

*"Caring for our environment"*

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

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-97

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1997	Mark Awarded 1996
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	30
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	24	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	18	20
Tidiness	20	8	10
Residential Areas	30	22	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	21
General Impression	10	5	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>174</b>

## **Marlfield, County Tipperary SR**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for the completed questionnaire, histories of Inislounaght Church and Abbey, the map of the village and plans for the Sandybanks all of which were very useful on adjudication day. Marlfield is arguably one of the better endowed villages in Tipperary with a superb natural habitat, matured trees and a Suirside location all of which contributes to a delightful, landscaped heritage marked by very fine housing stock. Unhappily it clearly has a serious blind spot in connection with the extent of weeds and grass permitted to flourish at the base of walls and especially at the side of roads. This defect is costing the centre very heavily in terms of adverse marking.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Marlfield has a delightful range of structures ranging from the historic Inislounaght Church to Oakland and Marlfield House. It is suggested that your efforts in the Church grounds initially be confined to rough-cutting the entire cemetery which is perhaps all that could reasonably be attempted having regard to existing resources. Salisbury Mews looked well as did Marlfield Store. The entrance gateways to Oakland and also Marlfield House are very imposing but require additional treatment to optimise their effect. At a different scale, the Role of Honour is currently increasingly obscured by ivy and needs attention. The fine wall leading to the wildlife lake is a delight. Care should be taken to fully and suitably reinstate it as new houses are built along this road. The fine walls on the entrance from Clonmel are excellently presented.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscaping opportunities are numerous. The lake area having been part-funded by the National Lottery, is a delight with many seating areas. The GAA grounds in general are fine but a little attention is needed around the entrance area. St Patricks Well was very well presented, the sign is freshly painted but it is disappointing to note the amount of litter in the entrance area. The proposals for the development of the swimming area are well conceived and wished well. In too many instances superb landscaping was marred by the amount of weeds flourishing at the sides of roads.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The lake area is of course a joy and all involved in its creation and continuous maintenance deserve the unqualified applause for all their efforts. The riverbank too is a fine natural habitat which is well presented. The avenue leading from the village centre to the riverbank is a delight, featuring, matured trees, with broad and well presented grass verges. Replace the OPW Hunting Prohibited sign at the lake and cut back the grassed area sufficiently to highlight the "Waterbirds of Marlfield Lake" explanatory sign.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter was disappointingly evident on the day of adjudication. Please do not relax your on-going efforts to educate all to play their part fully in a suitable litter management programme. Litter bins were suitably sited but in a number of cases were battered and in need of repainting at least or replacement as necessary. It is particularly so at Mountain View estate. A litter bin, of suitable quality, is urgently required at the entrance to St. Patrick's Well. A fine litter bin has been installed opposite Ravensdale Bed & Breakfast and this type of bin should be the standard for the rest of the village.

## **TIDINESS**

In general Marfield is a tidy, neat and wholly appealing village. However, as stated elsewhere, the extent of weed growth is a disappointment and its eradication should be seen as a priority. There is a broken seat at Mountain View estate which needs attention. Please re-varnish the little case containing the map in the centre of the village.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Marfield has a delightful housing stock which is presented in an exemplary way. Of particular delight is the small, unnamed, estate to the left of the Clonmel road featuring fine, mature, chestnut trees. Mountain View estate featured a well presented grassed area with some trees. The mature terrace before Marfield House entrance is a delight as was the floral display at the second house from the junction leading to St. Patrick's Well. Individual houses were freshly painted, well presented often with really good garden presentations.

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

The approach roads from Clonmel, by the lake and past Marfield House are extremely good except for the disappointing extent of weed growth. Work in progress was noted on the verges of the lake walk which were suitably cut. The village nameplates are delightfully situated and suitably presented on both the Clonmel and Lake road approaches. It is suggested that a sign should be provided at the Oaklands road entrance to the lake, to facilitate visits by a wider audience.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Marfield is a wonderland of pleasing vistas, extensive landscaped areas, with a rich wildlife heritage. An energetic Committee is largely securing the support of the Community and this is to be encouraged. Please give attention to the matters referred to in this report which should increase significantly the marks awarded to you in future years.