

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **NEWMARKET-KILKENNY**
County : **KILKENNY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 18-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	27
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	14
Litter Control	40	34	33
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	20	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	204	197

Newmarket-Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

It is some years since this adjudicator visited Newmarket - what a delightful place it is now. It is good to read again that you are getting almost total support for your efforts and that, in addition, your Local Authority, FAS, and other State bodies are helping out. You received an in-depth report from last years adjudicator. The following comments should be taken in conjunction with that report.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The presentation of the Church and School were again excellent this year as were their lawns and gardens. Your wall building programme was much admired on adjudication day. There are obviously other walls to be looked after but this will come in time. There is still some dereliction in the village. Your comments regarding non-cooperation from certain quarters have been noted. In a small community it is very difficult to know what to do about dereliction. Perhaps a gentle approach to the owners with some firm suggestions regarding such buildings might help. Also, Local Authorities do have powers to act in such matters.

LANDSCAPING

On adjudication day Newmarket was a blaze of colour and your Committee and supporters are to be congratulated on all the work that has been done in this respect. Most importantly there appears to be a high level of maintenance. The tree in The Square in the village is indeed a major feature of the village. Consider the judicious planting of other trees and shrubs in the village. In the case of the latter, select those which will give you colour on an all-year-round basis. The emphasis here however is on the word judicious as to plant too many trees only causes clutter. Careful additional planting of trees and shrubs will help to soften the village landscape and will look splendid in years to come. In the event again please seek the advice of your Local Authority, Coillte or some other qualified person before you start your planting.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

This is comparatively a new category in the competition and in this regard your plan for Gairdin an Ghorta is timely. It is noted also that you have already started a Wildlife Preserve. The Tidy Towns book offers you guidelines and suggestions as to the type of initiatives you might undertake with regard to the preservation of wildlife habitat and the environment. These can include woodland, rivers, ponds, hedgerows, grass margins, open spaces, graveyards and walls. When developing your project under this heading please ensure that you seek the help and advice of your Local Authority or anyone in the locality who would be expert in such matters. Perhaps you already have one on your Committee.

LITTER CONTROL

There was practically no litter in Newmarket on adjudication day. Congratulations to all concerned.

TIDINESS

On adjudication day the village was presented in an exceptionally neat and tidy manner with no visible signs of weeding. Everywhere was a blaze of colour. Window boxes and hanging baskets were noted.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Individual homes and gardens looked exceptionally well. This is an important part of any Tidy Towns effort without which success cannot be achieved. Many gardens were excellent.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Road surfaces continue to be good and verges on approach roads were very presentable.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

In the space of a few years Newmarket has created a wonderful ambience for itself. It is a most delightful village well worthy of its ranking in the Tidy Towns Competition.