

THE ROYAL NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND

Gardening Community,

This is a shout-out to Green Thumbs and Budding Gardeners requesting your valuable time to inspire and encourage kids and adults to get involved in our passion, gardening. Think of that well known quote "To plant a garden however small (even a pot plant) is to believe in tomorrow"

The Flower and Garden precinct at the Ekka really needs people like you. I think it's so important to have volunteers with the necessary attributes – not least knowledge, enthusiasm, and energy.

For your generous time, each volunteer will receive the range of incentives, including eligibility for awards, a 10% discount on food and beverages from selected RNA concessional outlets, a Heritage Bank Showbag, and one free Ekka entry ticket if you can give 12-15 hours (3 shifts of 4-5 hours per shift) of your time. Share a shift or two with a friend or family members to enjoy together and see the Ekka beforehand or afterwards.

The Ekka Flower and Garden precinct seeks volunteers for the 6th – 14th of August.

There will be two shifts per day – a morning shift from 8:45 am to 1:30 pm and an afternoon shift from 1:15 pm to 5.30 pm.

The organisers plan to utilise three volunteers per shift in the following areas:

- Little Backyard Farmers
- Flower Crowns
- General preparing flowers and activities.

For further information regarding the above areas, please read the second page of this letter.

If you are interested in volunteering for the EKKA 2022 please click the following link, <u>Sign up to</u> volunteer at Ekka 2022! or enter the following address into your internet browser: <u>http://bttr.im/btc5a</u>

Once registrations have closed organisers will go through applications and assign roles.

Organisers will then send volunteers further information about their allocated shifts, the location of the meeting point prior to show, Ekka entry ticketing, and the Show in general.

If you have queries prior to your registering, please contact Cate Edwards or Erin Peters

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Further Information of Flower and Garden Areas

Duties for all three areas and more generally

- Assist with managing queuing into the building or activations
- Greet special guests or VIP at gates and guide them through the show to the precinct.
- Monitor and maintain the overall appearance, hygiene, and cleanliness of the precinct
- Provide direction, guidance, and assistance to our guests
- Provide information about amenities, food outlets, activities and installations within the precinct and the wider Ekka
- Maintain the overall appearance of competition displays for horticulture, floristry, and school competitions.
- Assist in the set-up, operation, and pack down of activation, including resetting each station for the next repetition.

Little Backyard Farmers

Little Backyard Farmers is an educational initiative for young children and families that has participants navigate through six activity stations including a chicken coop, a vegetable garden and a fruit orchard. It's hugely popular – it attracted 400-600 kids per day in 2019. As a volunteer you would be taking families with young children around the activation, helping them to navigate around the stations, assisting them in the completion of the variety of activities, and ensuring that they wash hands on entry and exit. It is in all a great way to directly interact with the children and their families and provide them with a memorable experience.

Flower Crowns

The flower crowns area is a 20-minute activity that members of the public undertake. The most popular clientele are girls and young families. They are given a variety of materials, (headband, flowers, and greenery), with which they make a "flower crown" to wear around the Show. As a volunteer you would sit down with a group of people and assist them in the making of their crown; reset the area at the completion of each 20-minute session to be ready for the next group's session; and generally assist the Workshop Supervisor (RNA person) in managing workshop participants and in restocking equipment and materials.

General

These volunteers are responsible for preparing the flower crown supply bags out the back. This will involve preparing flower and greenery and dividing it up into "packs" for the participants of the activation. Without these people the flower crowns would not be possible.