

MARTIN DREYER CHANGE A LIFE ACADEMY



FEEDBACK

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From the president

Hello All

Well I have now decided to give up canoeing and take up knitting! My luck in a boat is running out at a rapid rate. Firstly I wrap and don't finish my tenth Dusi, then I don't start the Fish and just when I had found myself a new toy-boy called Shane who was HAPPY?! to lug me around the Tuesday Dice, a sharp object leaps out the water and rips a 30cm gash on the side of our boat and we sink. So clearly my talents must be far better suited to knitting than paddling at this stage! Just to need to organize some lessons with Margie and I will be sorted.

The Vaal proved, once again, to have been a test of endurance and tactical knowledge - but the most tactical prowess came in the form of two World Marathon Champs teaming together. Ant Stott and former World Marathon Champ and Olympian Shaun Rubenstein made short work of the race, steaming in by more than a minute and a half ahead of the rest of the field. Jen Hodson and Carol Joyce also flexed their Olympic muscles, finishing an incredible 16th overall and 20 minutes ahead of rivals, Alexa Cole and Bridgette Hartley. Nice work Sisters!

Last week I was a little pre-occupied and didn't have time to chat about something that is very close to my heart - Development. Whilst looking through the results of the Ozzie Gladwin race I noticed that 4 names out of the top 10 finishes were members of the Lembethe Canoe Club. This made me sit up and ask a few questions. I then heard that "dusi man" Martin Dreyer may have had something to do with their success. As luck would have it I bumped into Martin this weekend (in between the salad bowls) and he told me a little about his vision for Dusi 2009. Martin has based himself at Nagle Dam until January and has about 20 "passionate" paddlers under his wing and his vision is to have 10 of these young men in the top 50 for Dusi 2009. This undertaking is part of the "Change a Life/Computershare" Development programme and is sponsored by Computershare, with USN supplying their nutrient drinks. This kind of dedication just blows me away and I am meeting with Martin next week to get the full story on these youngsters. (watch this space) What Martin did say was that if you could win the Dusi on pure passion these guys would win it hands down. Well all I can say is "thank you Martin - you continue being an inspiration to us all"

I know there will be a number of you out there who have been having restless nights leading up to this weekend's Ithala Challenge and I don't blame you (having heard MANY hectic stories). But they have all ended their stories with the same sentence "Can't wait to go back next year!" So have a blast knowing that you are one better than the rest of us, slothing on the sofa.

Anyway must end now because the Haberdashery shop is closing soon and I need to buy No.7 needles and a ball of wool.

Kindest regards

Merrill