



MAYNOOTH CYCLING CAMPAIGN NOTES May 2024

Bike Week 2024

This year, Bikeweek runs from 11th to 19th May. Maynooth Cycling Campaign is working with Kildare County Council to present a series of events. The draft programme looks like this:

- 11th May 2:30pm Historical Cycle to Celbridge starting from Maynooth Harbour
- 14th May Maynooth Men's Sheds Royal Canal Greenway
- 15th-16th May Talk to Transition Year Pupils in Maynooth Post Primary School and Maynooth Community College
- 16th May Film Night MOTHERLOAD – film
- 19th May 2:30pm Family Cycle on Royal Canal Greenway starting from Maynooth Harbour

All events need to be confirmed in advance on the Bikeweek website at <https://www.transportforireland.ie/getting-around/by-bicycle/bikeweek/>.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign

Maynooth Cycling Campaign has been in existence since 2008 generally working in the background trying to promote increased cycling in Kildare. In recent months It has been considered how to be more effective in the future and has now made the decision to move to a fee paying membership model in line with other Irish cycle campaign groups. Unlike other Irish groups, however, it has also decided that, at present, its interests may be best served by remaining a local group rather than part of a national group. We will be organising a public meeting in May to decide on the issue. Look out for details!

Road Safety

The Garda Commissioner, Drew Harris, has reacted to public alarm about increasing road fatalities by directing An Garda Síochána to allocate a minimum of 30 minutes per shift to traffic duties. We think that this is an inadequate response to death on the roads. It is not credible that currently gardaí on duty have nothing to do for some 30 minutes. The question is if they are going to allocate 30 minutes to traffic duties, what will they be diverted from and should they prioritise minor traffic offences over more serious crimes?

Road Safety Authority

The Road Safety Authority recently appeared before an Oireachtas Committee. The Chief Executive, Sam Waide, was asked if they had ever made submissions on Part 8 Public

Consultations or Section 38 Notices for safer infrastructure. After a defeating silence, he did not answer the question. Campaign groups regularly make submissions on proposed transport infrastructure even if many are ignored by councils.

EU Targets on EVs

George Lee was on Morning Ireland discussing the lack of progress on achieving EU targets on the ownership of electric vehicle (EV).

The European Court of Arbitrators reported that Europe's ability to source the raw materials posed a threat to the provision of electric vehicles (EVs) on the scale required to reduce CO2 emissions. As a result, Europe will be dependent on imports from China rather than European car manufacturers. It also found that there had been no reduction in CO2 emissions from new cars. While there were reductions due to more efficient engines, the reductions were offset by 10% bigger cars and 25% heavier car batteries.

Maynooth Cycling Campaign is a non-party political cycling advocacy group. If you wish to join us, email us at maynoothcycling@gmail.com . Further information on the campaign is available on our website.