanese singer and producer Joji and indie-pop sensation Phoebe Bridges.

For more information on each of these music festivals, simply click here to visit our 'What's On' webpage.

Want to win free tickets? Keep an eye on our Facebook and Instagram pages to find out how.

Australia's largest and most authentic annual German celebration, The Only Oktoberfest Brisbane, returned to the Brisbane Showgrounds in October after a two year hiatus.

More than 35,000 people dusted off their dirndls and lederhosen for two weekends (7-9 and 14-16) of culture-seeking fun including live music, hearty German food, traditionally brewed beer, rides and plenty of entertainment.

For the first time in the event's 13 year history, The Only Oktoberfest Brisbane opened earlier at midday on Friday with a traditional beer keg tapping, catchy tunes from the new Bavarian Oompah Band, live performances from the energetic Alpenrosen Dance Group and more.

Brisbane Showgrounds General Manager

of Venue Sales and Marketing Jago Coyle said it was wonderful to see the colourful atmosphere of Oktoberfest Brisbane take over the Showgrounds again.

"We've been working with festival directors Kim and Boris Zoulek since the inaugural event in 2008 and each year they bring a jam-packed program to our venue," Mr Coyle said.

"Oktoberfest Brisbane was named one of the top 10 Oktoberfest celebrations outside Germany by National Geographic and it's a credit to Kim and Boris that the event has become so internationally renowned.

"The celebrations covered more than two hectares of space at our venue, with people traveling from across the country to attend."





# COUNTRY AND CITY REUNITE

**ONCE AGAIN TO SHOW  
THEIR LOVE FOR EKKA**

Following three long years without an Ekka, Queenslanders celebrated the historic return of the 143rd Royal Queensland Show from August 6-14.

More than 345,000 people came together over the nine days in a celebration of agriculture.

RNA Chief Executive Brendan Christou said after such a challenging time, it was wonderful to finally throw open the gates and reunite the country and the city.

"The Ekka is the largest ticketed event to be held in Queensland since the pandemic and it was wonderful to see everyone come back together again after the challenges of





the past two years.”

Mr Christou said visitors returned to celebrate all the traditional show favourites from exceptional animals and championship competitions to world class entertainment, heart-stopping rides and fun showbags.

“We had more than 20,000 competition entries across 55 Ekka competitions, competing not just for the coveted blue ribbon but a total competition prize pool of \$615,000,” he said.

“From champion woodchoppers to 9-year-old quilters to 4-year-old horse competitors to 90-year-old bakers, the Ekka truly

welcomes all and continues to create those magical memories.”

People’s Day was hugely successful with close to 60,000 people attending the Show, additionally, Ekka Monday saw a 6% increase on 2019 with 39,000 people attending, and Ekka Friday enjoyed a 21% increase compared to 2019 with close to 40,000 in attendance.

The RNA thanks Queenslanders for their overwhelming support of the Show and looks forward to the 2023 Ekka from August 12-20.



Watch Ekka TV for a wrap up of the 2022 Ekka.





# EKKA LEGEND

## THE LATEST TITLE FOR FORMER OLYMPIAN



After nearly 40 years of association with one of the Ekka's oldest competitions, showjumping, Ron Easey was crowned the 2022 Ekka Legend.

Mr Easey has competed in the Ekka's showjumping events since 1984, where he has excelled, and he has repeatedly won Champion Showjumping Rider of Queensland. In fact, Ron took out Champion Rider at the 2022 Ekka.

The Ekka showjumping competition serves as a trial for many competitors seeking selection in the Australian Olympics.

Ron did just that in 2000, winning at the Royal Queensland Show first, and then making the Sydney Olympics team that year.

RNA President David Thomas said the Ekka Legend award was bestowed on those who had made a remarkable

contribution to the Show.

"Not only has Ron been an outstanding competitor in the Ekka's showjumping events, he has also made a remarkable contribution to the broader Show movement both within Queensland and nationally," Mr Thomas said.

