

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **BLACKLION**
County : **CAVAN**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	22
The Built Environment	40	21
Litter Control	40	25
Tidiness	20	11
Residential Areas	30	12
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21
General Impression	10	5
TOTAL MARK	300	162

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Blacklion is very welcome to the competition, it is heartening to see a border town responding so quickly to the new situation. Your adjudicator honestly hopes that the opportunities remain for your progressive community. It is essential to the Tidy Towns Competition that a good plan is made. You have already very excellent foundations to do well in this competition, use this report as the basis for setting your agenda for next year. As a independent, objective observation of the problems within your community it can be used in a non - partisan way to get the support of everyone in the community. If you can afford it have a professional develop a full plan for the town and the rewards will come your way.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is an area which with the beauty of the Florence Court Road with the hills behind your town and with the river meandering under Belcoo Bridge that you can get extra marks in. Identify an area within walking distance of the town, put in place a simple walk with information packs on the ecology, geology and wildlife to be seen as you take this path.

LANDSCAPING

The town itself was very well presented with baskets and window boxes in lovely array. A number of areas offer opportunity for further landscaping. The Golf Club entrance on the Sligo Road, the junction with the Sligo Cavan Road and the high bank opposite the Tourist Office would be an excellent spot for planting.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Health Centre was very well presented and the Tourist Office was most attractive, well done on that! Maguire's Pub and Johnston's Shop were also noted as were a number of other traditional shopfronts in the village. These are little jewels and must be kept in harmony with your village. Regrettably the Sean Timoney buildings both on the Sligo and Florence Court Road, need to be removed!

LITTER CONTROL

The village presented very tidily on the day of adjudication and for this you are to be congratulated.

TIDINESS

This is an amalgam of all that is good about the community and you have scored reasonably well on it. A number of things are detracting from the overall air of tidiness - the derelict buildings already remarked upon, the stone building on the corner of the Belcoo Bridge. With a little effort you can score much better here. If you cannot solve these dereliction problems then brighten them with paint, with infilling the windows with panels etc., this could be a witty response rather than a practical one to the derelict area.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The Lakeview Estate was very, very pleasant and the houses on the Florence Court Road were very well presented, the Riverview Estate likewise was nicely done. Marion Crescent could have been better, especially the public areas in front and the railings around them which badly needed painting. A derelict site beside the Methodist Church is a problem. The ivy could be cleaned off the walls on the Methodist Church to expose the lovely stone work that is lying underneath it. Nonetheless, the residential areas overall are well presented and for this you are to be congratulated.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads were reasonably well presented. The very lengthy Sligo entrance was well maintained, the Florence Court and Cavan Roads could have been a little better maintained. Nonetheless, for a community your size, it was quite an achievement to have them in the condition they were in.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Blacklion has the infrastructure and the vernacular architecture to do very well within this competition. Clearly there is good community spirit already in place and if you put in place a plan that would set the agenda for all, success will come further your way. Best wishes in the years to come.