

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CLASHMORE**  
County : **WATERFORD**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19
Landscaping	40	24
The Built Environment	40	26
Litter Control	40	29
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24
General Impression	10	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>184</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The centre is obviously deeply committed to its involvement in the Tidy Towns. On the day of adjudication no less than five workers were noted working on various aspects of the Competition. The better presentation of the Cemetery is a major undertaking. Thank you for the very comprehensively completed entry form and also the well notated map which was very valuable on the day of adjudication.

The degree of involvement and the support from the Community at large was very obvious. The new-look Competition with its heightened emphasis on environmental protection and the creation or improving of wildlife habitats is well suited to the structure and resources of Clashmore.

It is appreciated that the time span provided was perhaps inadequate on this occasion for the devising of an agreed Community Development Programme but this aspect should be given attention during the coming months.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The Committee is already aware of the significance of timing hedge-cutting prior to the nesting season. The centre is very well endowed with natural amenities and wildlife-friendly habitats notably on the Riverside walk leading to St Mochua's Well. To encourage walkers, a distance indicator is needed in the area of the Grotto. The Well itself is an imposing edifice but conveys an impression of being yet unfinished. The treatment of the small river at the old distillery chimney was a delight. The garden at the riverside was very well presented.

### LANDSCAPING

An important aspect is the treatment of the linking roadway between Main Street and the cluster of houses at the Hall. The fine random rubble wall has broken down in many places and this would suggest itself as a major project to tackle over a number of years. Please retain the delightful dry-fill stone wall.

The current project - the restoration of the extensive and very old Church grounds - is a huge undertaking and when completed will be very much a focal point for the centre. Individual minor aspects also made their contribution. The small pump in Main Street carefully displayed in red and green painting, makes a significant item of street furniture. The Clashmore sign, against the cut stone background was excellent.

The Grotto while colourful might benefit from a more restrained presentation. The numerous half tubs are to be applauded. In general, where possible, ground planting is to be preferred as looking more natural. If tubs are used, more fulsome planting is recommended for best results.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The built environment consisting both of individual premises, walls, bridges and other aspects, all collectively contribute, in a material way to establishing the character and therefore appeal of the centre. Clashmore is well served by both house groupings and individual premises.

Little Lacken House was very well presented and the very fine entrance to the new house above the School also caught the eye. The School itself was suitably presented while the busy Waterford Co-Operative would benefit from judicious screening. The large Catholic Church was finely sited and very well presented as was the Post Office. In commercial premises the Deisce Bar was colourful, O'Malley's Garage was very neat while the Rising Sun projected a welcoming air. The Bed & Breakfast opposite the Grotto is urged to complete its front-facing wall and remove building material from its garden. The fine castellated entrance above the Health Centre has appeal.

## LITTER CONTROL

Clashmore scored very heavily under this heading because of its excellent litter management. Throughout the centre litter control was of a high order and there was only the occasional falling from grace e.g around the GAA field and on the approach to the Grotto corner.

## TIDINESS

Again with the exception of the unravelling wall referred to above, few negative aspects were noted. The work in progress on the wall on Aglish road was allowed for in our marking. Occasional spoil had been allowed to accumulate close to the splendid stone wall, so much a feature of the centre. There was perhaps too great a use of plastic signs which ill-sit in such a rural and traditional setting. The old Church building itself is visually very important and an appropriate present day use should be considered.

In some sections of the centre, road surfacing does not extend to the wall or pavement and the gap left through weed or grass growth can detract from the neatness of presentation.

## RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The housing stock consists of relatively modern houses, mostly standing in their own ground and traditional, terraced premises. The houses adjoining the former School have the capacity to make a major impact with a co-ordinated painting programme perhaps carried through onto their front-facing garden walls. These houses are full of interesting architectural detail and deserve to be appropriately highlighted for best effect. The housing estate beside the GAA field was orderly but there was an unevenness of presentation in some cases.

## ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The ideal on approach roads is to secure a clear cut divide between the surrounding rural countryside and the centre itself. This ideal has met with varying degrees of success on the different roads. The grass verge was appropriately cut back on the Aglish road but some spoil had been allowed to accumulate at the sides. The 30 mph speed limit signs at the Church on the Annamultina road has been painted and the surrounding grass and hedges appropriately cut back. Hedgecutting was quite a feature being organised to outside the village with the Creagagh River adding to this approach. The entrance from the Parochial House is a delight with the varying forms of dry-fill wall which should be, because of their special and interesting construction highlighted as far as possible. Directional road signs do need attention notably the cluster of signs in the centre of the village at the Aglish/Clonmel road junction.

## GENERAL IMPRESSION

Clashmore as a Community has a number of strong and important assets available to it and many of these are being appropriately and suitably accentuated to the advantage of the Community as a whole. The development of a phased programme embracing St Mochua's Well, the centrally located Church and Graveyard and the splendid rubble wall between the two elements of the village should be explored as attention to these elements will ensure further progress for this progressive centre.