

where fun grows on the vine



CHINCHILLA

MELON FESTIVAL

16-19 February 2017

www.melonfest.com.au



Introduction

How it all Started

In 1994 with the Chinchilla community suffering from long term drought it was realized that the spirit of the stricken district needed a boost of confidence with a small band of dedicated volunteers forming a committee to promote Chinchilla's dominant contribution to the Australian Melon Industry. The first festival attracted about 2500 visitors to the town and surrounding areas. Approximately 10,000 visitors attended the last festival in 2015, a massive increase in numbers.

The townspeople of Chinchilla have built an impressive festival through sheer hard yakka, and that's the reason why it appeals to so many national and international travellers. The Melon Festival Committee (who are all volunteers) work hard to make each festival fun and exciting.

The committee and the Chinchilla District look forward to your participation.

The 2017 Festival is the 13th festival to be held and is promising to be the biggest and best yet!



where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 11 February 2017



TIME TRAVELLING TRIVIA

(Chinchilla State High School P&C Event)



WHERE: Chinchilla Cultural Centre

WHEN: Doors open @ 6pm | first round at 7pm

Tables of 10 | tickets to be purchased online through
Trybooking

COST: \$20 per person | Tables to provide own nibbles
Licenced bar operating | 1st prize \$500, 2nd prize \$300,
3rd prize \$100

TICKETS trybooking.com **PHONE 0499 045 611**

Monday 13 February 2017



ART GALLERY ART SHOW PREVIEW

(Lapunyah Art Gallery Event)

WHERE: Lapunyah Art Gallery

WHEN: 6pm

Announcement of the winners of the
2017 Melon Festival Art Competition

Wine and Cheese Evening

ENQUIRIES 4668 9908 FREE EVENT



where fun grows on the vine



Wednesday 15th February 2017



SOCIAL BOWLS DAY



Wednesday Men's Bowls

WHERE: Chinchilla Bowls Club

WHEN: Names in by 12.30pm play 1pm

All visitors welcome **ENQUIRIES 4662 7319**

Thursday 16th February 2017



ORIGIN OF GAS TOUR

WHERE: Pickup Chinchilla Visitor Information Centre

WHEN: 9am

Discover what happens behind the scenes at the Condabri Central gas plant.

BOOKINGS: trybooking.com FREE EVENT

INFORMATION: 4558 0300



Operated by



COME 4 LUNCH

(Chinchilla Uniting Church Event)

WHERE: Chinchilla Cultural Centre, Wattle Room

WHEN: 11am for pre-lunch drinks | Main Auditorium open at 11:45am

Special Guest Speaker - Dame Quentin Bryce

3 course sit down luncheon | Licensed bar operating

COST: \$60 per head - all tickets to be pre purchased

BOOKINGS: trybooking.com PH 0499 045 611



where fun grows on the vine



Thursday 16th February 2017



MOVIE PREMIERE

WHERE: Chinchilla Cinema

WHEN: 6pm | Movie starts 7pm

COST: \$25 per head | Nibblies and wine included

HIDDEN FIGURES PG | 2h 7min | Drama

Based on a true story.



A team of African-American women provide NASA with important mathematical data needed to launch the program's first successful space missions.

ENQUIRIES: trybookings.com PH 0488 737 060



MELON BIG BASH

(Chinchilla & District Cricket Association Event)

WHERE: Recreation Grounds 20-20 Match

WHEN: Gates open 5.30pm | Match starts 6pm

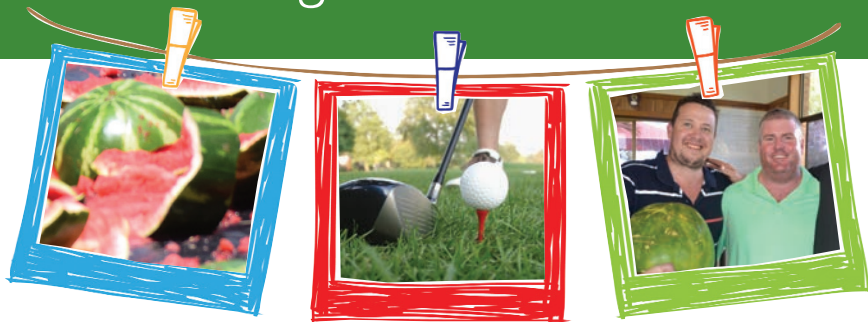
ENTRY: \$10 (16 & over) kids gold coin donation

Bar and
barbecue
available



ENQUIRIES: 0405 440 413

where fun grows on the vine



Friday 17th February 2017



QCWA PHOTO COMPETITION

WHERE: QCWA Rooms Heeney St (air conditioned room)

WHEN: Opening times 8am - 5pm

Devonshire morning and afternoon tea. Melon meringue nests.

