

Sias du Plessis to take on Dusi canoe marathon for charity

5FM Sports presenter, Sias du Plessis and his new paddling partner, Ryan Thompson, will take on The Unlimited Dusi canoe marathon in February 2013 to raise funds and awareness for The Unlimited Child.



Sias du Plessis and Liezel van der Westhuizen

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The team will take to the water in their K2 as part of The Unlimited Dusi Charity Batch in aid of The Unlimited Child, which provides educational toys, caregiver training and support to enable underprivileged crèches to give children the stimulation they need to achieve their full potential in life.

The Unlimited Dusi Charity Batch is an online bidding system, which allows paddlers the opportunity to bid for a position in an earlier starting batch each day with all bids being donated to charity. A daily head start offers a competitive advantage the paddlers will be out on the water earlier to beat the midday sun and will also avoid the congestion as more batches set from the starting line. A record amount of R368,020 was raised this year for The Unlimited Dusi's official charities, namely The Unlimited Child, the SPCA and DUCT (Dusi Umgeni Conservancy Trust). Bidding for 2013 Charity Batch starting positions open on Saturday, 1 December 2012.

Unforgettable adrenaline rush

According to Du Plessis, affectionately dubbed Ginger by morning show host Gareth Cliff, his 2012 maiden Dusi was an unforgettable adrenaline rush and he is looking forward to getting out on the water again - especially as he will be raising much needed funds and awareness for a worthy cause.

Joining Du Plessis in the Charity Batch celebrity lineup is TV anchor Liezel van der Westhuizen, who is returning to the event with her 2012 partner Greg van Heerden. Both from the Milnerton Canoe Club in the Western Cape, the two are paddling together for the second year running and are gearing up for a more competitive race in the colours of The Unlimited.

Du Plessis is kicking off his fundraising campaign with a Comedy Night at The Studio at Primi Rosebank, Johannesburg. Du Plessis partners up with local comedians Dillan Oliphant, Malcolm Ferreira and Jason Goliath for a night of side-splitting fun and laughter on Tuesday, 6 November. Tickets are R250 per person and include dinner, selected drinks and the show. Ticket proceeds will be donated to The Unlimited Child. For bookings, call +27(0)11 447 0300.

For more, go to www.theunlimitedchild.co.za and www.theunlimiteddusi.co.za.