

A BOY AND A BIKE

Camphill School held a very successful Sports Challenge fundraiser on 6 April. Among those who participated in one of the daunting mountain bike trails organised by Hermanus Adventures, was one of the Camphill Upper School learners, 19-year-old Malibongwe Tyizeka of Zwelihle.

For Malibongwe, who is intellectually and physically challenged, this was a peak experience, a dream come true. From the moment he heard about the Sports Challenge with its mountain bike rides, he could think (and talk) of nothing else.

His one desire in life was to participate; he wanted it more than anything else. There was only one problem: although Malibongwe could ride, he didn't have a bike. So vocally determined was he to participate, that eventually the school approached Euodia Cycles and asked them if they could lend Malibongwe a bicycle for the event.

Early on the morning of the 6th, before the trail began, Malibongwe arrived. There, waiting for him, was a bike, complete with helmet. A smile, like the rising sun, lit up his face as he climbed into the saddle and headed for the starting line. When he returned, after completing the gruelling event, his smile of accomplishment was even bigger. It was the best thing that had ever happened to Malibongwe, something he will always remember. But now, of course, after the thrill of that day, he's back to being bikeless. How wonderful if his love of cycling could be fulfilled on a more permanent basis.

Perhaps in somebody's garage, unused and neglected, a bicycle is propping up a wall, and perhaps it could be put to better use: it could bring joy to Malibongwe's life, day after day. If you have a bike, and perhaps a helmet to go with it, that you would like to donate to him (or one of the other children at Camphill), please call Elaine on 084 3437 500 or Genevieve on 082 715 7817.

