

# The Ekka Courier

The newspaper of the Brisbane Show Camp

# Online



Thursday

16th August 2018

## DAILY HIGHLIGHTS

- \* 10.00am, 11.00am, 12.00pm, 1.00pm, 2.00pm, 3.00pm: Sheep Shearing
- \* 12.00pm - 1.30pm: Sheep Dog Trials
- \* All Day: Entertainment around the grounds.
- \* 10.00am, 11.30am, 1.00pm, 2.30pm, 4.00pm, 5.30pm: Masterclass Cooking.
- \* 6.00pm - 8.00pm: EkkaNITES
- \* 6.05pm: Children's Fireworks

The Brisbane Show Camp is a joint program of Education Queensland and the Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland. Conducted by the Brisbane Urban Environmental Education Centre.  
Ph- 3552 7111



## A DAIRY FARMER CRISIS

By Patrick Coleman

**If Dairy Farmers keep leaving the industry at their current rate, there will be a shortage of farmers in about four to six years.**

Ray Pemberton, a retired dairy farmer presenting the Legendary shows at the Ekka, is deeply worried about the dairy industry.

He says that the dairy industry has given him his livelihood and that soon Queensland might only have long life milk on the supermarket shelves.

Although the drought is speeding up this process, the public can help.

By buying local and branded milk the farmer is getting more pay than the production price, but by buying imported and un-branded milk the farmer is getting less pay than the production price.



Guernsey Cattle judging in the main arena of the Ekka.

Brendan Hayden, the owner of Bruanna Guernseys, Pilton, and State Council Member of the Queensland Dairyfarmers' Organisation is at the Ekka with his cattle this year.

He and his family have operated their dairy since 1982 and he is also worried about the future of the dairy industry.

Brendan says that the number of dairy farmers has dropped from 2200 to 400.

Unlike Ray, Brendan says that the existing dairies will get bigger but very rarely will a new dairy start up.

A loss of 152 dairies would mean that a city the size of Brisbane will have to rely on long life milk.

As both of these experienced farmers would say, one of the only ways to help dairy farmers is buy local, branded milk. If we support our local farmers we can make a difference.



Presentation of the Guernsey Cattle Society's Queensland Branch trophy for Intermediate Champion. L to r: Brendan Hayden, judge Ian Gallus, Corrie, Frances and Elizabeth Hayden, and Rod Huth who presented the trophy on behalf of the Branch.

Photographs: Guernsey Cattle Society of Australia

*The best ways to help dairy farmers is buy local, branded milk. If we support our local farmers we can make a difference.*