

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **TYRRELLSPASS**  
County : **WESTMEATH**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 09-07-96

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded
Overall Developmental Approach	50	41
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15
Landscaping	40	30
The Built Environment	40	28
Litter Control	40	31
Tidiness	20	14
Residential Areas	30	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30
General Impression	10	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>215</b>

## Adjudicator's Comments

### OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Another magnificent effort can be recorded for Tyrrellspass in this years competition. The village has many exceptional qualities and the high level of on-going individual and community commitment together with support from public bodies contribute to a very high standard of presentation under all headings. Your detailed entry form and letter were helpful aids to the adjudicator. At this level of the competition it is essential that particular attention is paid to the finer points of detail and here and there more attention must be paid to these areas e.g. better maintenance of gravelled areas and boundaries of a number of private houses, improved presentation of several business premises would also help.

### WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is a new section in the competition and its intention is to give greater importance to the preservation and enhancement of habitats and wildlife than heretofore. Tyrrellspass is fortunate that it has a good base to build on - mature trees, hedgerows and planted gardens etc. Your bog walk and your efforts to preserve parts of Tyrrellspass bog are highly commendable and augers well for future conservation measures. If you have not already done so you should seek the support of local environmental experts and also involve the school children as you do in litter control.

### LANDSCAPING

The Crescent with its church and surrounding buildings has a quality and standard of presentation with its graciousness and understated elegance, that is the envy of most other towns and villages throughout the country. The buildings, the well maintained grassed areas, the mature trees, shrubs, the white-washed stone surrounds at trees at the Dublin end, the effective presentation of pump and monument make Tyrrellspass a pleasure to visit at any time of the year. Other noteworthy features include well maintained grass verges, hedges and flower beds. Colourful well planted window boxes, hanging baskets, flower tubs are attractive throughout the village.

### THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Comment has already been made about the attractive presentation of buildings around the Crescent. Most of the business premises have acceptable facades and are in good condition, however there are still several with unsuitable frontages and name signs, e.g. Ryans/Gonoudu/Keegans. Many of the comments as detailed in last years report are still relevant. Painting would considerably freshen up others. The Church and its grounds are satisfactory as is the school and hotel. The Castle is an imposing structure on the Galway approach road, however weeds were noticeable on the gravelled entrance area and additional trees might be planted at the boundary fence. The Hall is acceptable; the well maintained grassed area with the trees and freshly painted wooden fence all look well. The Nursing Home with its stone boundary wall with heather capping is very attractive.

### LITTER CONTROL

The large volume of passing traffic means that you must continually be on guard against litter. Litter control is excellent and on the day of inspection the village was litter free. Your ongoing efforts in this respect are most commendable and continue to pay dividends.

### TIDINESS

The village has a neat and cared for appearance. The absence of litter, the swept pavements and gutters, the quality of maintenance of approach roads and the private houses and other buildings and the absence of unsightly wirescape all contribute to a tidy presentation.

## RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard of the vast majority of residential properties is of a high order particularly those around the Square at Castle Green. The cottages on either side of the Maxol Station are well presented and have considerable charm. The bungalow adjoining the hotel has a most attractive and colourful entrance. There are many fine houses on all approach roads, however here and there some boundary walls need painting, e.g. at the name sign on the Galway road and others on all approach roads need to weed gravelled areas between boundary fence and road. In a number of locations lengthy sprayed weeds are unsightly.

## ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The standard of presentation of all the approach roads is excellent - the Dublin road in particular has a touch of quality as you sweep down the hill to the village name sign. The closely cut grass margins and the flowering shrubs effectively camouflage the concrete and chainlink fencing. However on the opposite side of road the wooden fence is showing signs of wear - painting should be considered, and some of the wooden rails need to be repainted. Stone walls are a feature of many approach roads as are lengthy stretches of neatly trimmed hedges. Weeds should be removed from the stone bollards at the wide gravelled margin with the trees adjoining the Maxol Station and the standard of grass verges deteriorate considerably around the speed limit sign on the Galway road. The Rathugh road is most attractive with its wide closely cut grass verges, tree plantings, neatly trimmed hedges, etc. The graveyard and entrance area are of a high standard of presentation. Most of the footpaths and kerbing are well maintained although here and there weeds are noticeable.

## GENERAL IMPRESSION

The standard of presentation of Tyrrellspass is impressive. You need to pay more attention to weeding gravelled areas and a number of shop fronts and business premises could be improved.

## SECOND ADJUDICATION (11/09/96)

It is good to note plans to celebrate and promote The Battle and Tyrrellspass. Interpretative panels on the old bog walk and at the bog itself could be considered. Reseeding is required at the seated green area facing the Daingean Road and at a number of other locations. The possibility of restoring the stone edge around the central green area might be explored. Some premises could be improved in terms of signage and removal of window posters. The Video Village premises has some fine traditional features which should be retained upon refurbishment. The gates marking the entrance to the old church and graveyard have been beautifully refurbished. The roof of an outbuilding on the right hand side of the road before the nameplate on the Kinnegad entrance needs to be cleaned. The roadside entrance to the sports grounds and indeed the building itself are nicely painted. The roadside walls and wire mesh railings to the Hyundai showroom premises need to be upgraded. The walls itself could be cleaned and painted and planting behind the walls to the wire mesh might soften the effect here. Litter control was good. However ensure that the tattered circus poster on one of the service poles is removed. A single storey property in the terrace beside the Maxol premises needs to be cleaned or painted and an adjacent roadside boundary wall is in need of attention. Some gable walls and front facades in Belvedere Court are in need of freshening together with a retaining wall dividing a back garden from a public green area. Perhaps some public seating could be located on the two corner green areas marking the entrance to Belvedere Court and one of these green areas might be further planted or landscaped. The barrel type picnic tables and seats are attractive and innovative. The retaining walls of the laneway beside the Kevin Keegan property need to be repainted. Some wire and post fencing on the Kinnegad entrance to the village could be cleared of rough growth and planted with hedgerow. Overall, it was good to note details of work completed in July. The list is impressive - well done!