

From CA 2 CX for charity

BOWENA HENDRICKS

A group of 24 cyclists from as far as Guelph recently completed a 647 km mountain bike challenge from Meerendal Cape Town to Krynene in aid of the Herberg Children's Home in Robertson.

Arriving in Krynene last week Thursday, after six days of cycling 100 to 120 km each day, the group took part in the 50 km MTD Run at the Krynene Oyster Festival on Saturday.

According to Petro Uron, Marketing Herberg Children's Home, this was the 10th year the Spur CA2CX MTD Tour took place - including two years as a road tour and the last four years as a mountain bike tour - but only the second year in aid of the Herberg.

She says the group of cyclists this year consisted of various business men and -women from the Western Cape to Gauteng, "who took off a week from their busy schedules to take part in the tour to raise funds for the children's home."

"The route included starting at Meerendal, with stop overs in Worcester, Montagu, Barrydale, Cullinstad, George and ending off the tour in Krynene," says Petro.

She says apart from a little mishap with a trailer wheel bursting near Oudbaken, there were no major issues and the cyclists all made it safely to Krynene.

"Although the route was tough for many, their motivation was the fact that for each kilometre they cycled, R1 would be donated to the Herberg Children's Home."

"So they had to finish, because it is for a worthy cause," says Petro, who organised the tour.

She says the money raised will be

used to fund the studies of some of the tour school leavers at the Home, "giving them the children the opportunity to study at college or university - something they probably would never have had."

On the second last night of the six day tour, a gala evening was held in George where the cyclists could sit pat their bikes down and enjoy the company of their fellow cyclists.

Each cyclist - who had to pay R7 000 to cover their own expenses on the tour - was awarded a mountain biking medal.

Prizes were also given to some of the top cyclists including New Herberg Women's riding her 4th mountain bike tour, Stanley Viviers and Hans Lourens (best riders nominated in their respective groups - fast and slower cyclists groups) and Ernst Jordaan (the cyclist who collected the most money for the Herberg).

Various wines were also auctioned off during the evening, adding to the record amount of almost R60 000 that was raised with the Spur CA2CX MTD Tour.

"The best thing of the tour is witnessing how friendships and business relationships are formed among the cyclists," says Petro.

"After spending so much time together, we are one big family."

• The Herberg Children's Home is situated in Robertson and accommodates 22 children (boys and girls, from ages 5-18 years) from Cape Town and surroundings, even far as Pietermaritzburg.

For more information, please Petro Uron on 022 436 3146 or send an email to re@herberg.co.za or visit the website www.herberg.co.za for more details.



ABOVE: The group of cyclists completed a grueling route starting from Meerendal, via Worcester, Montagu, Barrydale, Cullinstad, George and ending off the tour in Krynene. They completed the last leg of the tour from George (pictured at the King George Hotel) to Krynene last week Thursday. Photo: Eugene Gunning

From the left are: Uroon and Petro/Uroon (Marketing Herberg Children's Home) and both organisers of the CA2CX MTD tour, with Ernst Jordaan (collected the most money), Hans Lourens (best group rider), New Kiefley (18th year in row cycling the mountain route) and Stanley Viviers (best group rider). Photo: BOWENA HENDRICKS