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## **MESSAGE FROM THE PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

Welcome in 2010 and celebrate with a difference with a four-day celebration at the Rocky New Year Festival that encompasses everything from race days to street parties.

This region really knows how to throw a party with the festivities spanning across the new year holiday period to encourage you to stay and explore what Rockhampton has to offer.

You can choose to attend all or some of the activities planned which include a race day, street party, cruise, gala ball, steer and bull rides and a Grande Finale.

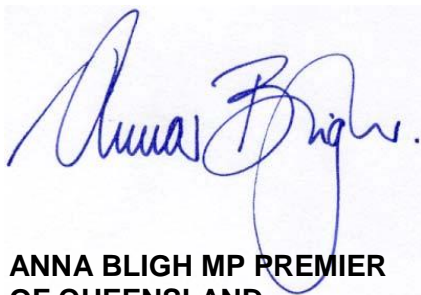
One of my Government's Toward Q2 ambitions is to create a diverse economy powered by bright ideas, which is why we support events like the Rocky New Year Festival through the Queensland Events Regional Development Program.

This program has provided more than \$12.5 million to over 600 regional events since it started as a world-first initiative in 2001.

These events bring in business, create jobs, attract tourists, fuel growth and prosperity and give a tremendous sense of pride for the local host communities.

Across the State, thousands of individuals, community groups, local councils and in some cases entire towns, put countless hours into ensuring their events are a success.

The Queensland Government shares the passion and the achievements of the State's regions through this program. Enjoy the new year celebrations and I hope you will have an opportunity to discover more of Queensland's great events in the coming year.



**ANNA BLIGH MP PREMIER  
OF QUEENSLAND**