

# Endurance Athletes from all over South Africa will participate in the Quarter century Challenge to do FIVE daring events IN ONE YEAR!



*Midmar, Duzi,*

## “Millennium Big 5 Challenge 2025”



*Cape Town Cycle Tour, Comrades, Mt. Kilimanjaro*

### The Year 2000 - a Turning Point - a non-exhaustive List

#### **Andrew Walsh - CEO of CuAL Engineering (Durban)**

The Big Five Challenge was a great turning point in my life, in the year 2000. I suddenly believed in myself and that I wasn't just a runner who just ran Comrades every year. Most importantly I broke my childhood fear of swimming and went on to believe I could do multi-sports .

17 Comrades, 7 Duzis, 1 Non stop Duzi, 10 Cape Town Cycles  
5 Midmars, 2 Full Ironman, 8 Half Ironman, 10 Sani To Sea,  
1 Non stop Sani to Sea, 10 Berg and Bush, 5 Wine to Whales  
1 Cape Epic And Everest Base Camp

So I have a lot to thank you for creating an awesome Challenge in 2000, it was a life changer for me .

#### **Rodney Day - Owner of Silkscreen Printers (Pietermaritzburg)**

I was a novice in every event of the Millennium Challenge in 2000. Since then I have –

1. Completed 17 Duzi's + 2 Canvas Duzi's + 1 Non-Stop Duzi,
2. Done every Midmar Mile since 2000 to date except for 2020 when we were in China visiting our Son, and also completed all 8 events of the Midmar Mile with the 8 mile Club from 2004-2006,
3. Triple Challenges was an annual event that consisted of a 20km run from Pietermaritzburg to Camperdown, then a 52km cycle from Camperdown to the Inanda Dam in Hillcrest, ending with a 18km paddle on the dam with 2X 2km portages. I did every one from the 1<sup>st</sup> year it started in 2001 to the last year that it ended which was 8 years later on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2009.
4. I have done countless Amashova's as well since the millennium, well at least 12 that I can recall.
5. I've also climbed Table Mountain in Cape Town twice now too.

Looking back in hindsight, if it wasn't for your advert in the Getaway Magazine I happened to pick up & read in a consulting room saying “what are you going to do for the Millennium”, I probably would never have done all of this, and possibly be 100kg heavier!!

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**John Rollason**

I have completed so far -

- 100 ultra Marathons
- 100 standard Marathons
- 6 legs of the 7 Continents Marathon Challenge
- 6 legs of the half Marathon 7 Continents Challenge

**Allan Tatham**

- 234 Parkruns (best time 23:22)
- 27 Dusi Canoe Marathons - green number 253
- 17 Harrismith Mountain Races
- 15 Two Oceans - Ultra - blue number 1200
- 8 Jukskei Canoe Marathons
- 5 JHB Canoe Iron Man - all silver medals - the only silvers I have ever got !(Permanent # 48 - I think?)
- 5 Umkomaas Canoe Marathons
- 4 Midmar Mile Swims
- 4 Tugela River Canoe Marathons
- 3 Comrades Marathons
- 3 Berg River Canoe Marathons

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### **Roy Aiken - Owner Escentia Products**

Wits University half blue Colours – Gymnastics  
14 Duzi Canoe Marathons [Permanent #470] . . .12 with partner and listed at 35<sup>th</sup> with partners  
14 Johannesburg Canoe Iron Man [Permanent #45]  
10 Two-Oceans Marathons [Permanent #2036]  
6 Argus Cycle Tours  
6 Breede River Canoe Marathons  
5 Midmar Mile swims  
4 Berg River Canoe Marathons  
4 Ultra Man multi-event competitions [Permanent #26]  
3 Fish River Canoe Marathons  
2 Peninsula Canoe Club Iron Man [Top 5] Argus Cycle and Two Oceans run, Berg River. .same year  
Western Province Colours Canoe Triathlon, SA Games 1986  
1 Seals Iron Man, Comrades, Duzi, Midmar within a year  
1 Umkomaas Canoe Marathon 1987  
Jukskei River Canoe Marathon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Overall

### **Graeme Fraser, Co-owner Company Law Today, One of the Directors at Millennium Big5 Challenge 2025 (Pty) Ltd**

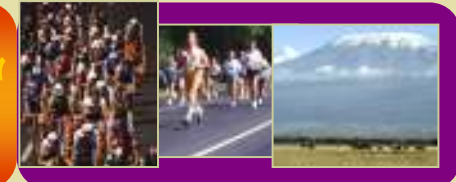
5 Duzi's  
2 Cape Argus Cycle Tour  
4 94.7 Stereo Cycle Race  
4 Vaal Canoe Marathons  
3 2-day Klip Canoe Marathon  
1 Top-to-bottom Challenge, Thabanetlanyana to Blue Lagoon 4-day multi-disciplinary event.

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### **Kevin Meier - Director Planning Services - Umgeni Water**

When I did the Big 5 challenge I had already done a number of Comrades Marathons and Dusi Canoe Marathons but my main sport at the time was Canoe Polo. I did end up competing in four Canoe Polo World Championship events and when I got too old to act like a child, ended up coaching the National Side to another four World Champs. I have always been a bit addicted to endurance events and to date I have also done -

19 Comrades Marathons,  
17 Dusi Canoe Marathons,  
2 Iron Man competitions,  
2 hundred miler trail runs,  
3 Sky Runs,  
A bunch of Sani2C's,  
1 Cape Epic,  
2 Freedom Challenge (Race across South Africa) events,  
Blouberg to Joburg 1000 miler unsupported gravel ride,  
The Tour Divide (4400km unsupported gravel ride from Banff in Canada to Antelope Wells on the border of Mexico) and,  
many other less significant ultra races  
I only climbed Kilimanjaro once and that was always a highlight.

The Millennium Big 5 was an awesome event to see in the new Millennium / Century and most importantly, the climb up Kilimanjaro allowed me to meet other endurance nutters and, even 23 years later, there are quite a few that I bump into and chat with periodically. It really was a great way to meet some great guys but also to bring in the Millennium with a real endurance bang.

