

# Bumble Bee on the road to awareness

By Margaret Ryland  
and Caitlin Andre

GOLDFIELDERS gave a special send-off to 76-year-old Jack Evans as he embarked on an adventure across the Nullarbor yesterday in a restored 1929 Triumph Super Seven vintage car.

Mr Evans was due to launch his 'Triumph for Breath' trek in Kalgoorlie-Boulder on Monday, but after dealing with mechanical problems in Merredin, postponed the official send-off until yesterday at the Kalgoorlie Town Hall.

The trek aims to raise awareness of the deadly lung condition, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, which is a mixture of chronic bronchitis and emphysema, affecting two million Australians.

In memory of his late wife Gill, who passed away in 2006 after battling the disease for 16 years, Mr Evans and his daughter Alison will retrace Percival Armstrong and George Manley's epic 1929 drive from Perth to Sydney in their brand new Triumph.

Alison travelled from Bermuda to make the journey with her father.

The original expedition only took the men eight and a half days to complete and was to prove the Triumph was more than just "a nice little town car".

The idea came to Mr Evans as 2009 is the 80th anniversary of Armstrong and Manley's trip.

"As well as commemorating Armstrong and Manley's drive across Australia, I would like to highlight the long-term damage



**Bumble Bee: Jack and Alison Evans are ready for their 4000km trip in a 1929 Triumph Super Seven to raise awareness for a deadly lung condition which affects two million Australians.** Photo: KELLIE LEWIS.

smoking can cause," Mr Evans said. "I hope to raise \$12,000, that's \$3 a kilometre, for The Australian Lung Foundation."

The money raised will go towards COPD research which will hopefully alleviate suffering and make it easier for patients to breathe as it is incurable. A former cabinet-maker by trade, Mr Evans spent the past three years restoring his Triumph, nicknamed 'Bumble Bee' by his granddaughter because of its

bright yellow appearance.

The vintage car was built in England in the 1930's and all parts of the car had been stored for 35 years until he recently rebuilt it.

Kalgoorlie-Boulder deputy mayor Esther Roadnight was on hand to farewell Mr Evans and his daughter.

"I think it is a great initiative that will help create more awareness about lung disease and the impact it can have on individuals

and families," Ms Roadnight said. "Bumble Bee will create a lot of interest wherever they go, as it has here today. It is a novel way of creating awareness."

The pair will travel through Kalgoorlie-Boulder, Ceduna, Port Augusta, Broken Hill and Tamworth before arriving back in Armidale, New South Wales, at the end of October.

To follow Jack and Alison's journey or make a donation visit [www.lungfoundation.com.au](http://www.lungfoundation.com.au).