

February 13, 2017

Queensland teachers learn whey to make cheese

Teachers from across Queensland will learn the secrets behind making 'un-brie-lievable' blue cheese and camembert over the next three days, during the RNA Teachers' Cheese Making Workshops at the Brisbane Showgrounds.

Starting today, 44 teachers from 25 schools will swap their chalk for cheese and become the students, as dairy expert and Royal Queensland Food and Wine Show (RQFWS) judge Russell Smith shows them the science behind making cheese.

Among the schools is Annandale Christian College (Townsville), whose teacher has travelled more than 1,300km to attend, along with Toowoomba Grammar School, Beerwah State High School, Bulimba State High School and Ferny Grove State High School.

The internationally awarded cheese making workshops are now in their eighth year and include a mix of theory and hands-on practical work in both blue and white mould cheeses.

Once back in the classroom, the teachers will pass on their new-found knowledge to their students, who will then enter their finest fromages into the Royal Queensland Show's (Ekka) Student Made Cheese Competition in June.

Russell Smith said while making cheese is great fun, the students will also learn a great deal.

"The process helps students understand where their food comes from - it doesn't just magically appear on the supermarket shelf," he said.

"It also shows students a possible career pathway by following a food science direction and ultimately a dairy food science qualification. There are a large number of jobs for people with these qualifications in the Australian dairy industry."

The RNA Teachers' Cheese Making workshops will run for approximately six hours and will be held at the Brisbane Showgrounds throughout the week.

When: 8:30am to 2:30pm, Monday 13 to Thursday 16 February, 2017

Where: Council Stand, Brisbane Showgrounds – 600 Gregory Terrace, Bowen Hills, QLD

Participating schools:

- Annandale Christian College (Townsville)
- Beerwah State High School
- Brisbane Youth Training & Education Centre
- Bulimba State School

- Caboolture State High School
- Cordina State High School
- Dakabin State High School
- Dalby State High School
- Elanora State High School
- Emmaus College
- Ferny Grove State High School
- Jandowae Prep-10 State School
- Laidley State High School
- Morayfield State High School
- Mt Alvernia College
- Mt Gravatt High School
- Mt Maria College
- Murgon State High School
- Murrumba State Secondary College
- Park Ridge State High School
- Pine Rivers High School
- Sandgate District State High School
- St Joseph's School
- St Peters Lutheran College
- Toowoomba Grammar School

For Ekka tickets go to www.ekka.com.au/tickets

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For more information please contact the Ekka Media Unit:

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

Nicole Clifton
Media and Communications Officer
Ph: 07 3253 3931/ 0417 451 775
Email: nclifton@rna.org.au