

Martyn's Bike Ride Challenge

Dover to Cape Wrath

**720 miles in 7 days
from 28th April**

**Supporting our mission
in Ekendeni**



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Cycling 720 miles in just seven days is the challenge our Pastoral Assistant Martyn S. Sanders will undertake. In the week following 28th April he'll be riding from Dover to Cape Wrath in aid of the Church's mission in Ekwendeni, Malawi. He says, "the Church of Scotland has had a strong friendship with people and churches across Malawi for over 150 years.

It's not one of those places that hits the headlines yet in terms of Gross National Income it's the poorest country in Africa with more than half the population living below the poverty line." Most Malawians rely on subsistence farming, but the country suffers from extremes of drought and heavy rainfalls requiring food supply to be supported by thousands of tonnes of food aid every year.

HIV/AIDS also poses a challenge with many children suffering either directly or because they have become orphaned. "We know that many nurses have been sent home because the government has stopped paying them and this is causing a crisis for the sick in the hospitals. There is also a ten year old Land Rover that requires replacement whilst diesel for vehicles and electricity generators is very expensive and not always available," said Martyn.

He's not new to this kind of challenge having literally cycled the length and breadth of the country: from St David's to Lowestoft and Land's End to John O'Groats.

Martyn added, "whilst many are feeling the financial pinch at home it's important that we don't turn our backs on those in need elsewhere."

If you'd like to support Martyn in his challenge he'd gratefully receive your gift. Any cheques should be made payable to the Presbytery of Annandale and Eskdale and sent to: Martyn Sanders, 11 Moat Road, Annan DG12 5DE or you can pop it in an envelope marked "Cycle Challenge" and place it in the offertory plate on Sundays.

Sponsor forms are also available in our churches.