

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **TOURNAFULLA**  
County : **LIMERICK**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 20-06-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	23
The Built Environment	40	27
Litter Control	40	26
Tidiness	20	11
Residential Areas	30	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>175</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Many thanks for your detailed responses to the questionnaire and map both of which were very helpful on Adjudication Day. You have obviously identified your local "problem areas" and with the work of your evidently dedicated committee of twelve you should have no problem tackling them. The plans for the town formulated by your Architect should be submitted with your entry to next year's Competition. The plans laid down in this document should give the community as a whole goals to achieve in the future and foster a pride in these accomplishments.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your obvious concern for the environment in terms of your tree planting programme is highly commendable. Wild foxgloves were noticed and admired by this adjudicator on the Abbeyfeale road. Perhaps the best approach to this issue of wildlife/natural amenities would be to contact local environmental groups and experts who could advise you and provide you with the information you need to tackle this broad-ranging issue. From there you can then identify the wildlife habitats of your area and see what varieties of animals, birds, fish and plantlife these attract. Involve the local schoolchildren in this project-they will hopefully bring a fresh enthusiasm for the wealth of wildlife in their locality.

### LANDSCAPING

The standard in this category was good, the dry stone surround to the flower bed at base of the road signs coming into Tournafulla on the Broadford road being especially admired. As was the floral and stone presentation beside the village pump and the attractive bed near the centre of the village. An attractive hedge with stone wall base was noted nearby. However, another planted bed to the road-sign further in from the Broadford road appeared to contain dead grass.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Both public and commercial premises within the town were reasonably well presented on Adjudication Day. The Co-op, coming into town, looked reasonably fresh, as did the Newsagent's. The Homestead Bar was also well presented, although the plastic sign should be replaced with a more traditional timber one, and the area around it looks rather desolate apart from the planted bed to the pump. Mc Geehans lounge bar looked slightly stained, but was in the process of being washed on Adjudication Day. The public buildings of the town were very fresh and well presented on the day. The church and its grounds looked immaculate, as did the post office. The school and grounds looked reasonably well, although some weeds were apparent at the base of the boundary wall. The old school house looks quite sad in its derelict state, it would be a great pity to miss the opportunity of restoring it to its former splendour. The Garda Station was the only public building to let the side down; it looked quite grubby as did its boundary wall. The G.A.A. grounds, in contrast, looked magnificent with its bright and colourful entrance area in a cream colour with green trim and stone boundary wall. However, the dead weeds at the base could be removed.

### LITTER CONTROL

Virtually no litter was visible in Tournafulla on Adjudication Day. However, some was apparent near the large tin roofed building mentioned in the next section of this report. All in all a good effort -congratulations to all concerned!

### TIDINESS

The town was generally neat and tidy in its presentation on the day. However, a few unsightly looking overgrown yard areas were worked - beside the school and one beside a large very grubby building with a tin roof. The latter also had a wealth of weeds and litter at its base, while a similar shed was also quite

weedy to its base. A couple of minor issues would be the staining to the perspex of the telephone box which always looks unfortunate. The main problem area would be that of the fish and chip van at the main junction in the centre of the village which looks very unsightly.

#### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses and gardens within the village itself and on the approach roads were presented to a high standard again this year. The attractive double fronted house with its bay windows and rhododendron filled garden was especially delightful. Another magnificent garden was spotted at a bungalow on the Broadford road with a colourful array of flowers. However its boundary wall could be freshened up before next year, as could a few more boundary walls along the length of the main road. Another garden which came in for admiration was that beside P.D. Mulcahys. The bright white cottage looked sparkling and a positive joy to behold. The weedy tarmacadamed area beside the bay-fronted Tudor-style house looked quite unsightly; however the colourful flower beds and fine rose-clad stone wall to the bungalow next door looked enchanting. The estates of the village were inconsistent in their presentation; the terrace of cottages on the Templeglantine/Abbeyfeale road bore evidence of graffiti, and the open space beyond was rather overgrown. However, Fr. McCarthy Terrace looked quite well, although some of the houses could be freshened up before next year's Competition.

#### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All of the roads within the village and along the approach roads were well presented, the Broadford road being especially admired for its wild sage and buttercups in the hedgerows. Although road signage was generally very fresh, the "yield" sign on the Abbeyfeale road should be washed.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

The long linear town of Tournafulla with its wealth of attractive stone walls is set against the magnificent backdrop of the Mountains. The committee is obviously a dedicated and enthusiastic one, keen to promote and improve the town. Try to foster more effort in the community as a whole, to maintain their own areas and to tackle problem areas such as untidy yards, unpainted outbuildings, boundary walls and last but by no means least the unsightly chip van which gives an extremely untidy impression of the village.