"Ron has been a mentor and coach to many young riders, serving as an important role model exemplifying the highest traditions of the sport.

"We honour and thank Ron Easey for his incredible and invaluable contribution to the Royal Queensland Show over many, many years."

The Ekka Legend award was introduced in 2004 and just 16 people have been bestowed the RNA's most prestigious honour.

## NEXT GENERATION ON SHOW

MEET SOME OF OUR JUNIOR EKKA COMPETITORS WHO WERE EXCITED TO RECEIVE A COVETED BLUE RIBBON THIS YEAR.

### OLIVER WAITE

At just 9 years old, Oliver Waite from Grafton took home a blue ribbon in the Quilts Across Queensland Competition after entering for the first time. His entry titled 'Fire Wall' took eight months to sew and won the Junior under 18s class. His win created quite a buzz on social media, going viral on the Ekka's Facebook page! Oliver attends a sewing class with his mum Casey once a week.

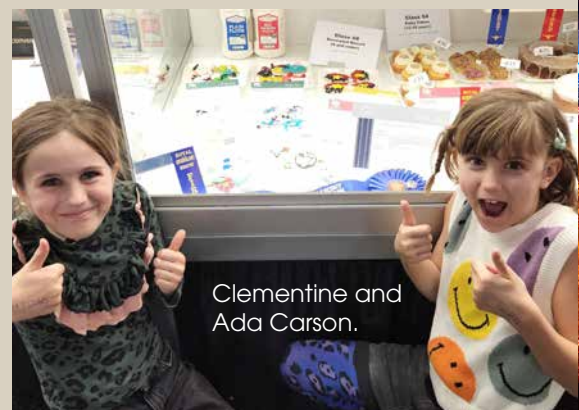
### CLEMENTINE AND ADA CARSON

Sisters Clementine and Ada Carson from Brisbane entered the Cookery Competition for the first time after seeing the delicious entries on display at the 2019 Show. They even asked their grandma to give them some tips and secret recipes. Ada won two firsts (decorated biscuits and

decorated gingerbread people) and a second (chocolate cake), while Clementine received one first (scones), two seconds (ANZAC and decorated biscuits), a highly commended (decorated gingerbread people) and also took out the ribbon for Most Successful Exhibitor 9 years and under!

### ZIA HAYLOCK AND JASMINE BOWMAN

Bowenville State School Grade 2 students Zia Haylock and Jasmine Bowman were crowned cheese making champions in the Ekka's Student Made Cheese Competition in September. The students were the youngest competitors to enter, winning the Mould Ripened Cheese blue class for their entry titled 'Bowenville Billycan Blue'. A total of 147 cheeses were entered in the Student Made Cheese Competition across two classes – camembert and blue cheese.



Clementine and Ada Carson.



From left - Student cheese champions Zia Haylock and Jasmine Bowman.



# EKKANITES

## ENTERTAINS

More than 20,000 people packed the Main Arena each night for the spectacular night show EkkaNITES.

This year's theme was 'it's time to celebrate' – a tribute to the people of Queensland coming back together again to celebrate our great state.

The night show featured an action-packed program including death-defying motorbike stunts, high speed utes, a family favourite monster truck, a dazzling display of horses led by equine artist Dave Manchon and of course a special fireworks display using 3 tonnes of pyrotechnic each night.

EkkaNITES certainly impressed the crowds, with rave reviews flooding the Ekka's Facebook page.

Our Entertainment team has now turned their attention to the 2023 Ekka and we can't wait to see what they have in store!



Relive your favourite EkkaNITES moments by clicking here and watching our Ekka TV episode.



**Julie Yvette Jeffries** recommends Ekka.  
11 August · 🌐

My grandkids absolutely loved the Ekka Nites this year. The motor bikes, the monster trucks and the fireworks were all spectacular. However, our absolute favourite of all was by far the horses. So wonderful to see such beautiful creatures light up the night with their glowing mains. Great to see a little bit of the country in the city. To me, the horses and horsemanship in the night arena show is what the Ekka is all about. Well done to all involved!

