

# BOYLE RIVER NEWS

FROM KAY BAXTER



Boyle River members ready for the off in the Toughest Muckers challenge. Back (l-r): Alan Burke, David Eustace, Paul Morton, David O'Dowd. Front (l-r): Laureen O'Dowd, Nina Eustace, Tania King. Photo: Oisín O'Dowd

## BOWLING CHALLENGE

What a busy end to the season! On the 27 September we had the by now legendary bowling challenge with Carrick on Shannon. Unfortunately we didn't manage to retain the trophy, which was won by a talented and deserving Carrick team but our treasurer, Eileen Taylor, did us proud by winning the Ladies competition for the second time. Our thanks to IWAI Carrick on Shannon for hosting the event and particularly to Johnny and Mary Loftus.

The October Bank Holiday Weekend again saw us join forces with Carrick, this time for the Cruise in Company to Dromod. As ever it was very well

organised and very enjoyable, so much thanks to Peter and Ruth from *Fusspot* for all their hard work as commodores.

## TOUGHEST MUCKERS

To complete the season a squad of our members took part in the second Toughest Muckers challenge this year in Lough Key Forest and Activity Park. On a wet and cold November morning they ran 10K while at the same time completing over 20 challenging obstacles. They crawled through mud, waded through water, scaled walls and ran up the viewing tower plus much more, all in the name of fun. So congratulations to David and Nina Eustace, David and Laureen O'Dowd, Paul Morton,

Tania King and Alan Burke – tough doesn't begin to describe you all.

## OTHER NEWS

It was with much delight that we heard funding has been put in place for the development of a 27km cycle track from Lough Key Forest and Activity Park to Boyle. At the time of going to print we don't have details yet of the route or the timescale for completion, but this will be a very welcome addition to the already great amenities at Lough Key Marina. For those of you who like to cycle but don't want the bother of bringing your bikes on your boat, you can avail of bike hire in Lough Key Forest Park from Electric Bike Trails. They have electric bikes, regular bikes, children's bikes, tandems, carts and child seats available for half day or full day hire. Watch this space for more details next year.

## UPDATE

Unfortunately there is little progress to date in relation to the proposal to re-open the canal at Drumman's Island for use by small craft. We understand that both Waterways Ireland and Roscommon County Council are keen to progress this project. However as Coillte own this facility, progress depends on them completing an Environmental Impact Assessment and giving permission for the works. At the time of going to print, we have not received any update from Coillte.

## 60TH ANNIVERSARY BOOK

The IWAI 60th Anniversary Book was launched in October. This beautiful and interesting history of the Association was compiled by Brian Cassells and would make a lovely Christmas gift for anyone with an interest in the waterways. It will be available to buy at our AGM for the very reasonable price of €15.

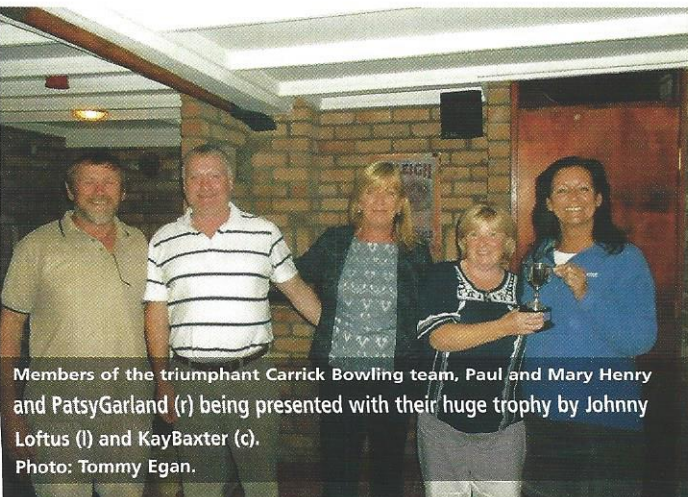
## THANK YOU

First of all, thank you to committee members Eileen Taylor, Catriona Gately and Kevin Regan for their work and support throughout 2014. Thanks also to all the other members who helped out throughout the year at various activities, in particular David Taylor, Brendan McLoughlin and Assumpta Doherty. Thanks must also go to our hostelry owners and members Carthy's Bar Leitrim, The Moorings Knockvivar, Ging's Cortober and Tara Marina Bar & Restaurant Knockvivar for their hospitality throughout 2014.

## AGM

The Boyle River AGM will be taking place on 15 November at 8.30pm in The Moorings, Knockvivar.

If we haven't seen you at the AGM, we wish all our members a Merry Christmas and safe and peaceful New Year.



Members of the triumphant Carrick Bowling team, Paul and Mary Henry and Patsy Garland (r) being presented with their huge trophy by Johnny Loftus (l) and Kay Baxter (c). Photo: Tommy Egan.



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