



Join us on a
ten day driving
adventure through
outback Australia.



2012 Variery Bash
Shepparton to
Hamilton Island

Thursday 23 August to Saturday 1 September 2012



In 2012 Variety Victoria celebrates its 22nd Variety Bash!

Join us for 10 fantastic days on the 2012 Variety Bash as we travel through some of Australia's amazing outback.

Leaving the Goulburn Valley we travel through four states before reaching our final destination in north east Queensland.

Along the way, we will experience many icons of this great country including the Birdsville Track and Broken Hill. We will also witness the many towns that are prospering from the mining boom.

We look forward to having you join us for this unique Australian experience.

Rod, Julie and Jemma.
The Variety Bash Team

2012 Variety Bash Itinerary

Pre-Variety Bash: Wednesday August 22	Welcome party in Shepparton (VIC)
Day 1: Thursday August 23	Shepparton to Deniliquin (NSW)
Day 2: Friday August 24	Deniliquin to Broken Hill (NSW)
Day 3: Saturday August 25	Broken Hill to Marree (SA)
Day 4: Sunday August 26	Marree to Birdsville (QLD)
Day 5: Monday August 27	Birdsville to Mt Isa (QLD)
Day 6: Tuesday August 28	Mt Isa – Lay Day
Day 7: Wednesday August 29	Mt Isa to Richmond (QLD)
Day 8: Thursday August 30	Richmond – Charters Towers (QLD)
Day 9: Friday August 31	Charters Towers to Airlie Beach – Hamilton Island (QLD)
Day 10: Saturday September 1	Hamilton Island Lay Day – Final Night Function





2012 • Wednesday August 22

Welcome Dinner

Join us for a Welcome Dinner in Shepparton to celebrate the start of the 2012 Variety Bash. Shepparton is a 2.5hr drive from Melbourne in the States North East.

Day 1 • Thursday August 23

Shepparton to Deniliquin

A trip around the Goulburn Valley will provide an opportunity to visit all of the small towns that support some of our Variety Bash Entrants. After leaving Victoria, we cross over into NSW, visiting towns along the Murray before arriving in Deniliquin for our overnight stop. Deniliquin is situated on the Edward River and on the fringe of the world's largest redgum forest.

Day 2 • Friday August 24

Deniliquin to Broken Hill

Leaving Deniliquin we travel through Bush land. Heading north west through NSW we travel through areas which Burke and Wills covered on their expedition to the Gulf of Carpentaria. We finish Day 2 in Broken Hill, an isolated mining city in the far west of Outback New South Wales, near the border of South Australia.

Day 3 • Saturday August 25

Broken Hill to Marree

Leaving NSW we make our way across to SA, through the picturesque Flinders Ranges to our overnight stop in Marree, a small town located in the north of the state. It lies 685 kilometres north of Adelaide at the junction of the Oodnadatta Track and the Birdsville Track.

Day 4 • Sunday August 26

Marree to Birdsville

From Marree we travel North and our route will be dependant on local weather conditions as the Cooper Creek has been flooded for the past 18 months. Travelling through Mungeranie, it is the only fuel and supplies depot on the Birdsville Track. From here we make our way over the boarder into QLD for our overnight stop in Birdsville, which is situated on the edge of the Simpson Desert and has a population of 150.

Day 5 • Monday August 27

Birdsville to Mt Isa

Leaving Birdsville for a big day of travel will take us through Bedourie, an historic town that started life in the 1880's as a major watering and rest stop for drovers and cattle. Heading further into QLD's outback we make our way to Boulia which lies on the Burke River (named after the explorer Burke). Next stop Dajarra, which once had importance as a railhead for the cattle industry to transport livestock to the east coast ports and markets, until the multi-trailer road trains made it part of a bygone era. From Dajarra we arrive in Mt Isa. Our home for the next two nights.

Day 6 Tuesday August 28

Mt Isa – Lay Day

After a long day of travel the day before, today is a rest day. An opportunity to have a look at this unique place. Details of attractions and activities will be provided.

Mt Isa has a population of 23,500 and is a major service centre for North West QLD.

The area is rich in copper, silver, lead and zinc. The Mount Isa Mine is still one of Australia's largest producers of copper ore.

Day 7 • Wednesday August 29

Mt Isa to Richmond

From Mt Isa we travel east to our next destination of Richmond which is often described as an oasis in the Outback. Situated on the Overlander's Way halfway between Townsville and Mount Isa, the town is located on the bank of Queensland's longest river, the Flinders, and is known for its recreational Lake Fred Tritton.

Day 8 • Thursday August 30

Richmond – Charters Towers

Our next stop is Charters Towers, a regional centre for the mining industry, the beef industry and education, specifically boarding schools catering for remote rural families. Visiting Charters Towers is like stepping back in time. The architecture is amazing with many of the old buildings being built during the early gold rush days.

Day 9 • Friday August 31

Charters Towers to Airlie Beach – Hamilton Island

Leaving Charters Towers for our last day of travel on the Bash we drive South. Along the way we will visit Burdekin Falls Dam which was constructed between 1984 – 1987. It is the largest dam in the state, with a capacity four times that of Sydney Harbour. From here we drive towards the coast.

Arriving in Airlie Beach, all Variety Bash Cars will be parked in a secure car park whilst we are on the Island. A 30 min Ferry Ride will take us across to the Island for celebratory night.

Day 10 • Saturday September 1

Hamilton Island Lay Day – Final Night Function

Enjoy all that Hamilton Island has to offer! Choose from a long list of activities which include Golf, Sailing & Boating, Beach & Watersports – snorkeling, diving, kayaking and jet ski's, or something a bit more adventurous such as quad bikes and go karts, or relax and rejuvenate by the pool, on the beach or indulge in a spa treatment. Full details of all activities will be made available.

Then we come together for our Variety bash Final Night function.



Since 1992 the Variety Bash has covered a staggering 83,311kms and raised over \$16 million for children who are sick, disadvantaged or have special needs in Victoria.

Entry Fee:

The minimum requirement to enter the Variety Bash is \$7,550. This is made up of a \$550 registration fee (inc GST) and \$7,000 of donations.

The Cars:

Variety Bash cars must be at least 30 years old, rolling on each year. All cars presented at Mobile Workshop Day for the 2012 Variety Bash must have a body plate identifying it has been manufactured in 1982 or before. They must be licensed, insured and roadworthy as prescribed by state laws.

All new cars wanting to enter the Variety Bash must be approved by the Variety office.

For further details please contact:

Julie Baxter

Variety Bash Event & Development Manager
P: +61 3 8698 3926
E: juliebaxter@varietyvic.org.au

Jemma McCullough

Variety Bash Entrant & Event Coordinator
P: +61 3 8698 3927
E: jemmamccullough@varietyvic.org.au

Variety - the Children's Charity

H71 63 – 85 Turner Street Port Melbourne 3207
PO Box 1076 South Melbourne VIC 3205
Ph: 03 8698 3900 Fax: 03 8698 3933

www.variety.org.au/vic



2011 Highest Fundraisers