

ST STITHIANS FOUNDATION NEWS FLASH



27 November 2015

TEAM THANDULWAZI: MAKING A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Riding for a Purpose in the Momentum 947 Cycle Challenge

Congratulations to the 69 Saints cyclists, sporting the *Team Thandulwazi* jerseys, who rode for a purpose in this year's *Momentum 947 Cycle Challenge* on Sunday, 15 November 2015. There are still a few donations outstanding but so far *Team Thandulwazi* has raised **R 120,241** for the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy. Thank you, *One and All*, for your generous contribution and support.

The team comprised seasoned, experienced cyclists like Hedley Pougnet riding in his 19th event – well done Hedley; novices riding for the first time (special thanks to Charles van Heerden our youngest rider, aged 10); Old Stithians from far and wide (Rob Harpur (NZ), Barry Ferguson (Canada) and Neil Farquharson (Australia)); Dads & Lads teams (August, Charles & James van Heerden; Russell & Mark Loubser; Tim & Joshua Nuttall; Grant & Joshua Naser; Gavin & Nathan Olivier); Saints parents, staff members and Interact Committee Members.



Team Thandulwazi at the starting line, 09:00, 15 November 2015 (Photo by Alistair Stewart)

TEAM THANDULWAZI - OUR TOP CYCLISTS IN THIS YEAR'S 947

- ★ *Rudi Jansen van Rensburg* – 2:59.02
- ★ *Matthew Dawson* - 3:00:38
- ★ *Timothy Keegan* – 3:08
- ★ *Dylan Hobson* – 3:09.30

TEAM THANDULWAZI - STAR OF 2015

Special mention must be made of Brenda Erasmus, who in true "Hunger Games" style, volunteered to ride the 947 on behalf of her son, Matt (the current Chair of the Boys College Interact Committee) and was one of the top fund-raisers for this event. Well done Brenda on raising R6,290!

ONE + ALL = Ubuntu in action

This proudly Saints event proved to be a great community builder too. It showcased the power of "One & All" as a growing number of parents, staff, alumni and the Interact Committee worked together to ensure the success of the event. We were able to increase the number of Saints cyclists participating from 44 in 2014 to 69 in 2015; the Interact Committee did a wonderful job of selling raffle tickets and sourcing donations for the Cyclists goodie bags; Moms and students volunteered

their services at the “hydration station” on Homestead Drive; and significant funds were raised for our Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy.

On behalf of the 2000 plus teachers and students who will benefit from the Thandulwazi programmes offered in 2016, we thank you most sincerely for supporting our Charity Bond in the *Momentum 947 Cycle Challenge*.

Feedback from the participants has been overwhelmingly positive:

- *“What a fantastic event and thanks to all of you for enabling myself, Barry and Neil to ride as part of Team Thandulwazi” – Rob Harpur, New Zealand*
- *“Thank you so much for looking after our cyclists on the 94.7! – what a great job you did...” Debbie Nesor*
- *“Bev, well done to you and the Thandulwazi team for a superb effort in fund raising! It made my 94.7 a pleasure - all we did was drink a few beers on Wednesday evening and ride our bikes on Sunday morning. The credit goes 100% to the organisers of the Thandulwazi Trust Batch and the funds raised are well justified - massive congrats, I am astounded that your efforts and the contribution of 69 cyclists raised over R100k !!! Looking forward to supporting the cause again next year.” - Etienne Rawlinson*
- *“Lovely meeting you guys and thanks so much for your wonderful organisation and support of Team Thandulwazi. The ride pack had a lot of very helpful goodies. Sorry I missed you on Homestead Ave. I must have been in my own little hell at that stage trying to get through the last 30 kms!!! Look forward to seeing you again at the next reunion. All the best,” Neil Farquharson, Australia*
- *“Was great to ride for the team and although I didn’t get to stop at the tent I did see all the fans and heard their cheers. I was too focussed on gunning for a PB. Congrats on your wonderful fund raise!” - Dylan Hobson*
- *“It was a blast!” - Fabian Howard*
- *“We all really enjoyed the ride, I must say that this - my 10th - was my toughest, I really underestimated the tandem! Charles was a true champion, never once complaining or anything negative, am really proud of him.. James and Robert also did really well. James has now done 4! Being part of team Thandulwazi is what makes the ride so special, and as a family we are delighted to be able to contribute to this cause.” - August van Heerden & family (pictured below)*



