

Day 5

Well we made it !!

What an incredible 5 days, 54 people cycling from the bottom of our little country to the top...thank God its a little country !!

Apart from Analise's little fall of the bench in Shrulwe we had no accidents. This was our greatest fear for the trip,moving that many people,on bikes,on open roads for that distance and trying to keep them safe. Fair play to all our cyclists for their caution and awareness which made it another great success!! Probably should mention the group leaders too but modesty prevents me !!

General opinion from some of the veterans is that it was the toughest by far. We didn't get wet too often but the Northerly wind played a huge part,especially on day 2 when we cycled over 200km. Having said that I have to say I really enjoyed it,probably my best M2M. I kinda lost interest in cycling after the last one and found it really hard to motivate myself for this one. Which probably isn't great for the guy on the committee who's responsible for the overall training. I did the minimum training and reckoned I'd just about make it. So none of the madness that group 1 do and back to group 3 for me. I loved every minute of it !! Same distance just a slower pace,which makes such a difference. Stepping up to be a leader was tricky because I never really knew the routes as I just followed the lads and enjoyed the spin. But to be honest it distracted me from my lack of fitness and worked out really well.

So Sunday morning we all headed out of Letterkenny at 8 30,cycled 38km to Buncrana for a coffee and scone and then on to Malin village, 13km from Malin head. All the groups met up here and under the excellent stuardship of Liam o Carroll we headed for Malin head.

Really steep ascent but everyone made it, loads of photos and then back down to The Sea Tavern,4km away where our bikes were to be loaded into the lorry for the trip home and then obviously we went into The Sea Tavern !! An hour in there and a brilliant sing song before we loaded onto 2 busses back to Letterkenny. We had a lovely dinner there and a few speeches,then another great sing song. Arnie and William even gave a rendition of the song they were singing going up Molls Gap on day 1.

Few things I learned this trip;

Arnie is a great surgeon but not a great singer.

Ladies loo's are definitely cleaner than ours.

Training isn't as important as I thought.

Shrulwe still haven't had a lotto winner.

Denis could easily join Group 1,if he'd just stop talking.

Liam o Carroll is my hero.

I always say this but another M2M has been a fantastic success, I haven't had a minute to myself since last Tuesday night and I've loved every bit of it. What has been done by all the people Involved is going to help people who really need it and that's what's important. Few lads saying "never again"

I'll have to think about it myself !!

This all has been done for a great charity and a great GAA club so please don't be shy about clicking on the link at the top.

Till the next one, slán,

Donie.