# **Queensland Country**

## Race into the excitement of the Historic Leyburn Sprints and Grand Prix commemoration this August!

12 August 2024

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Buckle up and join the celebration of the historic Grand Prix anniversary at the Historic Leyburn Sprints from 17 - 18 August.

Located in the Southern Downs & Granite Belt, this charming town will be the pit stop for thousands of car enthusiasts who will come to admire 240 classic and historic vehicles compete on the streets and many more off-track.

Just 2.5 hours from Brisbane, this exhilarating event features meet-and-greets with driving legends, vintage caravans and thrilling sprint competitions, plus lots of family friendly entertainment!

Peter Homan, CEO of Queensland Country, emphasised that the commemoration of the biggest day in Leyburn's history is an event not to be missed!

"This is an exciting opportunity for visitors to explore Leyburn and the Southern Downs & Granite Belt Region, which was the heart of the Queensland gold rush in the 1860s and hosted the spectacular Grand Prix in 1949.

Combining history and motorsports, this event is a fantastic attraction for car enthusiasts and history buffs alike. It also boosts local tourism, encouraging visitors to discover the stunning landscapes, charming towns and delicious local produce this region has to offer." Mr Homan said.

Tricia Chant, Historic Leyburn Sprints President, said this year's event, commemorating the 1949 Australian Grand Prix, promised to be the biggest yet and an important boost for the Southern Downs region.

"There's been huge interest this year and we expect visitors from many parts of Queensland plus interstate. The grand prix put Leyburn on the map and the Sprints role is to keep it there through our annual event coming motorsport, history and a wonderful country atmosphere," Mrs Chant said.

The Grand Prix attracted an impressive 30,000 spectators to Leyburn in 1949 and this year's 28<sup>th</sup> Sprints event will present a unique showcase of the iconic cars that raced in the Grand Prix, an exciting glimpse into Australian racing heritage.

Featuring approximately 240 vehicles on track, ranging from the petite 1925 Austin 7 to Australian backyard specials, muscle cars, a replica Le Mans Ferrari and even a 350 km/h Indianapolis 500 contender.

Elevate your getaway by planning your trip with our helpful guides:

- The Sprint Route
- 10 things to do in the Granite Belt
- Spend Winter like this in Southern Downs & Granite Belt
- Enjoy nature's harvest on the Southern Downs & Granite Belt

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### Tickets can be purchased here: www.leyburnmotorsprints.com.au/tickets

The 2024 Historic Leyburn Sprints is proudly supported by the Queensland Government. The Department of Tourism and Sport (Sport and Recreation), the Queensland Destination Events Program and the Southern Downs Regional Council who provide assistance to help promote the Sprints and attract visitors to the Southern Downs region. The 2024 event also is supported by Motorsport Australia and many commercial sponsors.

#### **ENDS**

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