

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **SLIEVERUE**  
County : **KILKENNY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 02-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	23
The Built Environment	40	25	25
Landscaping	40	29	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	14
Litter Control	40	34	34
Tidiness	20	16	15
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	29
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>198</b>

## **Slieverue, Co. Kilkenny**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

It is now sometime since this adjudicator visited the village of Slieverue and it must be said that excellent work has taken place in the meantime. Congratulations to all concerned. It is however disappointing to note that there appears to be only limited practical help available to the Committee. Further success in the competition can only be achieved through a co-operative effort. Thank you for the very detailed map which was most useful on adjudication day. Last year you received an in-depth report from the adjudicator. The following comments should be read in conjunction with that report.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Church and two Schools again were very well presented on adjudication day as were all your business premises. Areas surrounding garages are naturally untidy so congratulations to the Nissan Garage for their great efforts in the presentation of their premises. Some years ago the adjudicator noted old petrol pumps which, on this visit, are no longer to be seen. Again congratulations to all concerned on the presentation of that particular area.

### **LANDSCAPING**

All the sites indicated on your map were visited and the excellent work which you have been doing was noted. For the future try to identify other areas where the judicious planting of trees and shrubs might be considered. The emphasis here is on the word judicious as to do otherwise would only lead to clutter. In particular give some thought to flowering shrubs which will give you some colour on an all-year-round basis. Your Failte stones and their surrounds are excellent as indeed was the presentation of the village pump.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your efforts under this heading have been noted and are to be commended. This is a comparatively new category in the competition with the emphasis on the conservation and enhancement of wildlife habitats and the environment. Woodland, rivers, ponds, hedgerows, grass margins, open spaces, graveyards and walls are important habitats. The Committee should endeavour to identify these habitats in their area and then determine the appropriate actions to be taken to preserve and enhance them. The guidelines in the Tidy Towns book offer other suggestions as to the type of initiatives you might undertake. If there is a local wildlife expert or a member of your Community with experience in this area please do avail of their services.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

There was hardly any litter to be seen on adjudication day but,

nevertheless, it is an aspect of the competition which needs constant monitoring as, in an otherwise litter-free environment, even one or two small incidences can be irritating.

## **TIDINESS**

Your Committee and residences should be proud of the neat and tidy manner in which the village was presented. The only area which perhaps did not fit into that category was the sportsfield at the end of Ashgrove which was completely overgrown and looked very untidy on adjudication day. There was also some evidence of minor littering and rubbish. Because this area is so open to public view it would be important to keep it cut and tidy.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Almost without exception private residences were presented in an excellent manner. This is an important aspect of the Tidy Towns Competition as it is impossible, in a small residential village like Slieverue, to make progress in the competition if private houses are not well presented. Again, congratulations to all concerned. There are some very striking houses in Slieverue which added greatly to the overall presentation.

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

The approach roads and verges were excellent and reflect a lot of hard work by your Committee. Perhaps there could be an odd bit of repair work done to some walls but, in general, the approaches created a very good impression and were completely litter-free.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

The comments of last years adjudicator under this heading again apply. Slieverue is a lovely village with a very nice atmosphere and ambience. It was a great pleasure to visit the village again after a long absence. For the future concentrate on implementing your 3 Year-Plan. Try to do a little every year within your physical and financial resources. Success in the competition does not come overnight but is the result of specific planned effort over a number of years. In this respect visit other centres and see what they have done. Work closely with your Local Authority and other agencies to achieve the best results.