**Karen Robinson** recommends Ekka.  
14 August · 🌐

I took my daughter to the Ekka last night and we had an absolute ball. We thoroughly enjoyed the Ekka Nights entertainment. My daughter especially loved watching the horses perform. Such talent! We'll definitely be back next year.

**Nedizha Thierry** recommends Ekka.  
11 August · 🌐

Great experience for the kids. Worth it for the night time entertainment alone. Well put together, professional productions. The performing horses had the family enthralled with inspiring horsemanship and entertaining patter, dusted off with some imaginative animal choreography, lighting and good stunt work. The whole show was really good fun!



# NEW ADDITIONS

## TO OUR FURRY FAMILY

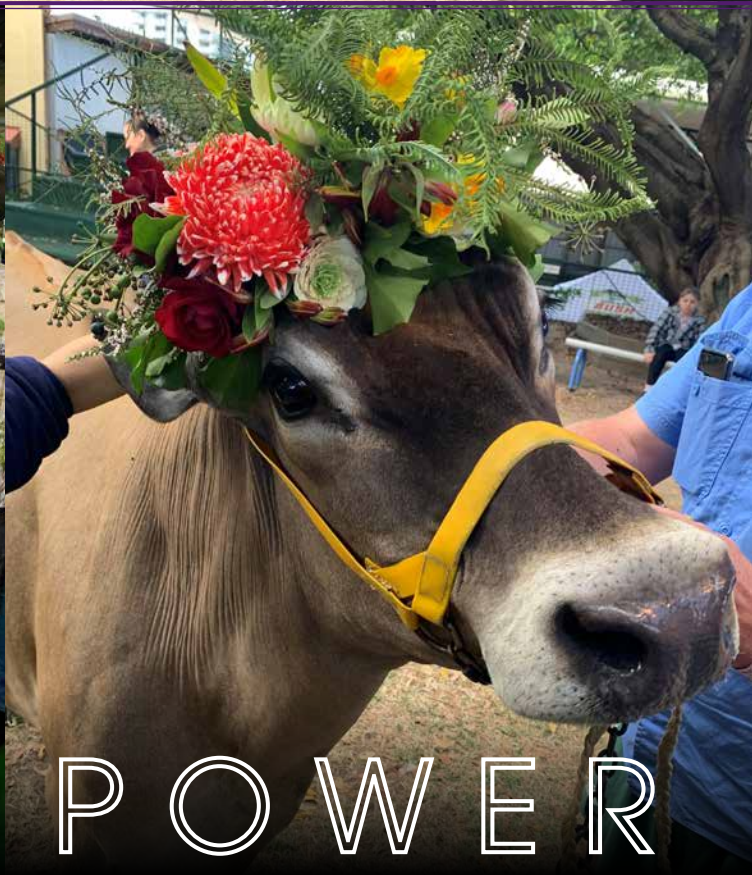


Did you spot the new faces in the RACQ Animal Nursery this year? Among the 550 baby animals were two adorable Highland cattle named Ginty and Ruby (pictured), along with two rare Valais blacknose sheep Wallace and Gromit - the only two in Queensland! Camels Penny and Vernon also made a return to the much-loved nursery this year. Camels hadn't featured at the Ekka since 2017.



Ellen Assis and Hugo Shaya intrigued by one of the camels.

From left: Third place winning beard designed by Maddie Fitzgerald, competition MC Costa Georgiadis, first place beard designed by Saralee Thompson and second place beard designed by Claire Bickle.



# FLOWER POWER

You don't have to look far to find something weird and wonderful at the Ekka. On Wednesday, 14 people took part in the quirky Flower Beard Competition, gaining some new facial foliage. Florists

were given an hour to add some floral flair to their team member, with some of the creations weighing up to 2kg! The competition was won by Saralee Thompson whose Viking inspired design

impressed judge Noel Prior. Meanwhile on Thursday, florist extraordinaire Julia Rose created beautiful flower crowns for some lucky Jersey cows to celebrate the return of the Ekka. Didn't they look moo-nificent!



