

NEWS



Dee Why's Andrew Kinnear (rear) and mate Paul McDonald are taking part in a charity auto rickshaw run across India.

Picture: SIMON COCKSEGE -PP400645

Lassi's rickshaw run

Peter Bodkin

FIVE thousand kilometres across India in a three-wheeled "glorified lawnmower" could either be a recipe for disaster or the makings of a great adventure.

Dee Why's Andrew Kinnear, with good friend Paul McDonald, will undertake the task in September when he joins the Rickshaw Run, which will take the pair from the Himalayas to the Rajasthan desert with only a 150cc auto rickshaw as their steed.

The 41-year-old, who works in IT research, said the aim of the challenge was to raise money for charity, although the pair also expected to learn a lot from the experience.

"You've got two weeks to get from point A to point B, but otherwise you're really on your own," he said.

"You put yourself through circumstances that will challenge you, knowing full well that people in India have the daily challenge of things like just finding clean drinking water."

Mr Kinnear said their team, called Lassi Come

Home, anticipated a fortnight of hazards and breakdowns, but they hoped to be able to take any setbacks in their stride.

"You're always almost certainly going to be within 50 or 100m of a mechanic in India, or at least someone who thinks they're a mechanic," he said.

Participants are expected to raise a minimum of £1000 for an Indian charity to join the challenge. Donations can be made directly to the team's charity through its website, www.lassicomehome.com.