

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CAHIR**  
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	29	27
Landscaping	40	24	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	26	26
Tidiness	20	14	12
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	23
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>178</b>

## **Cahir, County Tipperary SR**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Cahir, an important centre, continues to make progress in the Tidy Towns movement. Thank you for the comprehensive Work Programme, 1993-1998, together with the small scale map. All of these documents proved useful and convenient on the day of adjudication. The manner in which the centre was presented is indicative of strong, wide support from various sections of the Community, commercial as well as private individuals. Revisit the detailed programme to assess how much progress has been made and identify those aspects to which priority might be given over the concluding 12 months of the programme. This would then give you an appropriate jump-off point for the next 5 year programme.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

In addition to the major set piece buildings, the Castle, Cahir Abbey, St Pauls Church - all of which were very well presented - Cahir has a wide range of buildings which collectively are of great importance to how the centre projects itself. The wall of Cahir Park is a fine structure but elements of it are beginning to unravel on the Ballylooby road. Carrigeen Castle looked very well while the brightly painted Phoenix Bar and Forge Tavern were also attractive. The Rail Station is a fine building and the entrance area to Aiseiria was delightfully presented. The well painted McCarthy Looby Solicitors, caught the eye as did the nearby fine restoration work. The Garda Station was well presented while Cahir House Hotel made suitable use of strong colours. Fleury Antiques, Galtee Inn and the Heritage Shop are fine features in the Square. Larger commercial buildings, Texaco Service Station for example, make good use of neatly presented grassed picnic areas. The AIB and Bank of Ireland were very well presented as was the Tourist Information Office and area. SuperValu Supermarket was well painted, neat and flying flags.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The approach to Cahir Abbey needs some attention. A fine raised flower bed has been created here but appears not to have been planted. The old Church building and grounds are appropriately presented but the modern Grotto looks somewhat incongruous in its current setting. A delightful area has been developed in the Square at the County Library. Additional planting throughout the Square is merited. Tree planting at the underpass at the top of the Mountain Road is developing nicely. The raised gardens on the Cork road approach to the bridge are colourful and attractive. Although on a small scale the treatment of the pump on the Cashel road caught the eye. Planting was very successful at the Town Car Park behind the Cahir House Hotel. On this street, the entrance to the cemetery area was also a successful feature. The very fine entrance gates to the Soccer Club looked well but additional landscaping opportunities do exist here. The Cahir Health Centre would benefit from flower baskets or window boxes.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Cahir Park and the River and the Mall area were all suitable for additional developments as wildlife habitats and their use in this regard should be examined further. There is an increased emphasis on wildlife in the competition and Cahir is well suited to respond positively and successfully to this aspect of the Tidy Towns programme.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

For a busy, bustling centre, litter management generally is good throughout Cahir. The availability of suitable sited and appropriately sized litter bins is an important aspect in your success. Additional bins would be advantageous. Good sized litter bins have been provided in Woodview Estate and elsewhere. The removal of litter and spoil from the small riverway between the car park and Castle should be a priority.

## **TIDINESS**

The new parking arrangements continue to give a very orderly and neat appearance to this area. In general, particularly on the wider approach roads, the presence of gravel and spoil generally has intruded somewhat and a more energetic policy of street sweeping is suggested. Large industrial premises should note the success of screening by Buttimmers which is most successful. The use by the factory beside Summerville Close of trees has softened considerably the car parking area. The timber fencing at Woodville estate will shortly need replacing. The large collection of pre-fab classrooms continues at the Sisters of Mercy National School. The commercial signs on approach roads should be checked to ensure that they are not obscured by excessive grass growth or indeed diminished in effectiveness by traffic spoil, for example, Slatterys Roses sign on the Cashel road.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Summerville Close, a new estate, was very well presented. Individual houses on the Cork road in many cases featured excellent garden displays. Houses on the Mountain View Drive looked well with some exceptional houses on Mountain Road itself. Smaller houses closer to the centre on this road would be improved by the provision of window boxes or hanging baskets. Woodville estate provided a number of well presented gardens but presentation was not uniform. The new estate, Castle Court, featured well developed gardens and communal grassed areas, with No 8 being particularly successful. Houses on the Mall have an individual dignity and a collective impact which is quite striking. The terrace of small traditional houses with the dormer windows near the Health Centre are a delight.

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

The Heritage Town signs are a fine addition. In general, 30 and 40 mph signs were well presented but, in a number of cases, required simple washing or repainting of the poles. The Cork road is particularly urgent in this regard. A pleasant addition is the little

amenity area at the junction of the Cork road with the Ballylooby slip road. The Cashel road features a fine, well developed, mature picnic area. Signage on the Clonmel approach is very well presented.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Cahir enjoys a very rich heritage of fine imposing buildings, streetscapes and Square. The Square being the natural focal point would benefit from enhanced and improved presentation of a style and standard already achieved in the forecourt of the Library which is a delight. The greater use of ground planted flowers and shrubs is recommended to give movement, colour and excitement to its streetscape particularly in The Square, Castle Street and the Tipperary road. Despite the extensive works in progress the centre has been very well presented and compliments are extended to all involved in another successful presentation.