# AMY SHEPPARD

## A SOLO SENSATION

Pop powerhouse Amy Sheppard treated fans to a special performance, as she took to the stage at the Ekka for the very first time.

Amy's one-off show on the Multicultural Plaza Music Stage on Friday was one of her first performances as a solo country singer.

The Brisbane local is best known as one of the Sheppard trio – the internationally successful band she shares with siblings George and Emma.

Amy had Ekka goers up and dancing with her new solo single 'Nothing But Wild', fusing her pop stylings with country influences.

Amy's family and friends even joined her many fans in the crowd to watch her new chapter begin.



Celebrity Chef Manu and Royal Queensland Steakhouse Executive Sous Chef Dean Brewer.



## SPOT THE STARS!

Some lucky Ekka goers were surprised to see Hollywood superstar Matt Damon at the Ekka! Matt was spotted browsing The Courier-Mail showbag pavilion, stopping to pose for selfies with eagle-eyed fans.

Celebrity Chef Manu Feildel made an appearance at the Ekka, to celebrate the launch of My Kitchen Rules on Channel Seven. Manu couldn't resist trying the award-winning steak at the Royal Queensland Steakhouse presented by JBS Australia, giving it a big thumbs up.



# STUNNING

## SNAPS

The Ekka's digital photography competition continues to prove popular, attracting 701 entries this year. Seven judges cast their eyes over the photos in July, with 79 year

old John Cupper taking out the Champion title for his perfectly timed image of two kookaburras. Take a look at some of the stunning award-winning entries.

Inflight Refuelling by John Cupper -  
Champion Digital Image



Power of the Ocean by Luke Cunningham -  
First in Any Subject



Through the Keyhole by Rochelle James  
- First in Camera Club Members Only







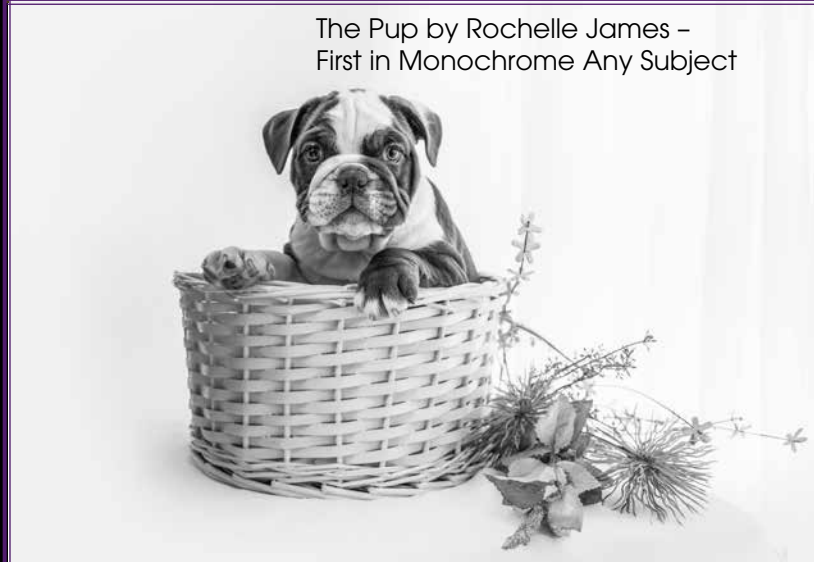
Kite at Sunset by Rochelle James -  
First in Colour Any Subject



