

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLYROAN**  
County : **LAOIS**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14
Landscaping	40	25
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	33
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>191</b>

## **Adjudicator's Comments**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for the comprehensive reports. There is no need to provide more than can be entered on the questionnaire form, but your very detailed response is none the less interesting and useful. The fund raising activities are impressive, and it is encouraging to see so much co-operative effort with the Local Authority, FAS and the Job Opportunities programme. Your long-term plan will be eagerly awaited. Your map is particularly clear and helpful; always be sure to indicate all work done over the previous twelve months, even if uncompleted. (Marks cannot be given for projects described which have not been started, though it is good to be kept informed about them.)

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

An average mark is being entered where committees have not yet come to terms with this new heading.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The planting in the V between the Abbeyleix and Ballynakill roads was looking splendid on adjudication day. Tree planting is always advantageous - there can never be enough of it! The little stone-walled park at the southern end of the village is attractive - tree planting inside the wall might be considered as a future project.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Both churches are well kept, the grounds of the Catholic Church being particularly attractive this year. The GAA Hall is also well looked after. Sue Ryder House, praised by last year's adjudicator, remains exemplary. Business premises were generally well presented; Scully's, though spruce, was not entered for the national competition because it lacks the necessarily unique elements of design and craftsmanship.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was virtually no litter in Ballroan on adjudication day. Congratulations.

### **TIDINESS**

Absence of litter contributed significantly to the general sense of tidiness; there was also an almost complete absence of kerbside weeds. There are few unsightly signs and the poles and wirescape are not obtrusive.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Nice to see so many of the older street houses so neatly looked after, several of them with imaginative choice of colours. It is hoped that the remainder will follow suit.

### **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach roads were reasonably trim. The open site on the T-junction opposite the road to Spink was not well looked after; there was a reasonable attempt at planting on the right hand side but the left was very overgrown; this is a bleak area which gives an unfairly negative impression of Ballyroan to visitors arriving from the east side. Barrel litter-bins are attractive as well as effective. A truck park on the Spink road had its weeds effectively poisoned but dead weeds should be removed, as they can look as unpleasant as growing weeds. The post-and-wire fence near the school needs attention - this is a short-lived type of fencing.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A village of much charm, which is perceptibly improving.