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76 Year Old Recreates Historic Journey in Aid of Lung Disease

AAP

SYDNEY—Jack Evans, aged 76, has set out in a car just four years older than himself to recreate an historic drive across Australia ... for charity.

Mr Evans, from Armidale in NSW, aims to cover the 4,000km from Perth to his home town to raise funds for the Australian Lung Foundation.

His "Triumph for Breath" marathon is in a 1929 Triumph Super Seven - the same model that George Manley and Percival Armstrong used when they drove across the country 80 years ago.

A former cabinet maker, Mr Evans lost his wife Gill to Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) three years ago.

COPD is the umbrella term given to a long-term lung condition that includes chronic bronchitis and emphysema.

Mr Evans, who rebuilt the car for the attempt, says wants raise awareness of the illness and raise \$12,000.

"After years of planning, I'm very excited at the thought of finally embarking on this journey," he said.

"The key message I would like to highlight is that smoking kills."

To reach the start line in Perth, Mr Evans drove the Triumph from Armidale to Adelaide before putting it on a train to WA.

He set out from the Perth suburb of Whiteman Park on Sunday and was seen off by George Manley's son.

Mr Evans expects to arrive in Armidale at the end of October.