ENQUIRIES: 4665 4195 OR 4668 8740



MELON FARM TOURS

WHERE: Chinchilla Tourist Information Centre

WHEN: 9am - 11.30am

COST: \$25 morning tea included

ENQUIRIES: trybookings.com

PHONE 0488 737 060



GOLF DAY

WHERE: Chinchilla Golf Club

WHEN: 1pm for a 1.30pm Start

3 Ball Ambrose | \$60 per team

ENQUIRIES: 0417 762 855

gekhamhomes@gmail.com



where fun grows on the vine



Friday 17th February 2017



BIG MELON WEIGH IN

AND MOST MARKETABLE MELONS

WHERE: Fuller Place

WHEN: 3.00pm

Proudly sponsored by



Check out the Biggest Melon | Heaviest Melon was grown by Bernie and Matt Davies from Chinchilla in 2007 - 87.5kg

PREVIOUS WINNERS OF BIGGEST MELON

1994	Dennis & Jan Dickman (Chinchilla) 66.2kg
1995	Roger & Cathy Madder (Chinchilla) 55kg
1997	Ross Olm (non melon grower) (Chinchilla) 57.5kg
1999	Dennis & Jan Dickman (Chinchilla) 82.2kg
2001	Garry Marsden (Bundaberg grower) 72.25kg
2003	Dennis & Jan Dickman (Chinchilla) 63.6kg
2005	DK & CD Reed (Kingaroy) 83.6kg
2007	Bernie & Matt Davies (Chinchilla) 87.5kg
2009	Bernie & Matt Davies (Chinchilla) 70.6kg
2011	Kyron Sturgess (Chinchilla) 56kg
2013	Kyron Sturgess (Chinchilla) 86kg
2015	Chris Davies (Chinchilla) 63.5kg



where fun grows on the vine



Friday 17th February 2017



BEACH PARTY

WHERE: Club Hotel

WHEN: 5pm - 2am

Outside Entertainment: Busby Marou, Stage Dive DJ's Craig Phillips,

Inside Entertainment: DJ Damo, DJ Diaz

TICKETS: \$20 presale | \$25 at the door available at the Club Hotel

ENQUIRIES 4669 1100



FRIDAY 17TH FEBRUARY
TICKETS \$20 PRESALE / \$25 AT THE DOOR

OUTSIDE
BUSBY MAROU
STAGE DIVE DJS
CRAIG PHILLIPS

INSIDE
DJ DAMO
DJ DIAZ

SATURDAY 18TH FEBRUARY
DJ JASE + DJ DIAZ

www.clubhotelchinchilla.com.au



MELON RODEO

(Chinchilla A&P Association Event)

WHERE: Chinchilla Showgrounds

WHEN: Gates 5.30pm Rodeo kicks off 6pm

Gate Prices: \$15 Adults | Kids 8 - 17 \$5 | Under 8 free

ENQUIRIES 4662 7194

where fun grows on the vine



Friday 17th February 2017



FRIDAY FESTIVAL FEAST

WHERE: Relaxed atmosphere | Primary School Oval | "The Cage"

WHEN: 6pm - 10pm Marquee open air dining

3 course meal @ \$35 per head

Entertainment - by Jane Zerbst (local Chinchilla girl)

ENQUIRIES: trybookings.com

PHONE 0488 737 060 Pre purchased



Woolworths 



KIDS MOVIE NIGHT

(Western Downs Regional Council in partnership with Western Downs Youth Hub event) **FREE EVENT**

WHERE: Chinchilla Primary School grounds

WHEN: 6.30pm - 'Oddball' G

8.05pm - 'Alvin & The Chipmunks: The Road Chip' PG

Evening will conclude by 9.45pm



RSL ENTERTAINMENT BISTRO

WHERE: Chinchilla RSL

WHEN: 7.30pm till late

David Barry in the Bistro

ENQUIRIES 4662 7196



ENTERTAINMENT - BISTRO

**FORMER QLD ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR
DAVID BARRY**

7.30pm till Late, No Cover Charge

where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 18th February 2017



POET'S BREAKFAST

WHERE: Fuller Place

WHEN: 7.00am - 8.30am

EVENT: Enjoy a hearty bacon and egg breakfast cooked by the Queensland Cancer Fund Chinchilla branch, while having a laugh with Australia's top Poets: Gary Fogarty and Ray Essery | Breakfast \$12



