

Estens and crew bash across country

TODAY Lee Estens and her crew, Sarah Young and Jo Houlahan, will travel to the 'Sunshine State' to begin the National Variety Bash from Brisbane to Busby's Bore.

On Friday morning they will line-up at Suncorp Stadium, along with the Queensland bash, for 10 days of driving in a 1972 Mercedes Benz, with over 300 enthusiastic bashers.

They will stay overnight in Bundaberg, Blackwater, Barcardine, Cunnamulla, Brewarrina, Broken Hill, Balranald, Bowral and finish at Busby's Bore (Centennial Park, Sydney).

Mrs Estens said this year Variety will mark 30 years of bashing around Australia.

"It has been an amazing journey, for the event and the Charity, as over \$173 million has been raised for special needs children," she said.

Since Mrs Estens has been bashing during the last 14 years, Variety has donated lots of medical equipment to the Moree hospital, for babies and children, provided Kirkby Park with a wheelchair swing, three sunshine coaches to the district plus specialised equipment to individual children and to local schools.

"None of this would be possible without the generosity of our sponsors and supporters," Mrs Estens said.

"We had a very successful NAB ADAMA (Farmoz) charity golf day in June, the highlight being the auctioning of cricketers Peter Taylor, Mark Taylor, Ian Healy, and Darren Lehmann (Australia's cricket coach), tennis star John Fitzgerald, AFL's Shane Wakelin, golfers Peter Bessey, Matthew McGuire and bush poet, Murray Hartin."

The crew would like to thank all the people who have contributed to their fundraising efforts by donating their time, expertise and money.



"In doing so, they have made an enormous difference to children who are seriously ill, disadvantaged or living with special needs," Mrs Estens said.

This year is a national bash and NSW will be the host to every state and territory.

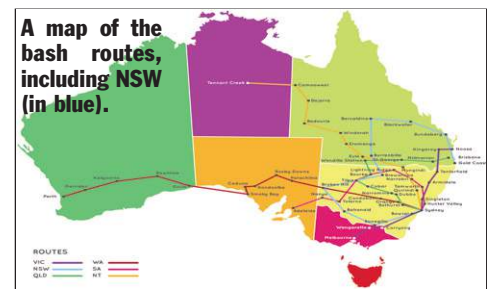
Over 550 cars are expected to travel across the Sydney Harbour Bridge on Sunday, August 17.

Mrs Estens has said anyone in Sydney

that weekend is invited to view the finish at Moore Park car park (opposite the Hordern Pavilion) at 11am.

"This will be lots of fun to watch, just like a huge, colourful travelling circus," she said.

"We love being unofficial ambassadors for Moree and promoting rural and regional Australia as we drive the miles for the smiles to help less fortunate Australian children."



THANK YOU

Moree Variety Bash Entrants - Lee Estens, Joanne Houlahan, & Sarah Young
 Thank the following sponsors and supporters for contributing to Variety the Children's Charity of NSW
 Brisbane to Busby's Bore (Sydney) Bash 7th August to 17th August

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