Young Riflebird by David Bryan -  
Second in Senior Citizens Only



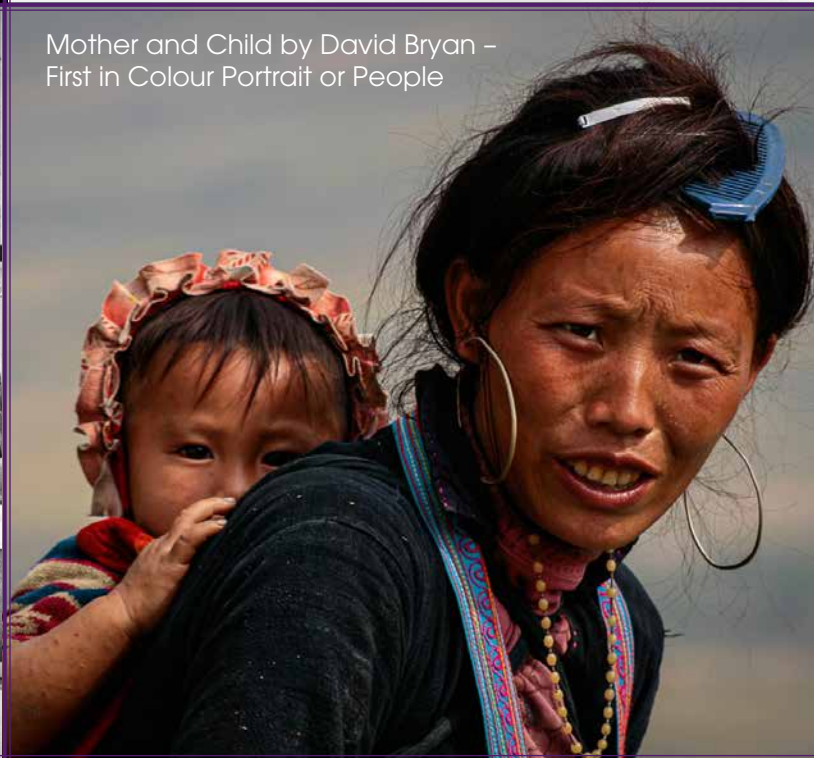
Family Bond by Rochelle James -  
Second in Camera Club Members Only



The Pup by Rochelle James -  
First in Monochrome Any Subject



The Pearl Shell Carver by Lenore Hansen -  
First in Monochrome Portrait or People



Mother and Child by David Bryan -  
First in Colour Portrait or People



## 2022

## GRAND CHAMPIONS

CATEGORY	WINNER
<b>AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES AND STUDENT FERMENTED BEVERAGES</b>	
Champion School	Tullawong State High School
<b>ALPACA FLEECES</b>	
Champion Huacaya Fleece	Broadwater Alpacas - Broadwater Gomez
Champion Suri Fleece	Rosegum Alpacas - Sharalandan Park Adonis
<b>ALPACAS</b>	
Supreme Champion	Broadwater Alpacas - Broadwater Helgs
<b>APICULTURE</b>	
Most Successful Exhibitor	888 Bees
<b>BUSH POETRY</b>	
Overall Champion	Andrew Pulsford
<b>CAKE DECORATING</b>	
Grand Champion	Kanchana Golding
<b>CANINE</b>	
Champion of Show (Show 1)	Craig & Malisa Moffat, AM. CH. AUT. CH. ALCHEMIST ROLLING THE DICE AT KAI-SHO (IMP USA)
Champion of Show (Show 2)	Miss J Manser & Mrs A Lumsden, SUP.CH. ASPYRE TONGUE IN CHEEK
<b>CATS</b>	
Supreme All Breeds Cat of Show	Jo-Anne Clarke, Tipasheena Try To Be Good
<b>CREATIVE ART &amp; CRAFT</b>	
Grand Champion Exhibit	Kay Cooke
<b>DAIRY CATTLE</b>	
Supreme Champion Dairy Cow	Paulger Family - ADADALE COLOTON ROWENA 32
<b>DAIRY GOATS</b>	
Most Successful Exhibitor	P J & M J Ross
<b>EDUCATION ON SHOW</b>	
Champion School of Show	Bullyard State School
<b>FARRIERS AND BLACKSMITHS</b>	
Most Successful Exhibitor (Open)	Michael Saunders
Most Successful Exhibitor (Intermediate)	Grant Lane
Most Successful Exhibitor (Novice)	Cameron Parkinson
<b>HORSE</b>	
Champion Gentleman Rider	Rhys Stanley
Champion Lady Rider	Rebecca Crane
<b>HORTICULTURAL DISPLAYS</b>	
Most Effective Display	Northern Districts Horticultural Society Inc
<b>LED STEER</b>	
Grand Champion Led Steer	Luke & Emily Kahler
Grand Champion Led Steer Carcass	Ray Zahnow
<b>NATURAL FIBRES &amp; WEARABLE ART</b>	
Overall Champion	Tayla McFarlane