MARKET STALLS

Quality Crafts, Fashion & Food Markets

WHERE: Chinchilla CBD

WHEN: From 7.30am - 3.30pm

Check out the market stalls



PHOTO COMPETITION

WHERE: QCWA Rooms Heeney St (air conditioned room)

WHEN: 8am - 5pm

Devonshire morning and afternoon tea, and melon meringue nests

ENQUIRIES: 4665 4195 OR 4668 8740



where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 18th February 2017



GREAT BIG PINK, BLACK & GREEN MELON TIME MACHINE PROCESSION

WHERE: Starting at the top of Heeney Street

WHEN: 10.30am | Starting at the top of Heeney Street | Buskers, street entertainment and many floats.



FULLER PLACE ENTERTAINMENT

WHERE: Fuller Place

WHEN: 12pm - 3pm Sit back and enjoy local talent



MELON TIME STORY TELLING

WHERE: Chinchilla Cultural Centre Foyer

WHEN: 12pm

where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 18th February 2017



THE CAGE

WHERE: School Oval

WHEN: 11am - midnight

ENTRY: \$5 per person (over 18s)

Entertainment in the bar after the concert



CHEF - PETER WOLFE

WHERE: Cultural Centre Wattle Room

WHEN: 12 noon

Free Demonstrations

Peter is a passionate and talented chef who specialises in Australian Native Cuisine.



KIDS' ENTERTAINMENT

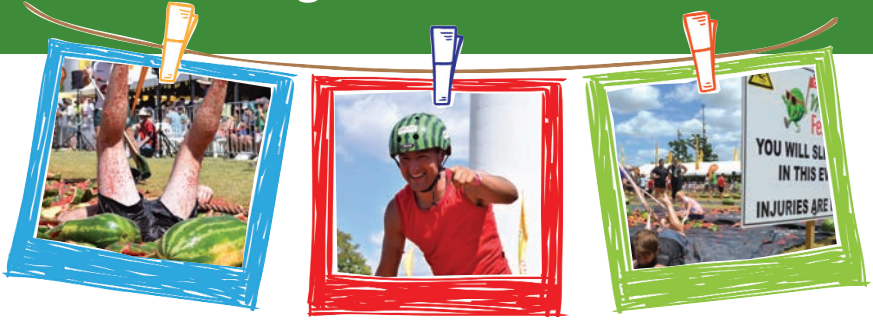
WHERE: Chinchilla Cultural Centre Auditorium

WHEN: 1pm & 2.30pm

Let Street Science show you a world of amazing science



where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 18th February 2017



MELON DASH FOR CASH

WHERE: Heeney Street

WHEN: 12 noon



Test your fitness in a mad dash for cash | You must carry a whole melon the whole way! (Must wear enclosed footwear and must have a registration band to enter).



ARENA OF MELON EVENTS

WHERE: School Oval

WHEN: 12.30pm - 5pm



MELON SKIING

WHERE: Arena

WHEN: 12.30pm - 4pm

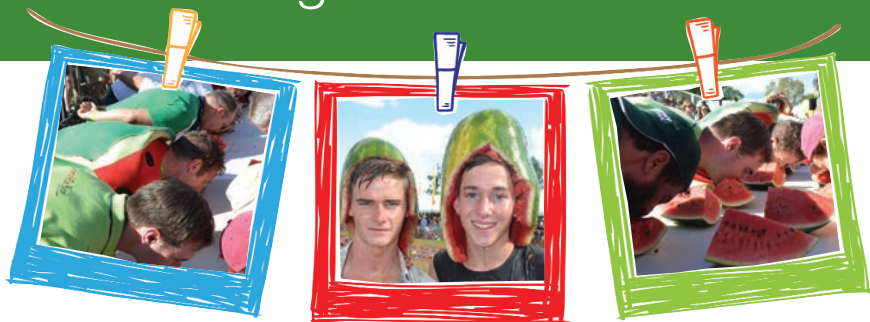


PENTAGON



Requires one person skiing on melon skins
Squish your feet into watermelons and ski down the course.

where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 18th February 2017



MELON BUNGY

WHERE: Arena
WHEN: 12.30pm - 4pm
Requires: 4 people
(Team event with 4 people attached to a bungee rope on a mat covered in melon.) Aim - to reach your melon!



