

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **ARDPATRICK**
County : **LIMERICK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 17-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	32
The Built Environment	40	30	28
Landscaping	40	32	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	32	32
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	24	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	31	31
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	221	216

Ardpatrick County Limerick

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for a very comprehensive questionnaire and colourful and informative map of the village and its surrounds. Even though the committee has a clear plan of work in hand I think a simple workplan outlining short term and long term objectives should be formulated and presented for next year's competition as Ardpatrick has the potential to do extremely well in Tidy Town Competitions to come. The co-operation with all sectors of your own community as well as other public agencies is very evident as the village looked exceptional on adjudication day.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

All buildings, with one or two exceptions at most, were presented to a very high standard. There are a number of very impressive private dwellings in the village most notably the two beautifully maintained 5 window houses as you approach from Kildorrery. The PO bungalow had a beautifully maintained frontage as had other private dwellings in the vicinity. The Greenwood Inn with its farm museum deserves special mention, it takes a lot of effort to maintain a holding such as this and the proprietor is to be commended. The Community Centre looked very impressive especially as one entered from the Kildorrery end of the village. The Church and grounds, as well as the school, were a credit to those responsible for their upkeep. Mountain Park sign on the green adjacent to the magnificent Bishop Murphy Park is an excellent addition to the village as it blends in with the surroundings. The garage at the Effin Cross was also well maintained, although cars were parked in a haphazard manner. Following the positive comments there has to be some negatives. The Sunvale Inn which is an extremely attractive building with a beautiful shop frontage is in need of refurbishment so hopefully improvements will be made prior to next year. I am extremely disappointed that the Old Creamery has been demolished, it was a landmark for years especially for intrepid patrons of The Canon Hayes Memorial in Effin. Anyway the deed has been done but that site should be cleared as it is an eyesore at the cross roads at present.

LANDSCAPING

As was the case last year the standard was exceptional, the blend of natural hedgerows, trees and judiciously planted shrubs was a joy to behold. Attention to detail was very evident in this category, as can be seen by the planting in the excellent Bishop Murphy Park, with its mixture of bedding plants. The wire fence across the way detracts somewhat from the park the owner of the particular field should be approached to clean it up. The hedging of St Johns Worth on the perimeter of the farm museum adds immense colour to the area. The Church grounds were excellent with a mixture of annuals and perennials.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is immense potential for nature conservation in the village. A good starting point would be to audit the many wildlife habitats in the immediate area to see what species of birds, animals, fish and insects are attracted by these habitats. A school project properly managed would be invaluable this was suggested by last years adjudicator and should be acted upon prior to next year

LITTER CONTROL

As was the case last year there was no litter evident on adjudication day and the village was well served with bins .

TIDINESS

Again this year the standard was very high. The creamery site is a bit messy and needs to be cleaned up soon as it will eventually stand out like a sore thumb in what is otherwise a lovely village, also the garage area could be enhanced a little by better parking of vehicles. The area around Sunvale House needs to be cleaned as it was a little weedy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard in this category was extremely high with some lovely gardens that were beautifully maintained. It would be unfair to highlight individual holdings as every place both on the high road and low road had made great efforts to ensure that their premises were in top condition. Congratulations to all

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All approach roads were presented to a very high standard. The Kildorrery road entrance was very impressive with margins cut back as appropriate with grass cleared from the sides. The lower road to Kilfinane was also excellently maintained, grass cutting was in progress on adjudication day. Name signs were freshly painted and visible on all approach roads.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is very obvious by the effort put in by all sections of the community that there is a great pride of place. The Tidy Towns committee have been very successful in involving locals as well as securing input from the local authority, and other state agencies. The village was in top condition on a day, that was, for this time of year, quite dull .

SECOND ADJUDICATION (12/8/97)

The village landscape was looking particularly well following the heavy summer rains. Bishop Murphy Park is a lovely feature, meticulously maintained and a great credit to all involved in its development. The village plantings are very attuned to the lovely picturesque background. The streamside area offers further scope for development. This is an extremely tidy village.