

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KNOCK**
County : **MAYO**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 10-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	13	13
The Built Environment	40	20	18
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	9	9
Litter Control	40	30	32
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	13	13
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	5	5
TOTAL MARK	300	154	153

Knock, County Mayo

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

We await receipt of your detailed Development Plan which you are developing with Mayo County Council. It is good to see an increase in the membership of your committee and hopefully the new members will have a variety of skills to contribute. Your hanging basket and window box display competition is a good idea and should be extended to include garden competitions.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Your important buildings - the Basilica and associated shrine buildings, the Folk Museum and the hotels - all looked very well. Watch out for litter in the area in front of The International Hotel. The commercial premises are a problem as few, if any, use traditional signs. There is an abundance of plastic signs and aggressive selling of religious souvenirs. The Claddagh Craft painted wall sign is inappropriate. B&Bs in general were very well presented, with well maintained gardens and good flower displays.

LANDSCAPING

The route from the Belmont Hotel to the Ballyhaunis road and adjacent roads to the Caravan Park, the Shrine and St. Johns is wonderfully landscaped and maintained. Well done to all concerned. You need to develop a landscaping programme for other areas and the approach roads in conjunction with the local authority - the Shrine presents a fine example to follow.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

As no report was submitted, we know little of your efforts to develop this category of the Competition. The Shrines well landscaped areas presents an opportunity but a good start would be to involve a local environmentalist / wildlife expert to assist you in developing an approach to this category.

LITTER CONTROL

Given the large numbers visiting the Shrine, it is not surprising that you have a litter problem, however, this problem is generally in areas outside of the busy Shrine area. The approach roads from Kiltimagh and Claremorris, the route to the Belmont Hotel and the area in front of the International Hotel all presented evidence of too much litter. You need to provide more litter patrols and again the management of the Shrine gives a lead in this area.

TIDINESS

The tidy appearance of the town would be improved if a more traditional shop-front design was introduced rather than plastic signs. Watch out for abandoned rubble and

litter.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Many private residences seem to operate a B&B and in general these were very well presented and maintained. Rosbury Court and St. Thomas Crescent could do more to project a tidy appearance, especially in relation to maintaining common areas and gardens.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The approach roads need more attention. Litter and weed control is required in the Claremorris road and further tree planting and grass cutting near the entry sign on the Ballyhaunis road. The well landscaped area opposite Kellys on the Kiltimagh road provides an example of the standard required elsewhere.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It is good to see the expanded committee in place and we look forward to receipt of your Development Plan which hopefully will focus on all categories of the Competition.