

Day 3

Finally got a real breakfast in a hotel as departure time today was 9 30. Previous day was toast and cereal in Killarney as we were in at 6am and nothing else was ready. Sun was out this morning but it was still a bit windy and not too warm. Not really a complaint after yesterday. A lot of very tired and sore bodies after the incredible efforts of yesterday. But still everyone was up and rearing to go. There's a rumour going around that 2 individuals did not actually finish the route yesterday and ended up putting their bikes in the van at lunchtime and had a Netflix afternoon, further investigation required !!

Today was the second longest day ,ended up at 144km. We rolled out of Oranmore right on time and headed for Shrule ,just across the Mayo border where Micheál Mullin (M2M treasurer)is from ,it was a sunny morning and all the picnic tables outside were covered with food for us when we arrived. Much more than we all could eat. Big thank you to the Mullins of Shrule from Kilmacud Crokes. I do the lotto every week for 2 of my friends, Pat Halpin and Kevin Coakley, who are on the trip with me. Wouldn't it be ironic if the treasurer's brother made millionaires out of us.

Unfortunately we had our first fall this morning, in Shrule. Kevin Coakley and Analise were sitting on one of the picnic tables and when Kev lifted his 16 stone up off the seat Analise's end collapsed to the footpath along with her !! Cut on her arm and a lot of fuss putting bandage on it. But Analise said "sure I got bigger cuts emptying the dishwasher" !!

From here we all headed to Clairmorris for lunch after 62km cycling. Great grub in a local hotel who's name I can't remember but it was lovely. Here we were joined by Pat(The King) Conlon who was supposed to be part of the cycle but got injured a few weeks previously. Massive reception for him and rightly so.

I know I said before on these reviews that maybe I "bend" the truth a little bit but what happened next is really true. After my little rant yesterday about ladies loo's I actually ended up in one today, accidentally. Pat Rowley told me the toilet was the first door on the right and trusting her that's where I went. When I got inside it definitely was slightly different but I thought maybe the urinals were around the corner so I just jumped into a cubical, I immediately realised what I'd done when I heard 2 female voices enter the toilet...shit.. what do I do ? I waited a while but they weren't moving so I eventually just had to emerge from the cubical Frances Mullin was not impressed !! I did my apologies and left. On the plus side I now see what all the fuss about the ladies loo's is about...much cleaner,much smellierand a lot more room !! That really is true,thank God I wasn't wearing a Crokes Jersey today as I'd probably be on crime line this week.

Anyway,back to the cycling. From Clairmorris we headed off down the famous N17,very busy road but had a wide hard shoulder to protect us from all the traffic. We flew along for 30 k to Charlestown where we stopped for ice cream . I'd arranged to call to my brother in laws new pub in Ballisadare which was close to Sligo. Barrie in our group wasn't happy with a stop so close to our final destination but I told him we were going anyway. When we got to the pub my brother in law completely ignored me and said Jaysus Barrie,what are you doing here ?? Turned out they were in school together, small world !!

Quick spin from here to Sligo and finish 7pm much easier than yesterday.

Looking forward to tomorrow, 110km up to Letterkenny and we'll be within touching distance of Malin Head !!

Unusual request from one of the female members of the group "could we please not be last tomorrow " Now actually we have been the last group in every day,hadn't the heart to tell her it's because of all the fecken loo stops.
Ok off to sleep !! Goodnight.

Donie