

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **GORESBRIDGE**  
County : **KILKENNY**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 16-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17
Landscaping	40	25
The Built Environment	40	22
Litter Control	40	30
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>192</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The description of ongoing projects on the entry form is impressive, and the number of national and local organisations providing co-operative assistance is very encouraging indeed. The FÁS scheme should prove mutually beneficial. Having been out of the Tidy Towns Competition for several years, it is inevitable that intentions outweigh achievements. With the energy and imagination evident from the remarks on the application form, you should do very well in the future. On your map, please mark the location of all sites referred to in your notes, and also the location of any projects completed during the previous twelve months.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

A nominal figure is being given under this heading in its first year, to committees which have not been able to initiate schemes immediately. Your Wildlife Walk by the Barrow is an excellent start, and the activities of the Fishing Club, as described, have been favourably noted. Your marking will be higher than average here this year.

### LANDSCAPING

Planting of a modest nature in public places was favourably noted. The landscaped area on the Gowran Road looked extremely well on adjudication day. Consider tree-planting on approach roads and in open spaces as a priority for the future. Roadside landscaping outside the Redmills premises seemed rather half-hearted. The green and seating area at the quayside is excellent, and it was good to see recent planting which will screen the rather drab wall.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

There are no buildings of exceptional architectural interest in Goresbridge, but both churches are handsome and well looked after (though there was extensive weed growth on the path at the Church of Ireland). The wall of the Convent could do with freshening up with paint. A stone warehouse with blocked-up windows in the centre of the village is very handsome - if the windows were rehabilitated it would take the "blind" look off the building. None of the business premises are of special quality, though the sign-writing on Frisby's is attractive.

### LITTER CONTROL

Very little litter was seen on adjudication day, except in grass verges on the approach from Royal Oak especially around the 30MPH sign, and in the open space at the housing estate on Barrowmount road.

### TIDINESS

Gowran is a reasonably tidy town. Wirescapes are particularly obtrusive as you look up the main street from the bridge. Discourage plastic and mass-produced signage, post-and-wire fences which are difficult to keep free of weeds, and exposed concrete block walls.

### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many street houses in the centre of the town are very well kept, some of them adorned with attractive window boxes. The terrace of fine stone cottages on Barrowmount Road is beautifully preserved, and is one of the most attractive features of Goresbridge. Infill housing (not shown on map) in Barrack street was very favourably noted, as was a small estate off this street, with its first rate paving and exposed stone walls, (there is an opportunity here for planting of creepers and ramblers, to soften the look of boundaries and new frontages). Cluain Mhuire estate is remarkable for its fine public lawn and planting of annuals. The estate on the Goresbridge Road was very well presented indeed on adjudication day,

with several attractive front gardens.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Verges of approach roads were reasonably trim on adjudication day. Road surfaces are adequate, except at Cluain Mhuire; excellent paving has been noted above at Barrack Street. A fine stone wall needs repair on Barrowmount Road. There are a number of unsightly entries and corners. The quayside, with its new slipway, is a first rate amenity; the view of the wonderful old bridge is a delight from this point. The industrial premises adjacent is in need of improvement, and unfortunately, detracts somewhat from the appearance of this impressive area.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

A pleasant town, with great potential which will undoubtedly be realised when the plans of this active committee go ahead.