



# MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES JUNE 2018



## **BIKEWEEK 2018**

This year Bikeweek runs from 9th to 17th June and once again Maynooth Cycling Campaign has organised a number of events to mark the occasion. On June 10th our historic cycle is the ***Tour of the Dead*** - visiting a number of the historic graveyards surrounding Maynooth. On Sunday 17th, the **Family Cycle** will be to Kilcock on the new Royal Canal Greenway. Both events start at 2:30pm from Maynooth Harbour. Wednesday 13th June is **Bike to Work/Bike to School Day** and we urge everyone to get on two wheels or even three. Tuesday 12th June is a special occasion as we will be showing the Kildare film premiere of ***WHY WE CYCLE*** in the Glenroyal Hotel at 8:00pm (see below).

## ***WHY WE CYCLE* - KILDARE FILM PREMIERE**

To the Dutch, cycling is as normal as breathing. They don't think about it, they just do it. The documentary 'Why we cycle' features professionals from a variety of disciplines and ordinary cyclists. The film reveals some obvious as well as *hidden effects* of cycling on people, society and communities and shows the potential transformation of prioritising people over cars. It presents a vision for a healthy and active town which Maynooth could emulate and complements the ongoing Maynooth Health Checks.

## **KILDARE CYCLING OFFICER**

Kildare County Council is in the process of employing a new road safety/cycling officer. The post requires the successful candidate to be able to drive - but not to be able to cycle which says a lot about the position of cycling in the Council.

## **I BIKE DUBLIN**

Cyclists are angry in Ireland and in other countries - not just with increasing fatalities but also with poor quality infrastructure and lack of enforcement of parking legislation. I BIKE DUBLIN was set up to take direct action to protect cyclists. They do this simply by standing along the white line at the edge of the cycle lane to stop encroachment by cars. Prominent locations where they have taken this action in Dublin include St. Andrews Street in Dublin city centre and Ranelagh and follows similar protests in the UK, the USA and France.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**



# MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES JUNE 2018



Climate change hasn't gone away you know! We were reminded of this recently when the former head of the European Commission's Directorate-General for Energy warned that failure to achieve targets in the period up to 2020 are "a ticking exchequer time bomb".

Furthermore, at a recent Irish wind energy conference, it was pointed out that if Ireland fails to meet climate change targets, the choice will be between multimillion euro fines or sending taxpayers' money abroad to purchase emissions and/or renewables rights from 2020.

## **WORLD BICYCLE DAY 3rd JUNE**

Finally, don't forget that the 3rd June has been nominated by the UN as World Bicycle Day. So celebrate the occasion by getting out for a spin.

This is against a backdrop of even more authorities realising that additional cars in urban areas is bad. Last month, Los Angeles [decided against](#) adding lanes to a freeway, an unexpected move in a city that has mistakenly thought for years that more lanes mean fewer traffic jams. Despite expenditure of \$1.6 billion on the expansion of Interstate 405 in Los Angeles and \$2.8 billion on expansion of Interstate 10 in Houston to 26 lanes, the difference in travel times has been marginal. In Germany, the highest court [ruled](#) that diesel cars could be banned from city centres to clean up the air. Meanwhile in Ireland, a decision by councillors in South East Dublin against a quietway show that Ireland is once again lagging behind.

*Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. Further information on meetings and activities is available on our website.*

*We are affiliated to Cyclist.ie, the Irish Cyclist Advocacy Network and through it to the European Cycling Federation.*