

Warren goes into the wild

DANIEL HURST

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CLEVELAND'S Warren Nicholls will begin a 280-kilometre journey on foot tomorrow across water, down cliff faces and on two wheels through the Tasmanian wilderness.

In a bid to raise \$10,000 for the Leukaemia Foundation, Warren will run, swim, paddle, abseil and cycle during the five-day Mark Webber Pure Tasmania Challenge.

Funds raised will go towards the purchase of a two-bedroom apartment in East Melbourne as part of the Emergency Accommodation Program run by the Leukaemia Foundation.

This program provides leukaemia patients with a home-away-from-home while seeking treatment.

The Pure Tasmania Challenge, which runs from Wednesday to Sunday, is an initiative of Australian Formula 1 motoring racing driver Mark Webber.

Warren will line up against more than 80 entrants who will pass through Barrington, Launceston, and Port Arthur before arriving in Hobart on day five.

Warren, the chief operating officer of Firstfolio's mortgage management division, New-Loan, said the only way to prepare for this type of event was to train in a similar environment.

"I recently competed in the Freycinet Lodge challenge in Tasmania, which involved travelling 88k over one day ? 15k in a kayak, 36k on a road bike, 22k mountain biking and finally a 15k run," he said.

"Only 18 of the 422 starters completed the event individually, the rest completing the event as a team.

"I finished in six hours and 55 minutes, which was not the fastest time on the day, but I was certainly one of the oldest competitors and imagine I will be one of the older competitors again (in the Mark Webber Challenge)."

Warren said he had watched the television footage of the Mark Webber race in 2007 and knew it was time to "step up to the plate and have a go".

Anyone who wishes to support Warren and make a donation can visit www.everydayhero.com.au/warren.

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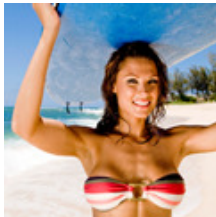
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WARREN Nicholls of Cleveland will run, swim, paddle, abseil and cycle during the five-day Mark Webber Pure Tasmania Challenge this week. His is pictured training for the charity event in Tasmania.

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