

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **TERRYGLASS**
County : **TIPPERARY NORTH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24
Landscaping	40	33
The Built Environment	40	34
Litter Control	40	34
Tidiness	20	16
Residential Areas	30	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	34
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	300	246

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The very detailed map supplied with the application form made it extremely easy for the adjudicator to access all the relevant areas of the village. This type of attention to detail highlights the commitment of the Terryglass Tidy Towns Committee and indeed it is no surprise to see Terryglass constantly at the top of the ratings because of this. Once again as in other years the village has not alone sustained its high rating but in fact is ever improving. This is an example of a committee that has put the developmental approach ethos into practice. The support that is forthcoming from local organisations and individuals is an indication that they are pleased with the manner in which the committee is doing its job. There is also evidence of good co-operation with all statutory bodies. You can consolidate the good work already done by putting together a 3/5 year programme of work with achievable objectives prior to next year's competition, This will ensure just a little bit of fine tuning.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Terryglass would be the envy of many towns and villages in that it has such natural attractions available to it that make it a habitat haven for various types of wildlife: birds, fish, and insects as well non-domestic animals. Leaving aside the most obvious natural asset, the lake, the village also possesses a river and multitude of trees and hedgerows. Glad to see that there was reference to a little initiative being presently undertaken: the stocking of the river with wild ducks. The Harbour Area with its rush area and the area near the pond are two other possible sites for future projects. Expert advice is available from experienced conservationists who are familiar with the lake and its environs.

LANDSCAPING

The most impressive aspect of the landscaping and shrub/flower planting programme undertaken in and around the village is that to the ordinary person it seems so in unison with the village and its architecture. This adjudicator would admit to being more attracted to the colourful planting arrangements provided by a combination of hardy annuals and perennials mainly because I know more about them, but I could not be but impressed with the mix of trees, shrubs and hedgerows. The committee has reacted to recommendations by last year's adjudicator by planting trees on the Ballinderry and Portumna Roads. The striking thing is that on adjudication day a number of people were carrying out maintenance on existing planted areas, flower beds, and hedgerows. There were a few areas that I felt needed more colour by means of flower beds 1) at the Tidy Towns Sign and green area in the Harbour and 2) at the area near bridge with pond, which also needs cleaning.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most of the village buildings were well maintained and looked attractive, admittedly it was a pleasant day but to this adjudicator the majority seemed to be recently painted. Simplicity is the key to the attractiveness of the buildings in Terryglass, cleanliness combined with bright colours nothing too dramatic. The school was quite impressive; while the lovely font wall with variegated popular trees was noted, the bike shed needed painting. `The Derg Inn` and `Paddys Bar` were in good condition but both were a bit cluttered with outside furniture. The Parish Hall was in excellent shape as were a number of private residences some of which had extremely colourful gardens - one in particular on the way down to the harbour. The Rent an Irish Cottage scheme looked well and some of the houses were being painted on the day. The RC Church and cemetery were in excellent condition as was the old church and graveyard. All in all, with a few exceptions, the overall standard of buildings both commercial and private were top class.

LITTER CONTROL

Except for the forest walk area there was no litter visible in any other part of the village. All residents are to be commended for the efforts to make the place litter free. Nothing more to say except keep up the

good work and address the forest walk area.

TIDINESS

A few issues need to be tackled under this section. The seating in the harbour area needs to be painted. Also it was felt that the bust of John A Weaving could do with a clean up. The reserved harbour area could benefit from a clean up as well. The kerbing around the green area in the harbour was a dull grey - maybe it could be revitalised by way of a coat of plain white paint. Again address the untidiness in the forest trail and get rid of `McCarthy's` van. Finally some of the signage was a wee bit grubby by Terryglass standards i.e. B&B sign River Run House.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

This year the majority of houses were in well maintained order there is room for improvement in some, but it was noticeable with most premises that boundary walls were equally as good as the main residences. Special mention to the residents on Harbour Road where there were some excellently kept houses with beautiful gardens. There were of course other individual private and farm houses that were well presented these deserve praise also. Rent an Irish Cottage have maintained a high standard of presentation which shows good community awareness on the part of the owners.

ROADS STREETS AND BACK AREAS

What really impresses any person arriving into Terryglass is the appearance of the approach roads. For instance driving into the village from Ballinderry you have lovely hedgerows cut back to perfection, stone walls, well kept houses and back entrances and if I am not mistaken a cornfield. Similarly with the road to Carrigahorick, here are new and old stone walls, newly planted beech hedge, an impressive Church and a number of private residences including a large well kept farm yard. The Harbour Road has already been mentioned, the only road that is not up to the standard of the others is the Borrisokane Rd where there are a few messy entrances and badly maintained fencing.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

To say that the people of Terryglass have an immense pride in their village is an understatement. The years of success have not dimmed their enthusiasm one bit. The village has been at the top of the Tidy Towns ratings for a long number of years and it is still committed to remaining there and indeed further improving its position. The Tidy Towns Committees formula for success is simple; hard work and attention to detail and above all getting the community en masse behind them. The village looked so well on adjudication day; it has its few problems, which no doubt will be addressed, but overall it was a pleasure to adjudicate it.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (15/08/96)

Despite a few persistent problem areas: eg. a shed and its environs on the Ballinderry Road, once again Terryglass was presented to a very high standard indeed. Most of the residential properties were noted for their well constructed stone wall boundaries or neatly clipped hedging; in this context, therefore, any with shabby painted walls were all too apparent. It is suggested that ivy might be trimmed from the trees on the road down to the harbour. The amenity areas at the harbour are of course a valuable asset; the green areas were for the most part well mown. As you know, at your level in the competition, it is of vital importance to pay attention to every detail; therefore the swings at the harbour should have been repainted for this summer. The toilets were not as clean as they might have been. This furniture outside The Derg Inn and Paddy's Bar in the height of the tourist season creates a welcoming and indeed continental ambience. Apart from one bottle on the bridge and one or two papers at the harbour no litter was evident. Hopefully, before next year the new building by the Post Office will have been completed.