

STATE LIBRARY QUEENSLAND

MEDIA RELEASE

December 2025

State Library revs up for summer with new exhibition

Take a drive down memory lane with State Library's free summer experience, *Driven: every car has a story* opening 6 December.

The nostalgia-fuelled exhibition celebrates our connection to cars from the first trip home in a baby capsule to school formals, beloved first cars, weddings, and even our final ride in a hearse.

Audiences will be given the keys to an extraordinary collection of historic motoring memorabilia, rare home movies, amazing art and hands-on family fun.

Exhibition highlights include:

- a life-sized inflatable car by artist Robert Moore
- a 1980s arcade-style driving test game
- classic and contemporary number plates, including the second ever in Queensland
- road signs, Refidexes, bumper stickers and other memorabilia
- artworks from Ben Quilty, Michael Zavros and more
- artist's version of racing legend's Dick Johnson's helmet
- treasures from RACQ's archives

Opening weekend activities include:

- speciality car show including a replica of Rock 'n' Roll George's car and Dick Johnson/Shell V-Power Racing Team's Ford Mustang GT
- large-scale slot car racetrack (ScaleXseller partnership)
- temporary Drive-In theatre for a special screening of *Mad Max: Fury Road*
- conversation series: Dr Ryan Story co-owner of Dick Johnson racing, the longest-running team in Australian motorsport

Quotes from the Honourable John-Paul Langbroek MP, Minister for Education and the Arts:

"This free exhibition shares stories about our everyday motoring moments - as front seat and back seat drivers - and invites us to appreciate cars as inspiration for artists, designers, motoring and sports fans."

“Cars have a distinct place in Queensland’s contemporary social history from flash car culture to family holidays, and *Driven* invites Queenslanders to explore these connections through entertaining activities and an impressive collection of artwork and ephemera.

“The Crisafulli Government invests in State Library of Queensland to support Queenslanders’ access to enriching arts and cultural experiences and collections, delivering on our 10-year strategy for arts and culture, Queensland’s Time to Shine.”

Quotes from State Librarian and CEO Vicki McDonald AM:

“Driven explores the role cars play in life’s unforgettable moments on the open road or off the beaten track.

“The exhibition showcases rare treasures from our unique collection, revealing how cars have transformed the lives of Queenslanders across generations.

“From First Nations songlines to forgotten road signs, from petrol stations to home movies, this exhibition takes audiences on a unique journey through Queensland’s motoring history.

Driven: every car has a story exhibition

6 December 2025 – 8 February 2026

Open daily 9 am – 5 pm | Free entry

slq Gallery, level 2 | State Library of Queensland, Cultural Centre, South Bank

slq.qld.gov.au/driven | [media kit](#)

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Interviews available on request.