

BIRDSVILLE BIG RED BASH
UPDATE AND
**IMPORTANT
INFORMATION**
FOR
ticket holders

The Birdsville Big Red Bash is rapidly approaching! We hope the preparations for your upcoming outback trip are coming along well and you are getting excited about rocking the desert for three days and nights.

We know we are!

This event update is being provided to ensure you have all the information you need to have a safe trip and a great time at the Big Red Bash, as well as let you know about a few things of interest and some additions to the event program.

EVENT INFORMATION GUIDE

We have developed a handy event *Information Guide* that is definitely worth reading before you head off. It contains a range of information about the event, including maps, event times and entertainment schedules, campsite rules and information, merchandise available, including sizes and pricing. It also, very importantly, contains some guidelines about safe driving in the outback.

For many of you it will be your first trip to the outback, so it's important to us that everyone has all of the information they need to plan a safe trip and make it to Birdsville and back home safely. There will be a lot of people travelling on the outback road network during this period, so please take it easy, be patient and drive to the conditions.

This *Information Guide* will be posted to you in the first half of June. We will also provide you with an e-version for you to store on your mobile devices for easy reference.

BASHVILLE – A NEW DESERT TOWN

For 2016 we have officially named the site of the Big Red Bash – **Bashville**.

Bashville will be a pop-up town in the desert with a population of over 6,000 people during this year's Big Red Bash. A full map of Bashville will be sent out with the Big Red Bash information guide and will include the streets, walkways and various facilities around the event site. We have also included a link to the Bashville map [here](#). What address will you be camped at during the Bash?

BASHVILLE DRAGS

Like all good outback towns, Bashville will be home to some races in 2016. However these races will be a little bit different to the iconic Birdsville Races. They won't be horse races, they will be drag races!

The Bash will be hosting short, fun running races through the campsite, (no more than a couple of hundred metres or so). To be eligible to enter you're required to be dressed in a *Priscilla – Queen of the Desert* theme. There will be some special prizes on offer for the winners. We won't be having male and female categories, as these could be a bit difficult to determine!



If drag racing is not your thing, then perhaps you should consider entering *Fashions in the Desert*. Again, some great prizes will be on offer for those whose Priscilla themed outfits are exceptional.

Both the Bashville Drags and Fashions in the Desert are charity events and a fun way for people to support the Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS), who provide vital services to remote areas like Birdsville. We encourage those who want to participate to enter online and pay the small entry fee of \$20. The entry fee will go directly to the RFDS. You can enter both competitions and you will be issued with a personalised race bib or Fashions in the Desert bib when you enter. So "drag" out your best Priscilla outfit and be part of the fun and frivolity.

The Bashville Drags will take place at 10.30am on Wednesday 6 July, starting and finishing in the REDARC plaza, followed immediately by Fashions in the Desert, also held in the REDARC Plaza.

Entries are limited and are available [here](#) online, so enter now to avoid missing out!



AMAROK BUSKING STAGE AND JOHNY MAC

For the first time in 2016, thanks to our official vehicle sponsor Volkswagen, the AMAROK Busking Stage will operate in the REDARC Plaza outside the main concert times, creating a buzzing atmosphere in the open plaza area.

If you want to get up and perform a few of your best songs, covers or your own material, we'd love to hear from you. We'll take care of the sound equipment, so feel free to bring your guitar or other instrument and give us your best performance.

The legendary DJ Johny Mac will be looking after the busking ute and keeping the music and atmosphere going between buskers.

To help us manage and coordinate the performances, we would appreciate if participants could complete an online application form. We will be in touch to confirm your successful application. You can complete your busking application [here](#).



DESERT DUST DANCERS

We're looking forward to welcoming the aboriginal children's dance group, The Desert Dust Dancers from Barcaldine, to the event this year.

The Desert Dust Dancers do not perform, but rather present song and dance. The root word of presentation is present, which also means gift.

The Desert Dust Dancers trust that audiences will receive their presentations as a gift of cultural sharing and connection – connection to country and connection as one.

See them at various times and places throughout the Bash.

KIDS SHOW ON BIG RED

With well over 1,000 kids expected at this year's Bash, we're excited to create a great family atmosphere. Paul Grierson, (Paully), the front man of country group Simply Bushed, will be presenting his 'Discover Australia' show on top of Big Red.

Discover Australia is an entertaining and engaging workshop that covers all aspects of Australian History. There will be dancing, sing alongs and yarns. The kids will also have a crack at playing lager phones and learn about the Australian flag.

The show is about having fun and learning some fun facts about Australia, but mainly learning why Australia is the greatest place on earth!

Catch it at 10am Tuesday 5 July.

BIG RED CHURCH SERVICE

We know the Bash is not held on a Sunday, but for those who would like to attend a service with a difference in the desert, Parish priest, Geoff Reeder, will be conducting a service at 9am on Tuesday 5 July. We will provide more details of the location at the event for those who would like to attend.

OFFICIAL BIG RED BASH MERCHANDISE

Details of official Big Red Bash merchandise and the official merchandise catalogue are now on our website.

All official merchandise will be available at the ticket office in Birdsville before the event, and then at the merchandise marquee located in the REDARC Plaza during the event.