Bike Raffle

A total of 369 tickets were sold. The prize, a 246 Merida Big Seven 100 bike, valued at R8,500, was donated to Thandulwazi by Carel Nolte last year. Thank you to the Interact Committee and Advancement Office staff for selling raffle tickets to the Saints Family and friends of the College in September and October 2015. Thanks too to Russell Loubser who bought the most raffle tickets (30). A total of R3690 was raised for Thandulwazi through this initiative. The winning ticket was purchased by Thomas Lee, a student in the Boys’ College.

Riding for a Purpose – Thank you to our Fundraisers

Team Thandulwazi you rock! In total our cyclists have raised **R 120,241** so far (we still have a few outstanding payments) in support of the Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy – a truly magnificent effort! Thank you, One & All.

Congratulations to our top donors: **Mr Ramakanyane Tladi** and **Mr Dylan Koen** both of whom donated R10,000 to Thandulwazi. A gift voucher, courtesy of *Complete Cyclists* will be coming your way next week.

Thanks too to the runner-up, **Mrs Brenda Erasmus** who raised a total of **R 6,290** for Thandulwazi. Brenda has won a Schaeffer pen and coffee table book

We are grateful to all the parents and staff who donated funds in support of the Team riding for a purpose. In particular we thank:

- The Matric Class of 1974, who sponsored Old Stithian, Hedley Pougnet (R4,250) in his 19th Race;



- The three overseas-based cyclists from the Matric Class of 1970 (Old Stithians Rob Harpur, Barry Ferguson, Neil Farquharson), who did not allow a 45th Reunion Dinner, held the night before, to get in the way of a successful race; and
- The ISASA Deputy Director, John Lobban, who for the second year rode under the Thandulwazi banner.

The St Stithians Foundation thanks

- The Advancement Director and his staff for their support with coordinating this event, in particular Lethabo Thabo-Royds; Barbara Beauchamp and her team, Helene and Lauren, at *One-Up Communications*.
- Ms Tamaryn Ross, the Interact Committee of 2015, and their supportive and generous parents. Special thanks to Brenda Erasmus, Nicky Kynoch, Trish Faber, the Strickett Family, and the Bowdens.
- DISCHEM (Nicolway) for the useful items donated for the goodie bags presented to the Team Thandulwazi cyclists;
- August van Heerden and Barclays for the donation of bags and water bottles;
- Andrew Watt and Lightstone for the donation of towels;
- Complete Cyclists for the donation of gift vouchers for the top donors;
- Joshua Nuttall and Easy Equities for the vouchers included in the cyclists bags;
- Paula Klemp of Sodexo for sponsoring bottled water and bananas for the cyclists;
- Kurt Solomon and CN&CO for the water sachets donated for the "hydration station" on Homestead Drive;
- The Bursar, Johnny Smith, who drew the winning Raffle ticket at the pre-race event held on 11 November;
- Nick Brimacombe (Interact); Kelly Brimacombe, Tamra Duthie and Carrin Richter who assisted with manning the St Stithians/ Team Thandulwazi water stand on the 15th;
- Mr Morgan Twala, Vusi Mthethwa and the St Stithians Ops Team for their gracious assistance and support on Sunday 15 November;
- The Rector, St Stithians Foundation Governors and the Saints community for their ongoing support.



The **Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy** is an educational project initiated by the St Stithians Foundation. The Thandulwazi Maths & Science Academy was established in 2005, with the overall aim of actively improving the state of Maths and Science teaching and learning in schools in and around Gauteng. The St Stithians Foundation drives the fundraising for the Thandulwazi educational programmes offered to more than 2000 teachers and students annually.

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