

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **DOOCHARY**  
County : **DONEGAL**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 22-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12
Landscaping	40	25
The Built Environment	40	32
Litter Control	40	30
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20
General Impression	10	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>192</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Doochary again has made a good showing in the competition. It is very obvious that you have the full support of the majority of the community - this will stand you in good stead in your efforts to achieve ultimate success. This adjudicator would like the Tidy Towns committee to produce a 3 - 5 year action plan which will chart your work programme and influence greater co-operation from statutory bodies. You have achieved much in the past 2 years of participation and attention to detail is now of priority. Well done.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Doochary has a quality environment and the river area has tremendous potential for development under this heading. Give priority to a river walk and signpost such attractions and habitats, fish pools, picnic areas, viewing points etc. Such an amenity of high value will provide endless recreational opportunities. However, a word of warning - the level of recreational activities in the area of the river must be controlled at all times to protect the habitats and great natural beauty. A survey of the river may be necessary to identify wildlife habitats and what species of animals, birds etc. these attract - make this a project for next year. It may be necessary to seek expert advice in this regard if the knowledge is not available locally. For further advice as to how you should progress under this heading please refer to page 12 of the Tidy Towns brochure.

### LANDSCAPING

The reclaimed open space beside McDermotts Garage is developing well - the picnic areas sheltered by the stone walls will be very much in demand when work is finished - the location is excellent, beside the river and pub! and convenient to all facilities in the village. The picnic area at the foot of Corkscrew Hill was presented well this year with the flower baskets a striking feature. The seating and table at the cottages were also eye catching with the Endeavour Award Plaque - a reminder of your early success in the competition - Well done. The village has a neat and most colourful presentation with flower beds, hanging baskets, window boxes and tubs on display throughout. You have performed very well under this heading and marks have been awarded accordingly.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The adjudicator was highly impressed with the presentation of buildings and the streetscape in general. The use of white paint was extensive and has done much to brighten up the village with a freshness that is eye catching. The Church, Hanlons Dispensary, Garda Station and Riverside Bar (replace the protruding neon sign) all looked well. Do screen the caravans behind Hanlons Lounge - they are unsightly. The wooden fencing is now an established feature of Doochary and will require regular maintenance to retain impact. The Ice House was tidily presented and if purchased will be a great historical asset to the community. Give consideration to providing an information plaque to facilitate visitors. The built environment has a strong rating in your overall performance - congratulations.

### LITTER CONTROL

Litter control has improved again this year - despite a very limited number of bins in place. Seek the support of your Local Authority in providing new and as far as possible maintenance free litter bins. Incidental litter on the Churchill Road where dumping on the river bank was noted, otherwise Doochary was litter free on adjudication day.

### TIDINESS

The overall presentation of Doochary was one of a clean and tidy village. However, please improve the presentation of open spaces, back areas and boundary walls. The adjudicator has taken into

consideration your comments regarding the few derelict buildings which are hindering your progress under this heading. Your Fas workers are making a valuable contribution - congratulations to all.

#### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

All private houses and cottages were presented well - most of them freshly painted with decorative floral displays. The cottage group scheme in the centre of the village is eye catching - the environmental feature and colourful gardens enhance considerably the overall presentation. Also deserving of special mention are the cottages opposite the Church and the house beside the health centre. Congratulations to all - you are committed to the Tidy Towns objective. An excellent performance under this heading.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Fintown approach looked well - good road surface, line marking etc. - a nice introduction to the village. However, Churchill and Dungloe Roads are untidy in appearance. Corkscrew Hill is poorly presented - untidy lay byes and broken boundary walls. This lay by is a valuable amenity with a panoramic view of the village, river and hills - it has a high amenity value and should be presented as such. Picnic tables - extended car parking should be included in any plans to upgrade. The open space at McDermotts has improved - a lot more work is required. You must maintain verges and boundary areas on a regular basis and ensure that signposting is clean and legible.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

You have a good working relationship with the community and your Fas scheme is proving successful. Do give consideration to the recommendations in this report and congratulations on your endeavour award last year. Progress to date is impressive - good luck with your future efforts.