

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KNOCKAVILLA**
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 03-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	21	--
The Built Environment	40	23	--
Landscaping	40	22	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	--
Litter Control	40	27	--
Tidiness	20	12	--
Residential Areas	30	16	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	--
General Impression	10	5	--
TOTAL MARK	300	162	--

Knockavilla, County Tipperary SR

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition and thank you for the completed entry form and the details you supplied of your Committees plans and ambitions. It has been found useful to prepare a programme of your objectives, on an annual basis, and covering a 3 to 5 year period. If this is suitably launched the community at large will often, more readily, support the objectives and participate in your activities. You should divide your objectives between short term, to be achieved during the current calendar year and those which essentially are long term, taking perhaps 3 to 5 years to complete. A case in point for this matter might be, for example, the reinstatement of the wonderful robust stone walls. Consult with your Local Authority and the Tourism Officer for Tipperary SR.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church is very well presented, the grounds being neat and tidy. The grassed area and flower bed within the grounds contribute substantially to an overall good impression. The Community Hall in the former school was well presented and colourful. The School itself and the grounds were neat and orderly. Work is in progress on reinstating the wall. The very fine walls throughout the centre are a delight and should receive priority treatment, on a phased basis, as they would contribute very substantially to an overall strong impression. The Marian Year Grotto is a highly visual element which would benefit from more intensive planting and the repainting of the iron work.

LANDSCAPING

The opportunities for landscaping within the centre include the grounds of the school and church and the foreground of the Community Centre in addition to the various approach roads. Devise a programme of progressive planting over the years and discuss with the County Council the possibility of creating a small raised flower bed roundabout in the large area fronting the Church.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Its rural setting affords opportunities for the enhancement of wildlife habitats within the community. The provision of additional trees and planting of native, berry producing shrubs in suitable locations should be considered.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter management was good and the village was well presented on the day of adjudication. An additional litter bin in the school area and one near the shop would be an advantage. It is important to make appropriate arrangements for their on-going servicing.

TIDINESS

Knockavilla projects a pleasing, orderly view with few negative aspects to be considered. The derelict house opposite the Church is a problem as is the frequent breeches in the fine walls. The area at the telephone booth would be enhanced by additional planting and the provision of a litter bin.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The houses on the Cashel road beyond the School were very well presented and compliments especially for the appropriate planting outside the front facing wall of the first house. This technique is also suggested for the School wall when reinstated. The private houses on the roadway from the School to the Church were well presented many with good floral and garden displays and splendidly freshly painted. The houses on the road leading to Grane Park were similar very well presented. The new houses on the Dundrum Road were looking well and their gardens beginning to take shape.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Knockavilla shares with other small centres the requirement to create a clear-cut divide between the surrounding rural countryside and the village itself. This can best be achieved by an amalgam of a nameplate / 30 mph speed limit sign with suitable cutting of the hedgerows and trimming of the verge grass from this point inwards. The signage mostly was well presented but the Yield sign at the Church junction requires repainting or replacement. A litter bin has fallen down in this area.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Knockavilla has made a good start in the competition and your 12-person Committee is urged to work on the creation of a 3 / 5 year development programme for the village while giving attention to some of the aspects raised above. Congratulations to all involved on an excellent first entry.