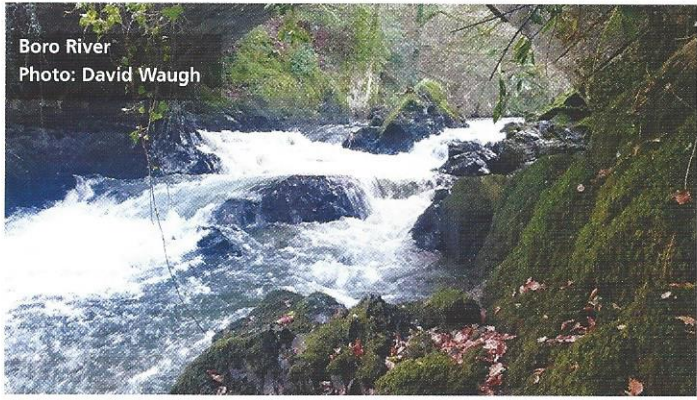




# SLANEY SNIPPETS

FROM BRIAN COULTER & CATHERINE MALONE



Boro River  
Photo: David Waugh

## BORO FOREST AND RIVER WALK

Last November, the branch organised a walk on the Boro, a beautiful tributary of the Slaney. The walk started with an examination of the 13th century Anglo-Norman Ringwork Castle of Dunaanore which is sited at a great height above the river. Wexford archaeologist Colm Moriarty explained the construction and showed us the remains of early buildings on the fort.

Some members took the gentle 0.5km walk on the S bank but the more energetic walked the delightful 1km path through deciduous woods leading to the head-race of Kilcarbry Corn Mill. From here there is a lovely walk back along the edge of the gentle millrace to where it meets the Boro River. The river itself is much more rapid and exciting as the photograph shows. The path was very good for most of the way but unfortunately, recent floods have damaged it very badly near the end but we traversed it rather than return the way we came. We had a picnic at the car park just beside the Ring Fort.

## IWAI SPONSOR OPTIMIST

Wexford Harbour Boat & Tennis Club is very pro-active in promoting junior sailing and, to this end introduced a new level of 'Cara na Mara' in 2014 aimed at 7-9 year olds. They set out to obtain some Club Optimists to encourage the younger members to get involved. IWAI saw this as



Ciana Cummings in the Optimist  
Photo: Noel Reddy

an opportunity to introduce juniors to the water and maybe enlist their parents into the IWAI. It was agreed that Slaney IWAI would 'sponsor' a boat which would carry the IWAI Logo. Fred Crampton sourced three Optimists for us, one of which we sponsored and the other two were sold to other sponsors. This proved to be a great success and we are delighted to see Ciana Cummings enjoying learning to sail in the IWAI boat.

## 2014 AGM

The 2014 AGM was held on 10 January 2015 – the 25th for the branch. There was a good attendance of 22 members and the Chairman was particularly delighted to welcome 6 new members who had joined during the year, adding a 'younger' dimension to the branch!! He reported on his first year as Chairman and how he had taken it on with a certain amount of trepidation as membership seemed to be dying; however he



Slaney walkers  
Photo: Fred Crampton

said he had really enjoyed and appreciated the support he had received from the former Chairman and the Committee in getting in new members, exploring our waterways and trying out new ideas. The branch had become much more interesting and active during the year. The Secretary reported on the activities during 2014 and the Treasurer reported on the good financial standing of the branch. Brian Coulter was unanimously re-elected as Chairmen; Catherine Malone, Secretary and John Tully, Treasurer. Following the meeting, we had our usual very enjoyable post-Christmas Party celebrating 25 years of Slaney IWAI.

## NEW YEAR 2015

Branch member David Dempsey generously invited the entire membership to his beautiful home at Polehore House on the banks of the Slaney. The

intention was to travel by boat and moor at his jetty, but a winter gale dictated that we travel by road. We enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of hospitality from David & Bernie – which they hope might become an annual event.

## JANUARY WALK

While most of the country was enduring snow, we had a wonderful walk along the Slaney River from Enniscorthy to Scarawalsh in lovely mild Sunny South East Weather!! The riverside walk is well maintained, hard-core surfaced for the first 200m. The next 5km consists of paths through pasture with stiles provided at the fences. It was a great way to start the New Year. We enjoyed a great 'Burns' Day picnic – compliments of Sue and Fred Crampton, who provided Haggis, Scotch Broth and Scottish Music to complete the day.



Visit to Polehore House  
Photo: Eddie Malone