



NEWSLETTER - WINTER 2014 / 2015

Another Action-Packed Year!

As the *Champion and Voice for Cyclists in Dublin*, we have done Trojan work in 2014 to keep cycling centre-stage.... And this all done as a 100% voluntary body! The following gives but a flavour of activities this year...

- Launch of 'Dublin Cycling Stories' films
<https://www.youtube.com/user/CyclingCampaign>
- Monthly meetings on topical issues
<http://www.dublincycling.ie/events/archive>
- Monthly e-newsletter going out to ~ 2000 recipients
<http://www.dublincycling.ie/cycling/newsletters>



- Events such as: St. Patrick's Day Parade cycle, Conference & AGM of the European Cyclists' Federation, National Seminar on Cycle Funding (April), Bike Show presence (May), Bike Week Festival (June), Electric Picnic Bicycle Space (Sept), Mobility Week talk with Ciaran Cuffe (Sept), PARK(ing) Day (Sept), Halloween Cycle (Oct)...
- Regular media coverage (national newspapers, radio and TV)
- Regular meetings with Local Authorities (Officials/engineers and Councillors) including a very fruitful meeting with Owen Keegan, Dublin City Manager which agreed on advancement of the Cycle Officer post (to be filled in 2015) & new Cycle Promotion campaigns.
- Meetings (through Cyclist.ie) with national bodies: Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport, National Transport Authority, HSE etc.
- Meetings with engineering consultants to prompt them to "think bike" when designing schemes. Much of this happens behind the scenes. This is bearing fruit with higher quality designs for cyclists!

Great News from Fingal !

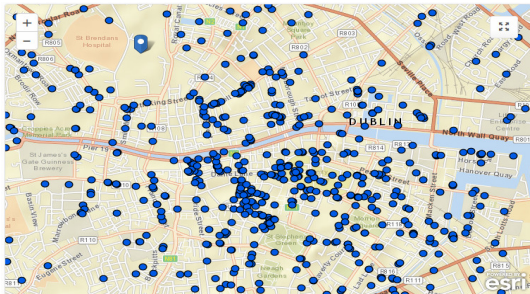
Fingal Co Co have earmarked €100,000 for 2015 for the Broadmeadow Way (image above – a route running directly from Malahide to Donabate alongside the rail line), ditto for 2016 and €4,000,000 (the actual build) for 2017. This will be HUGE for tourism but for utility cycling as well. Additionally, €400,000 has been agreed for the delivery of the long-awaited cycle track from Barnageeragh to Balbriggan (€250,000 in 2015 and €150,000 in 2016). This track will be a key element of the Fingal Coast & Castle Way tourism/utility cycling project we are promoting.

Tackling Bike Theft – Campaign Update

On the 6th of November we launched our “Tackling Bike Theft” campaign. Some key points:

- An estimated 20,000 bikes are stolen annually in Dublin – that’s far higher than the 4,500 figure *reported stolen*.
- Less than 1 in 100 thefts result in a conviction.
- Cyclists need to use better locks and ALWAYS REPORT THEFTS.

We also launched our on-line survey to learn about locations of theft & effects on cycling habits. In just two weeks, we had an astonishing 1,500 replies!!! The image below shows some theft locations (as of 21st Nov). Initial analysis shows that 1 in 6 theft victims did not replace their bike, while 1 in 4 stolen bikes had been purchased originally on the Bike-to-Work scheme.



“Huge Reaction from Dublin Cyclists”

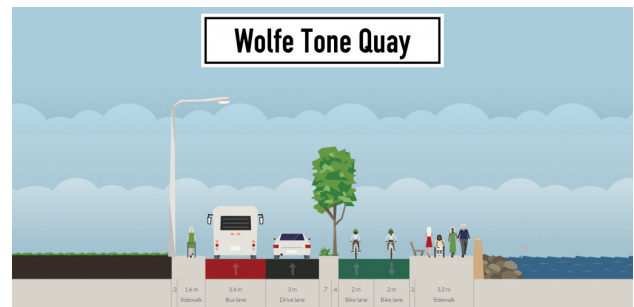
All stakeholders (bike shops, websites, Gardaí etc.) seem willing to tackle the issue but experience abroad tells us that for effective action, a state run body is needed to co-ordinate the work. We have written to Minister for Transport Paschal Donohue requesting a meeting, but in the meantime, we will be working through Dublin City’s Cycle Forum.

The HUGE reaction to our campaign shows that we have touched a raw nerve among cyclists. Many respondents said they are interested in helping out. The survey is open till 31st Dec. If you have had a bike stolen in past 5 years, click on this link and then scroll down to survey link: www.dublincycling.ie/AvoidTheThief. Share on Facebook, Twitter & other channels.



Out & About in Dublin!

One of our members (Miren) bumped into this cyclist & her doggie last week. Email us with your favourite bicycling pics!



News from Dublin City

2014 has been a stop-start year in the city: there was great progress on some fronts, but a major hiatus occurred mid-year with the hosting of the local elections. This meant that the Cycle Forum did not meet for 7 months! So, what is now happening on the ground? Here’s a flavour:

- Rosie Hackett bridge opened for bicycles, pedestrians and public transport only!
- Rialto local project completed but with reservations about cyclist provision
- Final construction at *Cat & Cage* in Drumcondra delayed due to land ownership issues
- Construction of the contra-flow at the ‘Bleeding Horse’ pub has finally commenced! We’ve been lobbying on this issue since the mid-1990’s!!
- The new bike/pedestrian walkway at Newcomen Bridge and the construction of the S2S section at Dollymount will commence in 2015.

