

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KNOCKCROGHERY**  
County : **ROSCOMMON**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	11
Landscaping	40	20
The Built Environment	40	16
Litter Control	40	21
Tidiness	20	9
Residential Areas	30	10
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21
General Impression	10	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>142</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for completing the entry form and for the accompanying sketch of the village. I acknowledge your letter of the 29th April. I can identify with your frustrations at the on going work being carried out, but the end result will surely mean a more attractive village. I am very pleased that you continued to take part in the competition even though your village is under major construction, it is very important not to lose the momentum of the competition. It would appear from last years report that the work being done in Knockcroghery is taking longer that what was originally planned. You must draw up your own plan highlighting what you think should take priority for your village and what work can be successfully achieved.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

It is good to note from your entry form that you are planning to designate an area at the railway station as a wildlife sanctuary. You should identify the wildlife habitats of your catchment area. Examine ways to make nature more accessible and enjoyable for people. You have many open spaces and green areas throughout and ensure that they are being utilized to their fullest advantage.

### LANDSCAPING

The picnic area looks very nice even though work was in progress on adjudication day. The new paths being constructed all along the village will look most attractive when completed. A little further down from the picnic area, there is some seating by the water, this area looks a little overgrown and under developed, perhaps it should be included in your overall development plan.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Butcher Shop could do with a fresh coat of paint, also some flower boxes would look nice here. The derelict house further up from the butcher shop is a bit of an eyesore. A good effort is made by the bed/breakfast house. Both the Chemist and O'Briens Bar could be better presented. The Claypipe Bar looks good, but the car park could be tidied up a little. Generally the business premises could be presented to a higher standard. The Community Centre tea rooms is nicely presented and the flower planting beside the phone box looks very nice. The Garda Barracks is well maintained. The Church and School grounds are well maintained but the boundary wall of the school should be painted.

### LITTER CONTROL

Given the amount of major roadworks taking place litter control was very good. It is good to see that you are involving the children in your clean up. Hopefully these children will be the tidy towns committee of the future.

### TIDINESS

It is difficult to comment on this section because of the on going works, but weed control and litter are well taken care of.

### RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most people have made a good effort to present their homes to a high standard. The use of hanging baskets and window boxes really adds great colour to any town or villages. Also there are some very well manicured gardens in some houses on the approach roads.

### ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Roscommon approach roads are well maintained. The flower bed here looks very nice, but the sign itself should be cleaned up. The "Welcome" sign is good and all the planting looks very nice. The road leading down to the Fair Green should be re-surfaced. The stone walls throughout are very attractive and the new footpaths when completed will be a great asset.

#### GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is most apparent that you are working closely with Roscommon County Council. I look forward to returning to Knockcroghery and seeing the completed works.

#### SECOND ADJUDICATION (09/08/96)

The village of Knockcroghery was undergoing major roadworks on the day of second adjudication. This had a bearing on the overall appearance of the town as obviously property owners are reluctant to undertake maintenance of their buildings until this work is complete. The neglected house diagonally opposite the butcher's looked most unfortunate as did another flaky house opposite the Fair Green. The charming Post Office was admired, particularly its handpainted sign which needs freshening. As did the school, in particular its very grubby boundary wall, which required weeding at the base. Individual efforts in terms of landscaping/floral displays were admired, in particular, the flower shop with its very attractive garden and abundance of hanging baskets and window boxes, the old national school/surgery with its lush window boxes and J.S. Murray's with its colourful hanging baskets, flower tubs and bench. The window stickers, however, give the latter a very cluttered appearance. The B&B was very fresh in appearance. The "Knockcroghery" flower bed needed tidying up, as it looked rather bare with just bark and no planting visible to the beds. The picnic area looked very well and was attractively presented.