**A trip on the Wild Atlantic Way**

By Pat Kilboy 2018

I cycled the Wild Atlantic Way recently, with some friends from the Cuchulainn Cycling Club in Dundalk. We began in Kilkee, Co Clare and finished in Rosses Point, Co Sligo. The plan was to do 100k each day and thus hotels were booked at intervals  in Oranmore, Clifden, Westport, Belmullet, Enniscrone and Rosses Point. The President of the club and his wife drove the club van as support and baggage transfer each day, and to reconnoitre coffee stops en route. We were blessed with the weather.

Everyone took away their own gorgeous  memories from the trip. For me it was arriving at the top of the Corkscrew Hill and being gobsmacked by the panorama before me - the bare limestone burnen with the dry valley between stretching down to Ballyvaughan and Galway Bay. The bleak, uninhabited boglands of North Mayo, and a scraggy ewe suckling it’s lamb in the middle of the road also set me thinking. Fro some of my buddies it was jumping into the sea at Rosses Point when the long trick was over.

Some of my family want to do this trip with me next year (well maybe not 100k per day) and I’m looking forward to it already. If we get the weather.



