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## Flat batteries can spark an Easter meltdown: RACQ

Drivers have been urged to check their batteries ahead of the Easter long weekend, after the State's peak motoring body revealed it was the number one reason they needed RACQ Roadside Assistance during the same period last year.

RACQ spokesperson Clare Hunter said 1,400 batteries needed replacing over the four-day long weekend last year, and the Club had braced for another busy Easter.

"Last year we replaced hundreds of batteries across Queensland and many of those drivers were away from home," Ms Hunter said.

"We expect there'll be plenty drivers in the same boat this Easter, which could it really put a frustrating dampener on their holiday."

Ms Hunter said drivers planning a long weekend road trip should use the week ahead to give their cars a once over and make sure all the servicing was up to date.

"If you notice a sluggish start when you turn the key it can be a tell-tale sign your battery is about to pack it in. Also take care not to leave any lights after switching the engine off," she said.

"For those batteries older than three years we recommend having your battery tested. If you have an RACQ Roadside Assistance membership call us and we'll come and test it for you at no cost."

Ms Hunter said RACQ also expected to be called out for other common problems such as flat tyres and lockouts.

"While there's not much you can do to prevent a puncture it's a good idea to check the condition and pressure of your tyres – and always make sure you've got a serviceable spare so you're not caught out," she said.

"We're happy to help get you back into your car - but if you have a spare key and can store it securely, it's a good idea to take it with you and save yourself the hassle."

**Media inquiries: RACQ spokesperson Clare Hunter 0427 261 932; Media Advisor Andrew van der Beek 0429 207 014.**

RACQ is Queensland's largest club and peak independent motoring organisation. We were formed in 1905 to represent the interests of the State's first motorists and today campaign for safer drivers, vehicles and roads on behalf of the 1.7 million members who own the Club. We offer those members a vast range of motoring, insurance, banking, entertainment and travel services and benefits, and each year respond to more than a million calls for roadside assistance.