




Speech By
Donna Kirkland

MEMBER FOR ROCKHAMPTON

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ADJOURNMENT

Rockynats 05

 **Mrs KIRKLAND** (Rockhampton—LNP) (9.15 pm): I rise to highlight an event that embodies the vibrant and enduring spirit of Rockhampton—Rare Spares Rockynats 05. This is not just a car and bike festival; it is a celebration of our community's passion, pride and ability to shine on the national stage. It is kicking off this Friday, with scrutineering into Friday's Bill Blokker Spraypainting Street Parade—the largest car and bike parade in the Southern Hemisphere.

The festival showcases the roar of burning tyres at Buddy's Burnouts, the scream of engines in the Garrett Motion Drags, the shine of vehicles at Finch's Mitre 10 Show and Shine, plus exclusive unveils in the Lawrence Motors Elite Pavilion. Enthusiasts and families will gather, embracing the energy and excitement, while entertainment reaches new heights with Pete Murray on Saturday night, ensuring unforgettable memories.

This year marks the debut of a new presenting partner, Autoglym, alongside an array of national and local sponsors that make Rare Spares Rockynats possible. Their support underscores the commitment to delivering an event that brings people together and transforms Rockhampton into a buzzing epicentre of activity.

Since its launch as Rare Spares Rockynats 01 in 2021, the partnership between Rockhampton Regional Council and Summernats has exceeded expectations. Rare Spares Rockynats 04 drew over 57,000 attendees, injecting \$7.47 million into the local economy. Beyond the impressive numbers, Rare Spares Rockynats brings people together, inspiring a shared love for all things that roar and rev. Rare Spares Rockynats has also elevated Rockhampton's profile, earning recognition at the Queensland Tourism Awards two years in a row. It symbolises our region's ingenuity and determination, solidifying its reputation as a destination for world-class events.

As the current five-year agreement with Summernats concludes, we look forward to Mayor Tony Williams's announcement at Sunday night's Full Throttle Awards. Securing another five years of this iconic festival would be a triumph for Rockhampton, safeguarding its cultural and economic contributions to our region. Rare Spares Rockynats is not just an event; it is our heartbeat, our roar and our pride. Let us celebrate this remarkable festival and the spirit of community and resilience it represents.