

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **KILMALLOCK**  
County : **LIMERICK**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-97

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 1997 | Mark Awarded 1996 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 34                | 33                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 26                | 25                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 30                | 30                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 21                | 21                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 19                | 19                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 11                | 11                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 23                | 22                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 26                | 26                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 6                 | 6                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>196</b>        | <b>193</b>        |

## **Kilmallock, Co. Limerick**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thanks for submitting a detailed questionnaire with descriptive map of the town and surrounds. The committee have clear objectives in mind for the town and are progressing satisfactorily. A phased 3 year work plan is required of all Tidy Towns entrants. Evidence that there is a good working relationship with the Local Authority and other agencies most notably Ballyhoura Failte.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The standard in this category was quite good although there are areas of concern that need to be addressed. There was an unacceptable level of dereliction in and around the town; one appreciates the sensitivity of the problem but it is not helping the overall look of this most historical of towns. As mentioned last year there was too much unsuitable signage, mainly plastic signs, to be seen. Again I would appeal to the committee to encourage businesses to substitute plastic with something more in keeping with the town architecture. The magnificent Catholic Church and grounds were in excellent condition as was the Convent across the road. In the main centre of the town the following premises deserve special mention for good presentation; The Abbey Pharmacy with its bright colour combination, 41 Bar, Fogarty's Pharmacy, Charlie's Bar, Collins's and Quish's of Wolfe Tone Street. Howard's Corner House is a very imposing building but it suffers from too much of what could be described as mural advertising. It would be far easier on the eye if the colour scheme was of a pastel variety. A number of other premises are guilty of having too many stickers on windows and, as mentioned above, plastic signs. The Fairgreen Facade as you enter the hurling field from the Sarsfield Street end was admired. The GAA Grounds were in very good condition and a credit to those responsible for their maintenance. The Historical Museum is a major attraction for the town as it allows visitors to explore Kilmallock's rich historical past. On the outskirts premises such as the Golden Vale Bar, the Grotto opposite the day hospital (Kilmallock seems to have more grottos than most towns of its size), the Council Buildings and Fire Station deserve mention. On the negative side one could not miss the fact that there are a number of derelict premises in and around the centre of town. On Wolfe Tone Street there are a number of buildings that need to be refurbished; it was noticed that planning permission has been sought to build a community centre if I can recall correctly. If this is so it will certainly be a welcome development.

### **LANDSCAPING**

There has been considerable effort put into planting schemes all around the town. The Riverview Park is an excellent town amenity with some pleasant and appropriate planting arrangements. The Gortboy/Millmount Park was also impressive in terms of planting, a boundary wall here needs to be re built as it took away from the

overall appearance. Some other examples that created an impression were the rose beds at green area near the Day Hospital and the newly provided beds near the Convent.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The town and its environs have many wildlife habitats if properly identified. It was suggested last year that a project be initiated that would involve school children from all schools under the guidance of some person who would have knowledge of the local environment and who would have the necessary qualities to bring it to fruition. If it has not been already acted upon I would suggest that the committee do so prior to next years competition. As a start why not focus in on the Riverview Park and identify wildlife habitats there.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

This is a sector that is causing problems within the town. There were quite a few pockets of litter around the town on adjudication day. The areas most affected were adjacent to the Wolfe Tone Street/Sarsfield Junction, near Blossom Gate, on both the Kilfinane and Charleville Roads and around the Grotto opposite the Service Station. The committee should keep encouraging people and informing them of the importance of good litter control.

## **TIDINESS**

This is a category that is also giving cause for concern as there was too much evidence of untidiness on view on adjudication day. There were a number of untidy open spaces on the Kilfinane Rd approach; also the Failte go Cill Machealloig and Kilmallock signs were dirty and in need of refurbishment. The Golden Vale boundary wall and gates were very grubby as was fencing in front of Paul and Vincent. The Engineering premises on the Tipperary Rd were very untidy as was the boundary wall of the FCA premises. These are just a few highlighted examples but these coupled with derelict housing do not help the otherwise good image that Kilmallock has. The road surfaces in general were adequate but still need to be monitored regularly.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The standard in this category was quite good on adjudication day. Both Millmount and Gortboy Estates were for the most part well presented with residents taking pride in their premises. I witnessed the problem of wandering horses first hand around this area; hopefully a solution can be found as it does not portray a good image when you see animals tied up outside the front door of a house in a residential area. The Riverview Estate was in acceptable condition except that the grass areas need to be cut and consideration given to providing flower beds to take away the bare look. The Glenfield Estate was in very good shape, but a number of boundary walls need painting. Sheares Avenue was a mixture of good and poor; some houses badly needed to be painted. This is a simple suggestion but its amazing the positive effect that a basic coat of paint can have. Ash Hill Estate looked very well as did the quaint cottages on Wolf Tone Street. This

street will look well when the new development takes place

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

The Kilfinane Rd entrance was neat and tidy with residences along the way all well maintained. However, there were a few open areas that were somewhat untidy on this road. The Tipperary Road was impressive with the well kept grotto a distinguishing feature. The Bruff and Bruree entrances were also neat and tidy with grass margins cut back and signs clean and visible.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Kilmallock is a town which has not yet realised its true potential in the competition but the efforts of the committee are slowly bearing fruit. There are certain problems as there are in other towns that are outside the control of any committee, but perseverance and sticking to an agreed plan will eventually pay off. Keep up the good work.