

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CROSSPATRICK**  
County : **KILKENNY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 17-06-97

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1997 | Mark Awarded 1996 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 25                | --                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 20                | --                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 15                | --                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 10                | --                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 27                | --                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 13                | --                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 16                | --                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 17                | --                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 6                 | --                |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>149</b>        | <b>--</b>         |

## **Crosspatrick, Co. Kilkenny**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

We welcome Crosspatrick to the Tidy Towns competition and wish them every success in it. It is encouraging to read in your entry form the amount of support which your newly formed Committee has been receiving and the plans which you have, some of which had taken place and were evident on adjudication day. If the work goes as predicted there ought to be further improvements next year when these projects can be assessed. Thank you for providing the report and the map which were most useful on adjudication day. Success in the Tidy Towns competition does not come overnight. It is usually the result of many years of well planned and dedicated work by the Local Community working in conjunction with their Local Authority, FAS and other agencies. The mark which may be given this year therefore may seem low but it is a base on which to work and you will find as time goes on that you will achieve additional marks very quickly in relation to your efforts.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

On adjudication day the school and school grounds and the church looked exceptionally well. The excellent painting on the wall in front of the church was noted. It is true to say that many buildings in the village could do with painting or indeed provisionally, a coat of white wash as white seems to be the predominant colour. This would have the effect of brightening up the whole village which, in its own right, is quite attractive. The pump in the village square is indeed a significant feature. The pump itself looked extremely well on adjudication day but the base needed a coat of paint. Do not try to adorn the base of the pump with flowers as to do so will do nothing for it. The commercial premises in the village looked well and contribute very much to the Tidy Town effort.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Examine your local surroundings and try to identify where you might judiciously plant some trees and flowering shrubs which, in the case of the latter, would give you some colour on an all-year-round basis. When deciding on a planting campaign seek the best advice possible from your Local Authority, Coillte or some local person who may be knowledgeable about such matters. Perhaps you already have one on your Committee. It has been indicated in your plan that you propose to do this but the emphasis is on the word judicious. Too many trees can cause clutter where as judicious planting of trees and shrubs can soften the landscape. Tidy Towns Committees have a tendency to plant flowers, which is very laudable and is to be encouraged but only when committees have the physical resources available to provide the necessary maintenance required for flower beds.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

This is a comparatively new heading in the competition and a nominal mark is given to centres which do not yet have a project. Look around and consider how your village might benefit in terms of the conservation of woodland, hedgerows, streams, etc. or in encouraging wildlife and preserving their habitats. The Tidy Towns Brochure gives you other suggestions as to what initiatives you might take under this heading.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Congratulations to all concerned. There was practically no litter in Crosspatrick on adjudication day. This is a significant achievement. Keep up the good work in this respect.

### **TIDINESS**

There are a few areas in the village which need to be tidied up and one or two open spaces which would benefit from perhaps the planting of a flower bed and some street furniture. Beyond that the village was presented in a very tidy manner and again, congratulations to all concerned.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Crosspatrick does not have very many private houses but those that are there were very well presented. Some had very nice gardens. This kind of private individual support is also vital to the success or otherwise of your participation in the Tidy Towns Competition.

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

It was noted that some work had been carried out by way of hedge cutting on the Rathdowney road. If possible however you should try to cut the grass verges on all approach roads. Adjudication normally takes place from the village signs inwards. In doing so however you are encouraged not to cut the verges right back to the wall or fence but to leave an area close to the fence for the propagation of wild flowers. In other words only cut half way back from the road verge to the fence. Road surfaces are good and remember also to keep the backs of premises in the square neat and tidy particularly if they are in public view.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

An excellent start has been made but a lot of work still remains to be done. Start early for next year so that the adjudicator can see the full scope of stage one of your plan.