

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **LISMORE**
County : **WATERFORD**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21
Landscaping	40	28
The Built Environment	40	34
Litter Control	40	30
Tidiness	20	15
Residential Areas	30	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28
General Impression	10	6
TOTAL MARK	300	211

Adjudicator's Comments

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Lismore is a former successful National Entente Florale entrant, a centre of great charm, well endowed with significant, historical and colourful buildings. It has reacted well to the new format Tidy Towns Competition with its enhanced emphasis on planning and the greater emphasis on caring for the environment, wildlife and natural amenities. Thank you for your very comprehensive entry form, a most useful town map and details of your planning and Work Plan for the current and coming years.

The magnificent River Blackwater and the established Lady Louisa's Walk give you many natural advantages in the new Competition.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Wildlife and natural amenities work was in progress in the better presentation of the Canal area because of its location the visual impact of this is quite significant and it is appropriate for the Committee to highlight it in its activities. Tree planting on the Youghal road is excellent. Please remember to replace the few damaged trees as quickly as possible. There are many opportunities to encourage wildlife and birds within the town - the River and Lady Louisa's Walk being obvious examples. Also the trees and grassed areas on the approach to the Cathedral in addition to incidental grassed areas and private gardens. The gardens at the roadside at the 1841 Workhouse looked particularly fetching.

LANDSCAPING

The landscape of this - a designed town - is naturally a very strong positive element of the entry. The good effects of the Entente Florale entry, although two years ago, continue to be seen in the trees and shrubs planted at that time. These are maturing nicely and will progressively become more significant as time goes by. The tree planting on the Cappoquin road was very good. The railings here may soon need attention. The flower beds at this point were very colourful. In general we encourage ground planting were possible rather than the use of tubs or bowls. Where they are used it is necessary to engage in fulsome planting for best effect. The avenue to the Cathedral, the Vicar's house and the Cathedral close generally are a delight. On a different scale the decorative pump and flowers at the corner of Hospital Lane were a joy. The flowers and flower arrangement at the entrance to Bank Field estate was particularly well done. The profusive of hanging baskets and half tubs in West Street were very well presented and maintained. The Committee handled the problem of derelict houses in a sensitive and successful manner. The new public convenience is very suitably sited and appropriate to its sensitive location.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Lismore have some delightful individual houses and buildings. Other premises not in themselves with such architectural significance but which have been embellished in an imaginative and successful way by the use of window boxes, hanging baskets and suitable paint schemes. Other buildings of inherent interests also require attention. The 1841 Workhouse and the Railway Station are examples of the latter. The Cathedral we have already referred to. The Heritage Centre is particularly well presented and we admire the display of flags - a practise all too rare in Irish towns. The Button Mill house and walls collectively are a fine display. Other premises to catch the eye include M.J. O'Donnell, Madden's Bar, Sheehan's, Cloister's Bar and Credit Union house. The Lismore Health Centre was excellent and the Fire Station fresh and newly painted. The Bank of Ireland, the Public Library were both excellent. The Garda Station maintained the high standards noted in other centres.

LITTER CONTROL

With very few exceptions litter was not noticed throughout the centre. The support of individual householders and business premises and of course the efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee themselves

are bearing fruit. The suitably sited and individually attractive litter bins in black and gold are commended.

TIDINESS

Many different aspects, some individually minor, contribute to the overall feeling of tidiness in a centre. The absence of litter is of course primary. There was however some considerable spoil allowed to accumulate at the sides of roads. Individual business premises were very well presented notably Horni-Brooks Cars and the Lismore Wine Vault although one might perhaps question the extent of advertising material of the windows of this latter. In other cases there is a clear and urgent need to improve Floral Distributors of Ireland Limited where the timber work needs painting and the exterior of the building requires a tidy up. The amount of weeds in cracks in cement in the schoolyard of Scoil Naomh Carthach was disappointing.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The high standards throughout the centre generally were reflected and maintained in the residential areas. Full of character the Devonshire Cottages were very well presented as were the houses in Church Lane. Parks Road looked very well as did the trees and flowerbeds in Chapel Place. The powerful blue colour chosen for MacFeargusa was bold and successful. Individual houses opposite the Fire Station were very good in Chapel Street. We commend some individual good efforts on New Street. We noted the house restoration work in progress on Church Lane.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The entrance roads to Lismore were all presented to a high standard and created an air of anticipation to explore the centre itself. Particularly noteworthy on the Youghal road is the Heritage Town's signage and the individual flower beds and floral displays. Roadways signage, 30 mph sign, town nameplates and others were well painted with the grass cut appropriately back from them.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Lismore is endowed with most valuable resources apart from the majestic Castle itself. The collective streetscape punctuated with houses of individual architectural merit and interest all contribute to a delightful cohesive display. The combined efforts of the Tidy Towns Committee have proved most successful in ensuring that this centre is projected in a most delightful manner. Compliments are extended to the Members of the Committee and to all the Citizens of Lismore who have contributed and participated so whole heartedly in another splendid display.