

# Campaign Spokes



## The Summer Event: The Teddy Bike Picnic

I'm sure the Teddy Bike Picnic, which happened on a wet Sunday afternoon on July 18th was fun for many people. Personally I had a five-star hangover. I'd crawled along as a gesture of solidarity, with my second-best bear riding shotgun on my carrier, offering mute sympathy and wincing silently as his unpadded rear took the full force of the potholes.



We met at the Central Bank in a seasonable drizzle, decked out in painfully (to my eyes) bright rain gear and toting bagfuls of goodies. The original plan was to head out along the new cycle path/QBC in Amiens Street, into Fairview Park and out along the Clontarf cycle route to Howth. As the rain got worse, this plan was abbreviated to Dollymount. And as the rain got even worse, it was further abbreviated, and switched inland to St Anne's Park and the shelter of the trees.

So if you'd gone down to the woods that day, you'd have been sure of a big surprise. Bikes, bears, adults, kids, sandwiches and chocolate digestives, frisbees and a curious squirrel, all cavorting under the

umbrella of a grove of beech trees (yours truly sitting miserably on a log negotiating a flask of tea and trying to find her way into a Bister Kiplik Exceedingly Good Cake). They tell me it was a good afternoon: everyone except me certainly seemed to be enjoying themselves.

The aim, of course, besides having a bit of crack, was to get a large group of cyclists out on the public roads so that we were visible and so that motorists see us. And we'd also hope that some of the people walking from place to place, or taking the bus, or driving, would see bicycles and realise that they could be cycling too. The bears, of course, are optional.

*Rachel Vaughan*

## Locked Out

Apologies to anyone who wanted to come to the August monthly meeting but couldn't find it. When members arrived at the City Arts Centre they were met with bolted and locked doors. We did have the room booked as usual, so we have no idea why the building was closed. In the end the meeting took place in Scanlon's, on the corner of Moss Street - the Campaign is trying to establish what the problem with the City Centre was.

## Fame at last!

RTE hopes to do a piece on its *Open House* programme shortly, about bikes, bus lanes and QBCs. Anyone with ideas or who is interested in getting involved should contact the DCC secretary, Damien O Tuama, on 087 2840799 or contact him via the campaign (details on back page.)

Do it soon.

