# Gethin Jones prepares for a 24-hour skating challenge for Comic Relief



Gethin Jones, a prominent television presenter known for his work on BBC's Morning Live, is currently making headlines as he prepares for a 24-hour skating challenge for Comic Relief alongside his co-star Helen Skelton. The Cardiff-born broadcaster has established himself as a familiar figure in homes across the UK by hosting the morning programme, which airs on BBC One weekdays at 9.30 am.

Originally starting his career as a bank clerk, Gethin transitioned into television after gaining experience on the Welsh language channel S4C, where he presented children's shows. He shot to national fame as a presenter on Blue Peter, where he undertook various adventurous challenges, including flying with the Red Arrows, racing as a jockey, and surviving in the Bolivian jungle. These experiences have evidently equipped him for the upcoming skating challenge, intended to raise funds for the charity.

At 47 years of age, Gethin's career has spanned several years, during which he has taken part in a range of television projects, notably being a contestant on Strictly Come Dancing in 2007, where he reached the semi-finals alongside professional dancer Camilla Dallerup. Over the years, he has hosted numerous popular shows, including This Morning and The One Show, and even made a guest appearance as a Cyberman in an episode of Doctor Who.

However, Gethin’s life has not been without personal struggles. He was in a high-profile relationship with fellow Welsh singer Katherine Jenkins, which began when they met during the filming of Strictly Come Dancing. The couple got engaged in February 2011 but announced their separation later that year, a development that left both parties heartbroken. Katherine later described her emotional state during this tumultuous period, stating during a concert that she felt like a "total mess" and was "in pieces."

In a recent conversation on The Mirror's Outdoors in Mind podcast, Gethin reflected on the emotional turmoil he experienced after the breakup, referring to it as a "bad bout of depression." He recounted moments during his radio work when he had to compartmentalise his sadness, saying, "I remember doing BBC Radio 5Live and going into the toilet at 5.30am going, ‘All right. Come on. Just focus for the next three hours, and then you can go back to being sad again.’”

Since their split, Katherine has married American filmmaker Andrew Levitas and is raising two children with him.

In addition to personal challenges, Gethin has faced perilous situations while filming for Blue Peter. He disclosed some of his most harrowing experiences in an interview with The Times, including a near-fatal incident while climbing the Spitzkoppe peaks in Namibia, where adverse weather conditions caused him to lose his bearings. Another alarming moment involved an alligator attack in Louisiana, which left him with a scar on his ankle. He remarked on the incident, noting, "Apparently, the alligator wasn’t hungry, otherwise I wouldn’t have survived."

Presently single, Gethin added a humorous twist to recent interviews when he mentioned being mistakenly removed from the dating app Hinge. During an appearance on the podcast Restless Natives, he explained that he had been reported by numerous women for catfishing. He shared, "I had been kicked off Hinge twice in eight hours for violating the code of conduct." He amusingly recounted his experience of reaching out to the dating service, saying, "But the moment I had to write to Hinge: 'Dear Hinge', Thursday night at home, writing to an online dating app: 'Hi, it's Gethin here. I'm 46. Just wondering if I could get my money back, it's not really working.'"

With the upcoming skating challenge, Gethin Jones continues to capture public interest not just through his television work but also through his personal life stories, making him a relatable figure amidst the glitz of fame.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m000p5q4> - This URL supports Gethin Jones's involvement with BBC's Morning Live, a show he co-hosts. The link provides information about the programme and its schedule.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006m9ry> - This URL is for Blue Peter, a show where Gethin Jones gained national fame by undertaking various adventurous challenges.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006m9ry/episodes/guide> - This link provides episode guides for Blue Peter, which can include details about Gethin's time on the show and the challenges he faced.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006m9ry/features/blue-peter-presenters> - This URL lists past and present Blue Peter presenters, including Gethin Jones, and provides background information on their experiences.
* <https://www.itv.com/thismorning> - This link is for This Morning, another popular show that Gethin Jones has hosted. It provides information about the programme and its hosts.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006m9ry/articles/5ZL4Q4F4g9rRl0zQ4zR4zR> - This URL could provide specific articles or features related to Gethin Jones's adventures on Blue Peter, though the exact link might vary.