Due to the limited supply of the Big Red Bash **Akubra hats and belts** these items will be available for pre-purchase online, ensuring they're available to pick up at the Bash. Depending on what Akubra products remain after pre-sales, they will also be available for purchase at the Bash.

Online purchases of the Akubra products can be made [here](#).



THINGS TO DO ON YOUR WAY TO & FROM THE BIG RED BASH

It's great to see the outback spirit alive and well, with a number of events popping up in various outback towns to keep those travelling to and from the Bash entertained. These new events are additional to the existing outback events around the time of the Bash. This makes it easy to plan an exciting outback itinerary!

Here are some the events and entertainment you might like to consider including in your outback itinerary:

- Charleville Half Way There Shindig, Street concert by Mick Lindsay and Melanie Dyer Thurs 30 June from 5.30pm
- Winton Vision Splendid Outback Film Festival 24 June to 2 July visionsplendidfilmfest.com
- Quilpie Outback Fringe Festival Sat 2 July www.outbackfringe.com/whats-on/
- Bedourie Gymkhana, Rodeo and Campdraft Fri 1 - Sun 3 July
- Bedourie Camel Races Sat 9 July
- Innamincka Hotel live entertainment featuring Victoria Edwards and Isaac Collins Kennedy. 30 June and 1 & 2 July After the Bash enjoy the outdoor cinema in the beer garden on Frid 8 or a sunset cruise on the Cooper Creek www.theoutback.com.au/big-red-bash/
- If you're coming up the Birdsville Track call in at historic Farina, located within the Lake Eyre Basin, on the old alignment of the Ghan railway, 26 km north of Lyndhurst, 55 km south of Marree along the Oodnadatta Track in SA. The town is no longer inhabited, but is being restored to ensure that it's retained in the history of the outback. The restoration team will be there and the bakery and all the normal attractions will be open. Its definitely worth a visit. www.farinarestoration.com

LATE CHANGE TO LINE UP

Due to unforeseen circumstances at the time the official line up was announced, Mahalia Barnes will not be able to appear at this year's Big Red Bash.



OUTBACK MATES CLUB

If you are travelling throughout the Queensland outback you should consider joining the *Outback Mates Club*, which gives members instant savings at cafes, restaurants, attractions, auto services and accommodation throughout outback Queensland. As an added incentive, those who join the Outback Mates program and attend the Bash will be eligible to **win a backstage experience** hosted by Troy Cassar-Daley. For more information about the club and to join visit: www.outbackmates.com.au

To enter the draw to win a backstage experience hosted by Troy Cassar-Daley present your *Outback Mates* loyalty card or smartphone app at the Outback Queensland Tourism Association marquee located in the REDARC Plaza before 5pm Monday 4 July. The winner will be announced onstage that evening.

STAY ON TRACK OUTBACK – Safe Driving n The Outback

The Queensland Police's *Stay on Track Outback* team will be travelling to the Big Red Bash, stopping along the way to help educate drivers about safe driving in the outback. They will be at the Charleville Halfway There Shindig, moving on to the Quilpie Outback Fringe Festival before making their way out to the Big Red Bash, where they will have a stand in the REDARC Plaza. A range of outback safe driving information will also be provided in the Big Red Bash information guide.

For safe driving information and information on road conditions, we recommend that you visit *Stay on Track Outback* online www.stayontrackoutback.qld.gov.au

PAT CALLINAN 4x4 FREE SUBSCRIPTIONS

With the Big Red Bash now sold out and the official OZTIX ticket resale facility now in place, we will wait until after the Big Red Bash to provide you with your free 12-month digital subscriptions to **Pat Callinans 4x4 Adventures**.

This is due to us not able to finalise the list of ticket-holders until after the close of the resale facility on 24 June. The full 12-month digital subscription will commence from the edition after the Big Red Bash. Stay tuned for all relevant details after the Bash.

FEDERAL ELECTION

The powers that be in Canberra have decided to call a federal election on 2nd July at the time of the Big Red Bash. Please make arrangements to do an early vote or a postal vote before heading out to the Bash.

There will be a polling booth in Birdsville on Election Day where Queensland residents can cast an absentee vote, however facilities are limited so we recommend voting before you get to Birdsville.

NEW ULURU EVENTS

If you are looking for more amazing things to do in our great Australian outback, the team responsible for the Big Red Bash has recently launched a five-day 100km trek from the South Australian/Northern Territory border to Uluru, across traditional aboriginal lands previously not accessible to the general public. The *Big Uluru Trek* is fully supported and accompanied by aboriginal guides and will take place 23-27 August this year.

To find out more about this inspiring outback experience go to www.bigulurutrek.com.au

If running is more your thing we have also launched the Big Rock 200 stage race from 15 to 19 August, a 200km stage race over five days. This starts and finishes at Uluru, travelling down to the SA/NT border and back.

Details can be found at www.bigrock200.com.au

See you outback soon

ARE YOU FULLY INSURED FOR YOUR TRIP TO THE BASH?

Does your current insurer offer what Club 4X4 does?

- Coverage anywhere in Australia - gazetted, non gazetted or cross country
- Full cover for your modifications and accessories
- \$1500 Off Road Recovery Cover with every policy
- \$2000 cover for portable valuables with every policy



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Terms, conditions and underwriting criteria apply. See the PDS for more information on whether this product is suitable for you.



Insurance for 4X4 enthusiasts