

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CLOGH**  
County : **KILKENNY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	22
The Built Environment	40	21
Litter Control	40	28
Tidiness	20	12
Residential Areas	30	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>181</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is good to read in the answers to the questionnaire that you are in contact with the County Council Village Renewal Team. Have you made use of the FAS youth employment scheme, which is so beneficial to young people and to their communities in many places? The Clogh Profile is impressive; such a plan can be very helpful to a Tidy Towns Committee in identifying projects to be pursued on a priority basis, rather than trying to make improvements in a great number of areas all at the same time. The proposals shown on the map will be eagerly looked forward to as completed projects over the years, and should greatly enhance the village, which, as some of the comments below will show, needs attention under a number of headings. When providing your map in Section D of the questionnaire next year, please be sure to point out which projects have been completed since this year's competition.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your committee does not appear to be active under this new heading. A nominal mark will be given in the first year.

### LANDSCAPING

There appeared to be little work undertaken over the past year. There is room for more tree-planting in towns or villages, whether in private property or along approach roads: a start could be made on your approach roads.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The charming old Church is very well maintained in its most attractive setting. The thatching (considered here as an essential element in the Built Environment of Clogh, as well as under Residential) is remarkable, and congratulations are due to the owners and to the thatchers employed. The school frontage is marred - this may have been pointed out before - by the cement block wall which ill accords with the original stone; but the building itself is well kept, and window-boxes added liveliness and colour at the time of adjudication. Kavanagh's, Somers and Joyce's looked very good indeed - the painted lettering, outdoor seating and nearby stonework of the latter was much admired. Unfortunately there are several examples of dereliction.

### LITTER CONTROL

There was a surprising amount of litter in verges and hedgerows on the Portlaoise and Carlow roads, and also in places near the centre of the village.

### TIDINESS

Unfortunately some private properties detract from the generally tidy look of the village - no need to point out which ones they are, as it is obvious. Discourage post-and-wire fencing as it is difficult to keep free of weeds. Discourage corrugated iron roofs, as they are very difficult to keep from rusting. There was extensive weed growth in a number of prominent places.

### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most of Clogh is residential. There are some very well looked after houses with pleasant gardens, and some excellently presented farms. A few houses, particularly on the Portlaoise road, could do with some tidying-up of their frontages. The new houses near the Church entrance are of attractive design, very well suited to their village setting; grassing and floral displays were favourably noted. Thatched houses were again favourably noted under this heading.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Surfaces are generally good. Verges on the approach roads from all three directions were far from trim in many places - for example, the weedy corner opposite the "slow" sign on the Castlecomer road and many unkempt patches on either side of the Portlaoise and Carlow roads and there were some unsightly entrances on the Portlaoise road - but some farmyards abutting on the Portlaoise road were excellently presented. A ditch to the right of the new housing needs attention. Some of the village name signs and 30 MPH signs need repainting.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

An attractive village which at present falls short of its excellent potential. Implementation of the projects mentioned in the Clogh Profile should have a very favourable effect.