

The
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MARYSVILLE

triangle news



NARBETHONG

BUXTON & TAGGERTY

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President Ken Adams

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\$8 MILLION RAISED BY THE 2009 VARIETY BASH And Marysville Gained a Bus!

Marysville and the Triangle were one of the recipients of this great fund-raiser when they received a 12 seater Variety sunshine coach, early in the year.

Although not fully audited yet, the organisers are fairly sure that the final amount raised should be in the vicinity of over eight million dollars.

The Variety Bash is the largest fundraising motoring event where the focus is firmly placed on having fun. It's a mad-cap event which involves outrageously themed cars and participants. The race engenders great community spirit and camaraderie.

To enter a Bash car must be at least 30 years old and a minimum contribution of \$7550 is the entry fee. This comprises of a \$550 (including GST) deposit and \$7000 of contributions. The Bash has prizes and awards for higher levels of fundraising, but it goes without saying, the more they raised, the more they are able to enrich the lives of Special Needs Children in Victoria

Giving Children with Special Needs a Break

Supporters deserve to know where their donations go. Simply put, Variety has been helping children with special needs for 80 years so the organisers say that Variety is the world's greatest children's charity and that the express purpose of the Variety Bash is to raise heaps of money to help children with special needs.

A great many children have benefited from the funds raised by Variety but there will always be a great deal of children in need of special assistance.

Marysville locals join the 2009 Variety Bash

Over 350 participants took part in the Bendigo to Alice Springs 9 day trial. Two locals were part of the team - Simon Cuzens was one of the two forward scouts who went on ahead each day to check out the terrain and put out any needed hazard signs en route. Neil Guscott was co-driver of the Lions Club entry, Car 201.

Seven maintenance workshop vehicles accompanied the 96 vehicle entries from Victoria. Most were equipped for minor mechanical repairs and one larger vehicle carried welding equipment and other heavy repair gear. Apart from the management team there was a medical support crew of paramedics and for a gold coin donation participants could have their blood pressure and sugar levels taken each day.

"It was so well done" Neil tells us "We had a wonderful welcome in the towns but very few could accommodate our numbers so a tent city was erected most nights. The towns we passed through could not ignore us as we blasted sirens and other unidentified screeching sounds".

On the culmination of the Bash in Alice Springs the Victorian vehicles met up with those from other states, making a total of 2100 people and 250 vehicles, who drove in the grand parade through the town and attended the "Henley on Todd" annual festival.

Entertainers - Lisa Edwards (singer) and Mike Brady and his

band entertained the weary travellers (or was that revellers?) on two of the evenings. Wilbur Wilde also travelled with the bashers and entertained them regularly. Other entertainers included Brian Cadd and Leo Sayer.

The crews of the bash cars could choose a theme and teams dressed in that theme for the entire trip. Many took on TV Series and others Movie themes. One team of women travelled as The Pyjama Party girls and another group the Flintstones

Peter "Spida" Everitt (who played 291 AFL games split between the Saints, Hawks and Swans) dressed as a sheep complete with a helmet with a sheep's head. The car he travelled in sported a couple of very noisy sheep on top.

Spida conducted a football clinic at Coober Pedy for young local footballers, much to their excitement, and being 80 inches tall, he had to kneel to address them. Spida said the clinic was the highlight of his trip.

Lion Neil would like to thank all locals and the Marysville & District Lions for supporting the fundraising. Car 201 Team raised over \$15,000.