TOOWOOMBA
PORTABLE TOILETS
1300 333 100



SLIP, DIP and PULL

WHERE: Arena
WHEN: 12.30pm - 4pm
See who the strongest team is in the tug-o-war



SHOWTIME FMX TEAM

WHERE: Middle Street
WHEN: 1pm
FMX Stunt Show | Rider photo & autograph session | Interactive bike displays



CHEF - PETER WOLFE

Free Demonstrations
WHERE: Cultural Centre Wattle Room
WHEN: 1.30pm | 2.30pm



where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 18th February 2017



MELON TIME STORY TELLING

WHERE: Story telling - Chinchilla Cultural Centre Foyer

WHEN: 2pm | 3pm



FREE MELON FEAST

WHERE: Under the big tree

WHEN: 3pm

Try a slice of Melon near the Arena under the big tree.



LIND & SONS PTY LTD



CELEBRITY MELON EATING

fulton trotter

ARCHITECTS

WHERE: Arena

WHEN: 3pm

The festival wouldn't happen without the generous sponsors - watch our sponsors eat as much melon as they can with no hands!



MELON PIP SPITTING

WHERE: Main arena

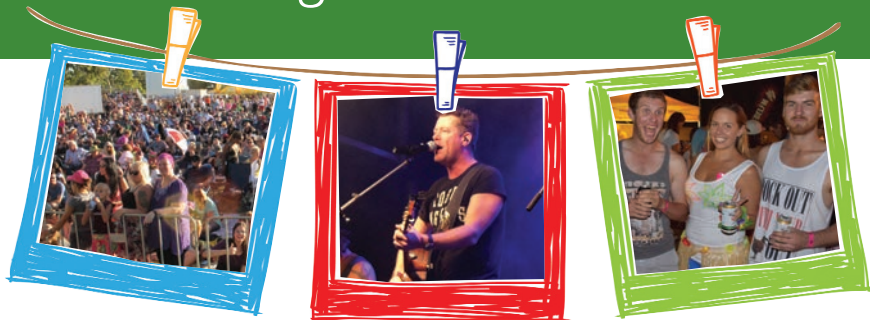
WHEN: Final 3.30pm

Heats throughout the day

Listen out for details



where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 18th February 2017



MELON CHARIOT RACE

WHERE: Arena

WHEN: Assemble at 4pm | Start 4.30pm

Chariots to be made from melon packing cartons, pallets and readymade axles. Race is held in the arena. Participants must wear enclosed footwear. Aim - to race the entire lap and not fall off.



MELON IRONMAN/ WOMAN

WHERE: Arena

WHEN: Assemble at games arena at 4pm

Requires 2 participants per team
Maximum of 20 male teams and 20 female teams. Ironman circuit which contains obstacles, challenges and tasks which showcase the physicality of the Melon Industry.

Aim - to complete the ironman circuit with one intact melon per team in the fastest time!

**OSBORNE
AUTO
ELECTRICS**



SHOWTIME FMX TEAM

WHERE: Middle Street

WHEN: 5.30pm

FMX Stunt Show | Rider photo and autograph session

Interactive bike displays



where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 18th February 2017



FREE FAMILY CONCERT

WHERE: School Oval

WHEN: 6pm till late

FEATURING.....

Woodshed, Delta Riggs and Gina Horswood

Sit back, relax and enjoy the entertainment



LASER LIGHT SHOW

WHERE: School Oval

WHEN: 6pm till late

Sit back, relax and enjoy the entertainment

Watch the skies as the laser lights up Chinchilla!



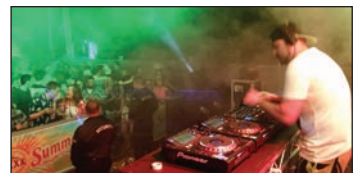
BEACH PARTY RECOVERY

WHERE: Club Hotel

WHEN: 8pm - late

DJ Jase and DJ Diaz playing the best of the 00's
to now Jack Daniels giveaways

ENQUIRIES 4669 1100



where fun grows on the vine



Saturday 18th February 2017



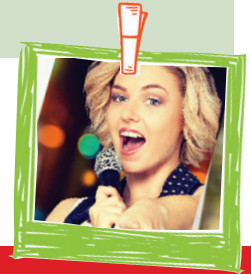
RSL MELON KARAOKE

WHERE: Main Bar

WHEN: 8pm - late

Melon Festival Karaoke Championship

ENQUIRIES 4662 7196



Sunday 19th February 2017



MARKETS

WHERE: Chinchilla Visitor Information Centre

WHEN: 7am - 12 noon

Parking Canaga/Railway Street



POET'S BREAKFAST

WHERE: Chinchilla Museum Villiers St

WHEN: 7.30am - 9.30am

Walk up poets welcome | Breakfast will be available from Qld Cancer Council \$12 per person
Mini Train rides on the day \$2 a ride



