

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILBRITTAIN**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 10-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	25
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	25	22
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	30	28
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>176</b>

## **Kilbrittan, Co. Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

It is good to see the contacts which this Committee has maintained with other local bodies, and their co-operation with the FAS Youth Employment Scheme. It is a pity, though, that you have not produced a 3-5 year work programme which is now required under the competition adjudication criteria - this has helped many other Committees to focus their objectives, often with remarkably positive results.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Church is beautifully maintained; the new School is of a singularly attractive design, and its proximity to the Church makes for a commanding architectural statement at the head of the village. The shops are well presented; the Post Office does not do itself justice because of busy window stickers (as noted last year).

### **LANDSCAPING**

The planting and green spaces round the Church and School have been brought up to a very high standard. Hanging baskets throughout the village were at their best at the time of adjudication. The picnic area beside the Grotto also looked most inviting. The environs of the Waterfall will be taken under the heading of Wildlife and Natural Amenities. The area at the well-placed water pump will blend with its surroundings very quickly; weed poison had been used, and the dead foliage was unattractive; the pump itself looks very well in this significant location. Verges and grassed banks, as well as flourishing and colourful trough displays, proliferate in a delightful way and represent a great deal of hard work by many people. The cemetery sits rather bleakly on the landscape - planting of creepers on the external walls would help to soften this.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The opening up of the area behind the new school has drawn attention to the proximity of the forest, and to the merging of the village with its natural hinterland. The waterfall area by the bridge, the removal of some hedging in order to reveal this charming spot to the main road, and the careful husbandry of the picnic area, combine to provide an amenity of very unusual charm and distinction. It is important not to urbanise it, but to keep it as a real rural retreat - this has obviously been understood by the Committee: over-zealous maintenance would be wrong. (An interesting project for school children would be to identify the species of native and foreign trees, of which there is a great variety here). Under Wildlife in general, the emphasis is on the conservation and enhancement of wildlife habitats; there are excellent opportunities for this in Kilbrittain.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was hardly any litter on adjudication day - congratulations.

### **TIDINESS**

There was a considerable amount of weed growth here and there on

adjudication day. There is a minimum of plastic and mass-produced signage.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are some charming individual old houses, some with pleasingly visible old-world gardens. Smaller old houses in the village centre are exceptionally well kept, as are their modern neighbours. Unfortunately PVC glazing-bars are starting to appear in the windows of some older houses, to visually detrimental effect.

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

Surfaces are generally good. Excellent restoration of old estate walls was very favourable noted. The County Council black and yellow safety barrier on the road to the south needs repainting. The car parks at the Church and Hall are first class.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

A village brimming with vitality and enterprise.