

Tidy Towns 1997

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **COBH**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **E**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 22-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	12
Litter Control	40	25	26
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>193</b>	<b>188</b>

## **Cobh, Co. Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The submission of your five year plan for future Tidy Towns activities is noted. The outline for your 1997 project is also acknowledged in addition to details of the Cuskinny Marsh Nature Reserve; thank you for supplying such detailed information with your Tidy Towns entry. The Council is obviously pursuing a definite programme for the future. Also the fact that you have consulted with other relevant bodies will help with the co-ordination of your plan for the future. Such a combined effort is essential if real progress is to be made.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The town is fortunate in that there is a good balance between the new buildings in the town and its environs and the many very fine old buildings throughout the town. The areas of Pearses Square, Casement Square and Scotts Square include a very fine range of premises with a good variation of shop fronts etc. The repainted unique Courthouse/library building in Casement Square looks impressive. Also business premises in East Beach, West Beach and indeed right through the town were very well presented. The premises of An Post would need to be repainted. The Cathedral of St. Colmans is a magnificent structure; the Church of Ireland is a lovely building and well maintained. Cobh Museum premises is sited in a lovely former church building, an excellent use for such a building.

### **LANDSCAPING**

There are a number of examples of landscaping which also have been carried out throughout the town. The large well-kept colourful flowerbed at the Twinning sign at the Cork side of the town looked well; the seating nearby was also well maintained. The landscaping in the Coolamber area was excellent. Also the landscaping in the very pleasant park St. Colmans Park near Cobh Ramblers premises was very well maintained. The planting at Eaton Heights and Fr. Corbett Terrace are both good developments; the stone work at the latter is attractive. The landscaping which has been carried out in the East Beach area is excellent. Also planting at the Promenade area, seating, green area etc. is an excellent development and is beautifully maintained. The green area near Harbour Terrace was also nicely maintained. The flower and shrub planting at the end of the Mall looked very well.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Considering the location of the town the subject of wildlife is a very important one for the community. Apart from the

obvious benefits for wildlife, the planting at the school should have a very positive effect on school-goers from a wildlife point of view. The wildlife project at Cuskinny is an excellent one. The construction of this Nature Reserve in this marshland area is a very good example of how a wildlife sanctuary should be developed. At the time of adjudication educational display boards were not in place and it would be very desirable that such information be provided. There was, however, one display board in place in a nearby car parking area across the road. Visitors to the Reserve would undoubtedly enjoy identifying the different species from such display boards which should be sited within the Reserve area.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There seems to be an improvement in some areas of the town this year but others were not so good. The areas in the vicinity of Pairc Ui Conaill G.A.A. Field, Cobh Ramblers premises and in the area adjoining both Mount Croziers Tennis Club and Rushbrooke Lawn Tennis Club were all quite litter free. The Carrignafoy Road was also free of litter this year. There was some litter at the entrance to the Golf Club whilst the area in the vicinity of the Pitch and Putt Club was quite good. The area across the road from Fr. Corbett Terrace was strewn with litter and there was no sign of any litter bin.

### **TIDINESS**

There was a fair level of tidiness throughout the town. The entrance to the cemetery was tidy but some areas within the cemetery were very overgrown and looked untidy. The streets and squares throughout the town were quite tidy. Also the areas close to and adjoining the many housing areas in the town were tidy. Areas in the vicinity of the Town hall, Railway Station and Heritage Centre were also well maintained. The area across the road from Fr. Corbett Terrace where obviously a considerable amount of work had been done was quite disappointing; a nice wooden railing which had been erected was already damaged. A picnic table and seating has been provided here but the litter problems referred to earlier take away from this. The old iron railing near this amenity development were nicely painted.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The good standard set in previous years was well maintained in this aspect of the competition again this year. There were several examples of excellent presentations of houses and gardens all round the town and adjoining area. These included residential areas such as Brooklawn and Eaton Heights, Barrymore Avenue and Plunkett Terrace plus many others. Indeed all the residential areas are a credit to the owners. A major housing development is underway at Rushbrook Park.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The Welcome to Cobh sign at the Cork approach looked well. The Lake Road, footpaths etc. were very well maintained again this year. The access to the Cork Harbour Commissioners premises beyond the Mall was very tidy and well maintained. The road to the Golf Club was quite untidy, there was a lot of grass and weed growth along the verges here and the area generally needed attention. Frenchs Walk was reasonably tidy. The Harbour Row was very tidy but parts of the footpath here were in need of repair. It was noted that work has commenced in one of your main projects for the current year i.e. the area opposite the Railway Station at the Lower Road. The natural stone walk being constructed here should, when completed, look very impressive. The Lusitania monument in Casement Square is excellently maintained.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The town of Cobh is historic with some very fine buildings. One of the tasks facing the community is to successfully blend new development into this setting. By consulting extensively with the Local Authority and others involved the entire town area can progress very satisfactorily. Also working to a plan will help substantially to achieve progress for the development of the town in the future.