COMBINED CHURCH

(Chinchilla Christian Ministers Group & Chinchilla Chaplaincy Committee Event)

WHERE: Chinchilla Cultural Centre

WHEN: 10.30am

Followed by morning tea | Please bring a plate

Page 16

FEATURED
SPEAKER:
Deborah Aason
Olympic
Weightlifter

where fun grows on the vine



Sunday 19th February 2017



MELON BOWLS DAY

WHERE: Chinchilla Bowls Club
WHEN: Names in by 12pm (1pm start)
ENQUIRIES: 4662 7319



OPEN MIC SESSION

WHEN: 3pm - 7pm
WHERE: Chinchilla RSL
\$100 Cash Prize for best performance



JAZZ @ THE MUSEUM

(Chinchilla Historical Society Event)
WHERE: Chinchilla Museum
WHEN: 4pm - 9pm
Gold Coin donation | Train Rides | Purchase BBQ & BYO own drinks
ENQUIRIES 4662 7014

MELON SHOP
CHINCHILLA
CENTRAL

Mon 6 Feb - Sat 11 Feb
Mon 13 Feb - Sat 18 Feb



REGISTRATION FORMS

Registration forms are required to be completed before you can participate in any arena events.

QGC Registration tent is located at top north-east corner of arena. Once registration form has been completed and signed, an armband will be placed on your arm to allow you to participate.

**IF YOU ARE UNDER 18, YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN
MUST SIGN REGISTRATION FORM**

DID YOU KNOW THAT THE WATERMELON ISN'T A FRUIT?
IT IS A VEGETABLE.

Well, you might not have known that every two years; watermelons can be used for skiing, smashed open using only your head and it is totally acceptable to 'spit your pips' in public.

Welcome to Chinchilla Melon Festival 2017.

Chinchilla is known as the 'Melon Capital' of Australia. This vibrant and distinctive Festival has become a 'world renowned' event for Chinchilla and district, and is a wonderful advertisement for our region, bringing all our communities together to celebrate and showcase what makes our region great.

The 2017 program is jam packed with something to ensure every member of family has an enjoyable experience. With over 30 events from Art Shows to Rodeos, Beach Parties to Stunt Shows, Farm Tours to Free Family Concerts, this year is bigger and better than ever.

It isn't mandatory but Melon Fest goers are encouraged to 'get sticky' with an array of hands-on, messy yet ridiculously fun activities to join in which you won't find anywhere else in the world.

In addition to highlighting primary production in the region, the Melon Festival showcases our community spirit and country hospitality which we pride ourselves on. Whether you are a local or visiting the region for the weekend, Melon Festival time is a unique and quirky way to experience and enjoy our Western Downs.

Congratulations to the committee and melon growers and I applaud the hard work, long hours and enthusiasm that has gone into organising such a huge event. A special thank you to the Chinchilla community for hosting this remarkable Festival, and the hospitality shown to those visiting your home town.

I extend a warm welcome to all those visiting our region. I have no doubt that you and your family will have a fantastic stay, create lifelong memories and we look forward to you visiting our region again in the future.

On behalf of Western Downs Regional Council, I invite you to come along and enjoy all the fun and excitement of the Chinchilla Melon Festival.

I'll see you there!

Cr Paul McVeigh
Western Downs Regional Council Mayor



Message from QGC

QGC is proud to once again be a major supporter of the Chinchilla Melon Festival in 2017.

We recognise the significant contributions which this event provides to Chinchilla and the Western Downs region and appreciate the chance to participate in this iconic community festival.

QGC acknowledges the support that the Western Downs region has provided us as we continue with our operations.

Our staff are proud to again support the renowned Melon Games Arena, so come by and say hello.

We'll be keen to help out, give you directions or just hear how you are enjoying the day.

We are sure this year's festival will once again be a huge success and showcase what makes Chinchilla such a great place to live.

From the whole team at QGC.

The logo for QGC, consisting of the letters 'QGC' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Acknowledgement



A big thank you to all our volunteers, Chinchilla community and our melon growers who have been so much a part of this festival and the previous 12 festivals.

Thanks to all businesses who advertised via newspaper, radio and television in conjunction with the CHINCHILLA MELON FESTIVAL

Media Sponsors



Infrastructure Partners



Erb Bros Transport



Big Screen

Watch all the action



Food Hall

Grab a bite to eat



Announcer

Aaron Ryan

TOWN MAP



SITE MAP

