

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **CLOGH**  
County : **KILKENNY**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 25-06-98

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1998	Mark Awarded 1997
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	33
The Built Environment	40	26	22
Landscaping	40	25	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	31	28
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	20	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	8	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>190</b>

## **Clogh, County Kilkenny**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

It is gratifying to read that your committee is receiving such widespread support from the community, from FAS and other bodies and that you continue to liaise with your local authority. Remarkable work has taken place, particularly in the built environment, in Clogh since last year which will be commented on later in this report. Continue to prioritise projects each year and work within your physical and financial resources. Success in the competition does not come overnight but, as other centres have found, is the result of many years of diligent planned work which gain extra marks on an ongoing basis.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The new housing estate (although not yet completed) on the Portlaoise side of the village and the Colliery Close Housing in the centre of the village have added greatly to the appearance of Clogh. On adjudication day the church and schools and their respective surroundings were extremely well presented. Congratulations to all concerned. Some dereliction still exists and you should keep close contact with your local authority on this. In addition your thatched cottages looked extremely well and are indeed a feature of the village. Business premises were also very well presented of which Kavanagh's Bar and McCarthy's Garage are exceptional.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The landscaping of the new housing estate on the Portlaoise road will look very well when completed. That at Colliery Close has been very tastefully done and fits in very well with the surrounding individual efforts of various householders in terms of their gardens, window boxes, and hanging baskets. In fact on adjudication day the whole centre of Clogh was a blaze of colour. The landscaping at Chatsworth was also visited. This is a very nice project and great credit is due to all concerned with it. However do refer back to last year's report and the suggestions regarding the planting of trees and shrubs on a judicious basis. Shrubs in particular, if chosen carefully, can provide colour on an all year round basis.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your comments under this heading have been noted. This is a comparatively new section in the competition and it was gratifying to read that you have enlisted the support of a wildlife expert.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Clogh was almost completely litter free on adjudication day. Congratulations again are due to all concerned. This is an aspect

of the competition which needs constant monitoring.

## **TIDINESS**

There was some weeds in gutters on the Portlaoise side of the village. Otherwise the village was presented in a neat and tidy manner. The cutting of margins however needs to be improved. It is appreciated that this is a very difficult task in a village like Clogh which is very strung out. It has been suggested to your near neighbours-Moneenroe- that they might approach Kilkenny County Council to cut the grass verges at a minimum of once a year. Perhaps this an area where there could be co-operation between the two villages on this aspect of the competition

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most private houses were very well presented. As Clogh is mainly residential it is important to have the individual effort as well the collective one and in this respect you appear to be succeeding. The gardens of some of these houses were excellent with one very interesting one containing wheels and some examples of old fashioned bicycles. Housing estates in the village were visited. These, in the main, were very well presented. If you have not already done so you should form a Residents Association and have members of it on your committee.

## **ROADS, STREET AND BACK AREAS**

In general these were well presented but it must be remembered that it is the whole village which is adjudicated on, not just the main streets.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

There has been a big improvement in Clogh this year and this is reflected in your marking. It would be useful for you to visit and meet with the committees in other centres in the county such as Kilkenny City and Inistioge and possibly Ardmore, Co. Waterford and Rossadrehid in South Tipperary. Other centres have done this and have found these visits most useful in terms swapping ideas and knowledge. In addition keep in touch with your Local Regional Tourism Authority based in Kilkenny, who will be able to give you help and advice on the competition and who, on annual basis, run a Tidy Towns seminar which is well worth attending.