CATEGORY	WINNER
<b>Paddock to Palate</b>	
Class 37 Overall Winner	Palgrove Pastoral Co
Class 38 Overall Winner	Yulgilbar Pastoral Company
Class 39 Overall Winner	Taldra Cattle Company
Class 40 Overall Winner	G Morgan & Co
<b>Painting &amp; Drawing</b>	
Champion Portrait of Show	Gordon Hooper "Occasion"
<b>Photography</b>	
Champion Print	Off Duty Co. "The Night Tram"
Champion Digital Image	John Cupper "Inflight Refuelling"
<b>Pisciculture</b>	
Champion Fish of Show	Jodi-Lea Matherson
Grand Champion Exhibit of Show	Stephen Baines
<b>Poultry</b>	
Supreme Grand Champion	PJ & LJ Arnett
<b>Prime Beef</b>	
Grand Champion Pen	TP & JE SURAWSKI
<b>Prime Lambs</b>	
Overall Champion Pen of Three Lambs	Bellevue Grazing Company
<b>Quilts Across Queensland</b>	
Best Quilt of Show	Lyn Crump - Circling Sevenstar
<b>School Egg Laying</b>	
Overall Champion	Kilcoy State High School
<b>Sheep</b>	
Supreme Champion Breeders Group of Show	Silverdale Dorset Studs
<b>Sculpture</b>	
Champion Sculpture	Derek Patey - "Simpson & his donkey with 2 Honour Guards"
<b>Showjumping</b>	
Champion Rider	Stuart Jenkins
<b>Stud Beef</b>	
Champion of Champions Bull	Kelley & Stephen Skillington (Cassaglen Raptor)
Champion of Champions Cow	Elite Cattle Co. (Elite Sheila Q130)
<b>Student Made Cheese</b>	
Champion Cheese of Show	Pimpama State Secondary College - Lily Crabb & Alysia McMahon
<b>Thoroughbred &amp; Standardbred</b>	
Champion Standardbred	Bells Beach House (Emily Turner)
Supreme Champion Thoroughbred	Supercharge (Leanne Jones)
<b>Woodchop and Sawing</b>	
Champion Axeman of Show	Brayden Meyer
<b>Wool</b>	
Grand Champion Merino Fleece of Show	Merryville Merino Stud
<b>Young Judges</b>	
Most Successful Competitor	Oliver Jurgeneit
<b>Youth in Agriculture</b>	
Youth District Exhibits Overall Winner	Caboolture State High School





# THE 'HIGH TEA'

## FUNDRAISER RETURNS

The RNA's 'High Tea' Fundraiser returned with a BANG!!!

Support for this event has been amazing - with just over \$228,000.00 having been raised since its inauguration in 2015. Funds are used to assist rural and isolated families affected by the harsh conditions regularly experienced throughout our state.

After two years in mothballs (due to the

Covid pandemic), many say that this year's event was the best yet. Capped at 400 guests, ladies came from near and far. Fun and Friendship while Fundraising for Rural Children are its dominant themes and there was certainly plenty of Fun, Friendship and Fundraising.

'Outback Futures' was chosen as this year's beneficiary. Its work in rural regions is becoming legendary and the monetary

response from guests supported the high regard in which this organisation is held.

