

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CLAREMORRIS**  
County : **MAYO**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	19	21
The Built Environment	40	20	19
Landscaping	40	21	21
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	17
Litter Control	40	19	19
Tidiness	20	10	10
Residential Areas	30	18	17
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	18	18
General Impression	10	5	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>147</b>

## **Claremorris, County Mayo**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Many thanks for the completed application form and maps, however, no detailed Development Plan was submitted as requested in last years adjudication report. You do need to have a detailed plan which should be put into place after consultation with all interested parties. The plan should give you a work plan for each of the categories of the Competition and assist your committee to make steady progress in the Competition.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Many of the comments in last years report remain valid. There is a need to develop a colour scheme for the town. Signage and more flower planting should again be areas receiving your attention. Most of your public buildings looked well - the churches and grounds, the schools, Garda and Fire Stations and the Telecom building. Many of the commercial premises also are of a high standard - Robert Blacoe, Casey Auctioneers in particular and Ger Flynn's, Byrnes Pub and the Western Hotel are well presented. Others such as Bernies Hairdressers, the Post Office and the Supermarket on the Ballyhaunis road are examples of premises that need their commercial advertising examined, i.e. new traditional signs rather than plastic advertisements on windows, etc. The old hotel on the Castlebar road should have its sign removed. Some of the commercial premises, the banks and Railway Station make a good effort with flowers and tubs and should be commended for their efforts.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The Clare River McMahon Park is attractive but more colour in flower and shrub beds would make it even more so. You need to develop a landscaping programme giving particular attention to gaps in the street-scape and on approach roads. Discuss this with your local authority who may be in a position to advise you on the type of trees and shrubs most suitable for colour and low maintenance. Watch out for areas like that near the Fire Station in need of grass cutting.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your entry form makes reference to the fact that McMahon Park is reserved as a wildlife preserve, however there is no evidence of this for the visitor to the town. You might consider erecting an information panel on the local flora and fauna. Discuss this with the local environmentalist / wildlife experts who may be in a position to assist you develop opportunities under this category of the Competition.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

This is a problem area. Claremorris is a busy commercial town with heavy through traffic therefore litter control will require particular attention. On the day of adjudication there was litter in evidence outside the swimming pool, in the Square area, along the route from the Post Office to the Town Hall, outside the cemetery and close to the entrance to the Boherduff Estate.

## **TIDINESS**

Once again comments from last years report are relevant. Watch out for abandoned building rubble and broken or unkempt walls. The route alongside the Albany shop was cluttered with material. Aggressive plastic signage on shop windows also adds to the untidy appearance of the town. The railway crossing and the metal bridge detracts form the Tidy Town image.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

The top area of the Boherduff estate is very well landscaped, colourful and well maintained - Well Done! In general, the homes on the main approach roads were well presented. Watch out for boundary walls and rusty gateways.

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

You need to develop a proper approach to devising a work programme for this category. Traffic congestion and the poor presentation of back areas are problems. All the approach roads need further tree planting and the development of low maintenance shrubbery. The Galway road in the area of the golf course was most attractive and sets a standard. The area of the town from Dalton Street to the Town Hall and particularly the Square needs urgent attention - screening-off back yards and improvements in litter control.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Without a detailed Development Plan your committee is at a great disadvantage. You need to focus your attention on developing a plan of work for each category of the Competition. Priority should be given to approach roads, traffic control, shop-front and back areas.