



Bankstown MP Tony Stewart on Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro raised \$55,000 for Youth Off The Streets.

On top of world

SWAPPING his parliamentary dress shoes for hiking boots, Bankstown MP Tony Stewart has returned to the heat of Macquarie Street's Bear Pit, after conquering the much cooler climate of Africa's Mount Kilimanjaro.

Mr Stewart successfully raised \$55,000 for Father Chris Riley's Youth Off The Streets after trekking Africa's highest peak last month.

Mount Kilimanjaro rises to 5,895m at its highest peak and Mr Stewart spent

Reaching his peak

seven days climbing over 120km of the often "vertical" trails.

"This was a gruelling walk and reaching significant altitude so quickly, created issues with altitude sickness that were a little scary at times," Mr Stewart said.

"Regardless, completing this trek was an exhilarating experience."

Mr Stewart laid a special brass plaque at the 5400m height mark on the mountain in memory of his former secretary, Cheryl Chalmers, who died last year.

"It was a real spiritual opportunity which I will never forget," he said.

The trek was made possible with financial support from Clubs NSW (\$20,000), Bankstown Sports Club (\$5,000), The Thomas Hotel Group (\$5,000) and Dooleys Lidcombe Catholic Club (\$5,000).