While we have been very disappointed with the City’s engagement with our campaign to have the 10 worst junctions in Dublin tackled (<http://www.dublincycling.ie/cycling/10worst>), the proposed construction of the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) routes through the city centre looks set to address many of these problem locations.

As we go to print here, we are submitting detailed comments on the Swords to City BRT (<http://www.nationaltransport.ie/consultations/public-consultation-on-swiftway-bus-rapid-transit-swordsairport-to-city-centre/>). This scheme will definitely have major implications for cycling, some potentially very positive, but in other places it represents a threat to safe cycling.

Major “Part 8” planning consultations on Royal and Grand Canals, Clontarf to City Centre, and pre-planning consultations on Liffey Cycle Route (see image) will commence early 2015.

Watch this space for more news!

News from South Dublin

Our new sub-group focusing on South Dublin issues had its first success with the appointment of DCC member Mairéad Forsythe (pictured) to the South Dublin County Council (SDCC) *Transportation Strategic Policy Committee*. Following a meeting between Mairéad and Liz Hickey (also from DCC) and Eddie Taaffe (Director of Land Use, Planning & Transportation), we submitted a list of the worst junctions in SDCC. We are now following up on these closely.



We recently made submissions on planned cycle routes from Tallaght to Templeogue and the N81 (Fortunestown to N82). If properly designed and constructed, these will be a great boon for cyclists. We also submitted comments on the South Dublin Development Plan, stressing the potential for ‘green’ tourism and greenway development, the importance of sport and recreation and the need for “mixed-use” development in town centres. The Dodder Greenway is now taking shape with the construction of a bridge at Oldbawn (as pictured). This route has great commuting, tourism and leisure potential. We will be monitoring plans closely to ensure that our needs are properly catered for. A new cycle route from the National Basketball Arena to Castletymon also opened recently.



During 2015 we will be pushing hard for the setting up of a *Cycle Forum* and appointment of a Cycling Officer in South Dublin. These are essential to ensure the growth of cycling among all age groups. Contact Mairéad at maireadmforseythe@gmail.com if you'd like to help out on SDCC issues.



Strengthening Links with CycleNation UK & CTC

Irish campaigners were well represented at the conference of [Cyclenation UK](#) and [CTC](#) as hosted by [London Cycling Campaign](#). Irish delegates included Dr. Mike McKillen (Chair of Cyclist.ie), Damien Ó Tuama (National Cycling Coordinator, Cyclist.ie / An Taisce), Michael McKenna (Skerries Cycling Initiative), Alita Rivera (Dublin Cycling Campaign) and David O'Brien. We heard lots about the “Space for Cycling” campaign. Can we or should we replicate it here? To read the full report, go to: <http://cyclist.ie/2014/11/collaborations-with-colleagues-in-cyclenation-uk-ctc-and-london-cycling-campaign/>



The West Welcomes Public Bikes

Cyclist.ie is delighted that a public bike scheme is up and running in Galway and that new schemes will soon be launched in Limerick and Cork. We sincerely hope that they will be at least as popular as the Dublin Bikes scheme is and prompt more non-cyclists to take cycling... and then buy their own bikes!



NEXT MEETINGS:

- Mon 12th Jan
 - Mon 9th Feb
 - Mon 9th March
- All welcome!!

Gift Membership of the Campaign!

For a Christmas present with a difference, buy the gift of campaign membership! For €20 the recipient will receive a T-shirt, LED lights and a Cycling Rewards Card giving discounts at 40+ cyclist friendly businesses.

Gift memberships are available at our Christmas Party – or else send a cheque (with recipient's name, address, email, and T-shirt size) to Dublin Cycling Campaign, c/o An Taisce, Tailors' Hall, Back Lane, Dublin 8, by 12/Dec.

More Party Details here:

<http://www.dublincycling.ie/events/christmas-party-2014> A big thanks to Phil Murray from Irish band *Glimmermen* for the poster!
<http://glimmermen.bandcamp.com/>

Want to Come on a Cycling Adventure to Nantes in May / June 2015!?



Velo-city, the world's largest cycling planning conference takes place in Nantes in 2015. Delegates from Dublin Cycling Campaign and Cyclist.ie have attended and presented at *Velo-city* for 15+ years, thus enabling us to keep abreast of the latest developments in cycling planning and policy. In late May/early June, we plan to cycle from Dublin (and perhaps Cork!?) to Nantes. We'll travel by ferry to Cherbourg where we'll meet cycling delegates from CycleNation UK and CTC, and then cycle en mass to Nantes. An additional option is to hop on the train for some of the trip from Cherbourg to Nantes, depending on people's schedules and fitness levels! If you are interested in joining us (even if you do not propose to attend the conference), come along to our Christmas party for a chat or else drop a line to damien.tuama@antaisce.org. See also <http://www.velo-city2015.com/>

Time to renew your DCC membership? On the label of the envelope in which your newsletter arrived is the date you last paid membership as per our records. Please renew if this date is more than a year old! <http://www.dublincycling.ie/join>