

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLOGHEEN**
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 30-06-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	23	20
The Built Environment	40	24	22
Landscaping	40	21	20
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	12
Litter Control	40	23	22
Tidiness	20	12	10
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	21	20
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	163	150

Clogheen, Co Tipperary

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Clogheen has made dramatic strides in this years competition initially with the preparation of a detailed plan of campaign and securing the support and active involvement of the County Council. These successes have led to substantial improvements on the ground which in turn are reflected in a materially improved mark. Thank you for the comprehensively completed entry form supported by correspondence with Tipperary County Council, your detailed report on your activities and aspirations and also the most useful map.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As is to be expected, the historic settlement of Clogheen has a substantial number of significant items under this heading. Strong robust walls, in addition to buildings and premises contribute to a sense of order and organisation. The bridge at the river Tarr and especially the river Duag also contribute. It is a delight to note the work in progress on the wall leading from Parsons green to the village proper. The entrance to Cooleville House and its gate lodge are a delightful cameo. The work carried out to the new hostel, the Garda station and especially the visitor centre are commendable. The present day use to which the former church at St. Pauls has been put as a Community centre are worth while. The post office was well presented as was the new shop fronted chemist, the day care centre, Corbetts hardware and the Siat garage. Some buildings would benefit from repainting or, even as a temporary measure, a washing of their front facing walls.

LANDSCAPING

The two rivers have been used to good effect as significant elements in the landscaping of the village. The provision of seating by the river is to be commended, as is planting generally throughout the village. Where possible natural ground planting is to be preferred to tubs. Where tubs are used, it is important to ensure very full planting is achieved to give a draped effect to the sides of containers. Good work has been done at the entrance area to the school and at incidental sites, as they occur, throughout the village. Particularly noteworthy was the fine flower bed at the river Tarr.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

In this category also, the rivers are important elements for wildlife habitats. The explanatory boards at the rivers Tarr and Daug are excellent. The hedgerows and grassed areas are also significant habitats. Selecting berry bearing shrubs when planting in grassed areas is an excellent way to increase the bird and wildlife population in an area.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter management throughout the centre was of a high order.

Some litter bins appeared in need of repainting or other refurbishment. Minor amounts of litter were noted in the school parking area and around the central car park.

TIDINESS

Many of the commercial premises were well presented but it is important to be aware that the areas around commercial buildings also require to be kept orderly and, where this is not reasonably possible, appropriate screening be provided. The streets generally appeared to be freshly presented and, apart from a small stretch on the Vee road, were well presented. We noted with approval the REHAB recycling banks and welcomed the absence of any dumping in their vicinity.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Most houses were well presented, with many individual good gardens, and the practice of window boxes was worthwhile. There was a notable increase in the number of hanging baskets. All contribute to a good sense of colour in the area. The houses in Mountain View were neat and orderly with the public grassed areas being well presented. These comments also apply to Lios Mhuire terrace where again tree planting and the communal grassed areas were very well presented.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the approach roads from Clonmel the hedges were appropriately cut back and it is a delight to see work in progress on the new pavement. On this approach there was no evidence of disfiguring spoil at the base of walls and signage was good throughout but with some disfigurement, by graffiti, of village nameplates. The high wall on the Ballyporeen approach is beginning to unravel somewhat and attention is directed to this difficulty which will otherwise accelerate in the years ahead.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Clogheen is a very historic settlement and a number of exciting developments are currently in train which should launch the village into a significant era of prosperity ahead. The delightful rebuilding, for example the music centre, the heightened awareness of the value of its rivers and the growing involvement and participation of the community at large will collectively ensure for Clogheen an increasing significance in and benefit from their annual Tidy Towns programme.