

# HEAVYWEIGHT TRIBUTES AS SPRINGBOK KITSHOFF IS FORCED TO BOW OUT

● Friend and foe unite in shared admiration for career of 33-year-old loosehead prop

By **LIAM DEL CARME**

They haven't "poured" in but there have been heavyweight tributes to the playing days of Steven Kitshoff, who on Tuesday announced his retirement from rugby because of injury.

The 33-year-old loosehead prop was forced to quit the game as a result of a neck injury he sustained in the Currie Cup last year.

Friend and foe [on the field] have been united in their recognition of the contribution Kitshoff has made not just locally but also in the international rugby firmament.

Tighthead Julian Redelinghuys, a former opponent at franchise level, was honoured to share the substitutes' bench with Kitshoff when the red-haired prop was let loose on the international arena.

Kitshoff made his debut as a substitute in the third and deciding Test against

Ireland in Gqeberha in 2016. "I played against him a few times before he got the call-up," recalled Redelinghuys.

"He was one of the toughest guys to scrum against. I always had respect for him in regards to that. We went on together and we won a scrum penalty and that was a special memory."

When Kitshoff's career was halted by injury, the pair could compare notes. "I had a lekker conversation with Kitsie when this happened. Obviously his situation and my situation differ," added Redelinghuys whose career was also cut short prematurely through a neck injury.

While Redelinghuys bowed out after just eight Tests, Kitshoff forged an enduring Test career. "He had 83 caps and had the goal to become a centurion for the Boks," said Redelinghuys.

"So I'm sad I don't get to see him achieve that goal. He has two World Cups under the belt. He played a huge role in building them up. To become the man he is today, and to build up the Springboks to where they are today, deserves huge congratulations.

"I'm sad he won't reach all the other



Steven Kitshoff waves the fans after SA's victory against New Zealand in the Rugby World Cup 2023 final at Stade de France in Paris. /Juan Jose Gasparini

goals he set for himself but he can be really proud of the work he has put in and his achievements."


Springbok coach Rassie Erasmus, under whom Kitshoff played 60 Tests, also hit a sombre tone in his tribute. "We are sad that Steven's career had to end this way, but we extend our gratitude to him for his hard work and the sacrifices he has made over the years to become such a

vital cog in the team," he said.

"He is a true team man, and he earned enormous respect from his teammates and the coaches with his high work ethic, drive to be the best he can on the field and his down-to-earth nature.

"He will always remain a warrior and fine ambassador of what the Springboks stand for and we wish him luck as he begins this new chapter in his life."

# Quest for ODI runs record can keep Kohli motivated, says Ponting



MAKHUDUTHAMAGA LOCAL MUNICIPALITY

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**Bid Notice and Invitation to Bid**

Bidders are here invited to bid for the following projects:

No	Project Number	Project Description.	Compulsory briefing	Closing Date
1	LIM473/Cabrief/24/25/29	Construction of Cabrief Internal Road- 7CE or Higher	11 March 2025 @ 10H00 At municipal Chamber	07 April 2025 at 12H00
2	LIM473/Environmentalass/24/25/30	Appointment of environmental Assessment Practitioners to undertake Environmental Authorisation Process, Waste Management License Process, Water Use License, Development and Review of Environmental Management related plans, Independent Monitoring of environmental related projects within Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality for the period of 3 years.	11 March 2025 @ 10H00 At municipal Chamber	07 April 2025 at 12H00

Bid documents will be obtainable from Makhuduthamaga Local Municipal offices from **11 March 2025 (Mon-Fri from 08:00-16:30)** from the cashiers at a non-refundable deposit of R560.00 payable in cash or bank-guaranteed cheque. Bid documents can also be downloaded from [www.etender.gov.za](http://www.etender.gov.za) at no cost.

Completed and signed tender documents must be sealed in an envelope and marked with the relevant project number and project description and be deposited in the tender box at Makhuduthamaga Local Municipality Offices in Jane Furse before the closing date and time.

The municipality shall adjudicate and award tenders in accordance with the Preferential Procurement Policy Framework Act, 5/2000 and the revised procurement regulation with effect 16 January 2023 and on 100 points for functionality and 90/10 points system where 90 points are for the price and 10 points for Municipal specific goals (according to the said legislation). Details of functionality and specific goals are in the bid document. Bids will remain valid for 90 (ninety) days.

The lowest tender will not necessarily be accepted and the municipality reserves the right not to consider any tender not fully completed. Tenderers are required to initial each page of the tender document and sign where necessary.

**Enquiries contact:**  
**Supply Chain Unit** : Mr Mothapo KJ - 013 265 8607  
**Infrastructure Unit** : Mr Senong PA / Mr Madihlaba NR - 013 265 8651

**Municipal Manager: Moganedi MR; Private Bbag X434, Jane Furse 1085**

Virat Kohli is more than 4,000 runs adrift of Sachin Tendulkar in the list of leading one-day international scorers but former Australia captain Ricky Ponting believes the 36-year-old can still surpass the Indian maestro if he remains hungry.

Kohli went past 14,000 runs in the format with an unbeaten 100 in India's victory over Pakistan in the Champions Trophy on Sunday and only has Tendulkar (18,426) and Sri Lanka's Kumar Sangakkara (14,234) ahead of him.

Ponting, who is fourth in the list with 13,704 runs, backed the Indian batsmen to keep adding to his tally of 14,085.

"With someone like Virat, you never write him off, because I'm sure he would be motivated by that [achieving the record]," Ponting said on the ICC Review Podcast.

"Now that he's gone past me and only two ahead of him, I'm sure he wants to give himself the best chance to be remembered as the all-time leading run scorer in the game.

"So, as long as the hunger's there ... physically, he's probably as fit as he's ever been and works exceptionally hard on that side of his game. If the hunger's still there then I'm never going to write him off."

Ponting said it would not be long before Kohli scores the 150 runs he needs to go past Sangakkara, suggesting he



India's Virat Kohli celebrates after hitting four runs to reach his century. /Satish Kumar /Reuters

could even do so in India's next game against New Zealand on Sunday. Catching Tendulkar, who retired from ODI cricket in 2012 aged 39, would be much more challenging but not impossible.

"It's crazy when you think about it ... how good Virat's been over such a long period of time, yet he's still 4,000 runs behind Sachin," Ponting added.

"It just goes to show how good Sachin was, but also his longevity in the game. How long Sachin played for and how long you're able to maintain such high levels for as a player.

"That's the one thing I've always judged excellence on, is how long you can maintain it for." – Reuters