*Link to VIDEO of Lucy*

This year's event raised just over \$41,000.00. The RNA is looking forward to liaising with 'Outback Futures' and relaying back, in 2023, some of the positive outcomes that this year's fundraising efforts have helped produce.



Pip opened the event by introducing a performance from 'Camerata' - Qld's Chamber Orchestra. The quintet performed to perfection

Our ever supportive "M.C." (for the sixth year) was 'Landline' ABC Television commentator, Pip Courtney. Awarded an induction into the Rural Press Club's Rural Journalism Hall of Fame, Pip needs little introduction – having covered (for more than 30 years) Australian-wide issues that affect the bush.

Pip opened the event by introducing a performance from 'Camerata' - Qld's Chamber Orchestra. The quintet performed to perfection "Apis Australis" - meaning "Australian Honey Bee". Composed by John Rotar, this lively rendition was an invigorating way to open the event.

An address from our Governor followed Camerata's musical performance. Everyone is used to seeing Her Excellency in the role as CHO (Qld's Chief Health Officer) when she used to address us daily about Covid management. It was a real eye-opener hearing her speak equally proficiently about several rural issues.



Pip Courtney in her sixth role as "M.C."



Her Excellency the Honourable Doctor Jeanette Young AC PSM.





The afternoon's programme then featured a viewing of the traditional EKKA Fashion Parade. This year's 'Stories of Style' theme was enhanced by a dramatic backdrop of rural scenes created by the RNA's media team.

At the conclusion of the Fashion Parade everyone remained seated for the 'Live' Auction. We were delighted to be able to welcome professional cattle/sheep auctioneer Bernadette Binnie (from McCulloch Agencies, Tamworth).

Three major items went under her hammer:

- \* One week's accommodation in a 3 Bedroom Penthouse at 'Costa Nova'. This Sunshine Beach venue features huge ocean, beach and coastline views and was donated by the Fairfax Family;
- \* A three night stay at Skyline Farm Rosevale, donated by Cameron Crouch. This rural holiday getaway can accommodate up to 16 guests and is equipped with everything needed for an idyllic stay with family or friends;
- \* Limited Edition Print – 'Feeding Frenzy' by Ida Montague. Ida is renowned for her dramatic black and white, charcoal/graphite drawings.



Bernadette Binnie, our 'Live' Auctioneer, in action.



Tension mounted with all eyes on Bernadette Binnie.



With professional ease Bernadette faced 400+ ladies - achieving amazing prices for the above items. Bidding was robust, with several ladies vying for their desired prize.

The outcome for this auction alone raised just over \$11,000.00.

Our most sincere thanks goes to our

donors and those who most generously purchased or participated in this animated buying process.

It was time for 'High Tea'!!! With a delicious array of bite-sized morsels on offer and a topped-up beverage, 'Meeting and Greeting' started in earnest.

Camerata's quintet continued to perform, providing a lovely ambience, while our Governor mingled with guests before her departure.

This 'Ladies Only' function has become one of Brisbane's most popular 'Meet and Greet' events between city and country.



Left to right: Courtney Talbot, Her Excellency the Honourable Doctor Jeanette Young AC PSM, Fabienne Cooke, Jodie Bignall



# RNA CHARITY FUNDRAISER

It is also particularly popular with those interested and/or actively involved in the beef cattle industry. These ladies take the opportunity to come up to the RICC (Royal International Convention Centre) for champagne and scones while the men are kept busy with cattle judging down in the main arena.

I include here an Ekka TV link which contains comments from ladies involved in our annual get-together:

*Link to Ekka TV interviews*

RNA Raffle Ticket sellers wandered round receiving a most enthusiastic and generous welcome. As the afternoon drew to a close, the winning numbers appeared on the over-head screens and prizes were collected by the lucky recipients. We were delighted that many were in no hurry to depart - happily chatting with friends or

making last minute connections. The EKKA is all about people enjoying themselves and it was a wonderfully heartening atmosphere right up to the conclusion of the event.

As with all fundraising activities, the event's success relies heavily upon the generosity of its supporters. I wish to sincerely thank all those who provided Raffle and Live Auction items. We hope this acknowledgement does not embarrass anyone of those who so willingly offered their support in this most important part of our fundraising activity:

Andrea Crothers – Restaurant voucher  
'Camerata' – Qld's Chamber Orchestra

Cameron Crouch – 'Skyline Farm',  
Rosevale

'Cobram Estate' – Suzy McGavin

'Galah Press' – Annabelle Hickson

Ida Montague – Limited Edition Print

'La Boite Theatre Company'

'Pamela's Pantry' – Baskets of goodies

'Q Camel' Products – Lauren Brisbane

RNA

The Fairfax Family

The Hostesses, Committee and I are both proud and delighted that the RNA's 2022 'High Tea' Fundraiser raised \$41,011.00.

We wish to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the success of this event and look forward to welcoming our family and fundraising friends (both new and old) to another Exciting, Enjoyable and Entertaining EKKA Event in 2023.

Best wishes until then,

Jane Thomas





# RNA CHARITY FUNDRAISER



Left to right: Aiko Neligan from Brisbane, Jessica Mann from Inverell and Amelia Honner from Gunnedah



Left to right: Gina Fairfax, Jane Thomas, Her Excellency the Honourable Doctor Jeanette Young AC PSM, Margot Warby and Margie Adnam



Left to right: Holly Naughton, Rowena Hogan, Piper Christensen, Bron Christensen and Robyn Young





## TASTES



# PUMPKIN PIE

When our Brisbane Showgrounds Executive Sous Chef Dean Brewer told us he had the best pumpkin pie recipe from his time in the United States, we just had to share it with Showbiz readers! Chef Dean's pumpkin pie is bursting with flavour, simple to make and best of all has a chocolate twist. It's the perfect dessert to enjoy any time of year!

### CHOCOLATE PUMPKIN PIE PASTRY

- 1 ½ cups plain flour
- 1/3 cup icing sugar
- ¼ cup cocoa powder
- 125g butter
- 1 egg yolk
- 1 ½ tbsp chilled water
- 100g white chocolate (melted)

1. Combine flour, icing sugar, cocoa powder and butter in a food processor until mixture resembles wet breadcrumbs.
2. Add the egg yolk and water and pulse until combined.
3. Gently knead until smooth, wrap in cling film and chill in the fridge for 30 minutes.
4. Roll pastry between two sheets of baking paper to line a 23cm round tart pan with a removable base. Prick with

a fork and chill for a further 30 minutes.

5. Bake at 180 degrees for 15/20 minutes.
6. Take the base out of the oven brush with the melted white chocolate. Allow to cool completely.

### PUMPKIN PIE FILLING

- 300g chopped pumpkin (roasted)
- 125g spreadable cream cheese
- 2 eggs (lightly beaten)
- ½ cup brown sugar
- ¾ tspn cinnamon
- ½ tspn ground ginger
- ¼ tspn nutmeg
- ¼ tspn ground cloves

1. Combine roasted pumpkin, cream cheese, eggs, sugar and spices in a food processor until smooth.
2. Pour into prepared pie base.
3. Bake in a hot oven for 10 minutes then reduce the heat to 150 degrees and bake for a further 30/35 minutes until the mixture is set. Allow to cool.

We would love to see your finished pies! Send our social media guru Zoe a picture at [zroublev@rma.org.au](mailto:zroublev@rma.org.au) and you could feature on our Brisbane Showgrounds Instagram!



### EKKA GIANT PUMPKIN COMPETITION OPENS

The Ekka's Giant Pumpkin Competition supported by Pillow Talk will take place in April 2023, with growers advised to plant their seeds by the end of this year. To order your FREE special Giant Atlantic pumpkin seeds please click [here](#). The largest pumpkin ever entered in the competition weighed a whopping 261.5kg and was grown by Geoff Frohloff from Minden.



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