

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLONMANY**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 20-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	21
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	17	16
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	10	10
Litter Control	40	25	23
Tidiness	20	12	12
Residential Areas	30	17	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	20
General Impression	10	6	5
TOTAL MARK	300	157	148

Clonmany, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

This village is a very pleasant place to visit, and was looking well on a sunny morning in June. It would take very little effort to make substantial improvements in several of the categories listed below, thus obtaining a greater increase in marks and taking a much higher place in the county. It is disappointing to read that you get no support from the local community, and you must be unique in this. Clonmany has all the natural attributes which make one expect it to do much better in the competition.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The Church, the School and St Mary's Hall are all very well maintained. A number of business premises, among them the Post Office, the Spinning Wheel, McFeely's and Friel's are well presented; there are still shops with plastic or mass-produced signs which detract somewhat from the general picture. The condition of the old Garda Station is unhelpful to your entry in the competition. The roofs of almost all the older terrace houses are in very good order and give an unusually striking impression. The completion of an important building project in the Market Square will be assessed next year.

LANDSCAPING

You do not state if you have planted new trees in the last year, but some young trees - chestnuts and sycamores along a fine stone wall - looked well tended on adjudication day.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There is great potential, as remarked by last year's adjudicator. There are also a number of ideas which you may find useful on pages 65 to 72 of the Tidy Towns booklet.

LITTER CONTROL

Though there was appreciable litter near McAuley's, and the stone seating area, on adjudication day, control was generally good throughout the village and on the approach roads.

TIDINESS

The large car park near the church was very unkempt indeed on adjudication day. Tubs beside it were unplanted, adding to the rather scruffy appearance. In a smallish

village one poorly kept site of this kind can be very eye-catching, and this is unfortunate because in general the village is neat and clean. A whitewashed wall opposite McDonald's needs touching up, and the same applies to some buildings behind McCauley's.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The well roofed and well painted street houses make a very pleasing visual impact. The vacant house in the Square is a cause for concern - it is particularly handsome and unspoiled, but could easily fall into disrepair. Other more modern houses, especially those with gardens, contribute considerably.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Surfaces are good, and recent paving is a great advance. The ESB pole in the middle of the Square remains an eyesore. The greatest progress has been made in the building of stone walls - these are excellent, appropriate to the locality, and provide a rich texture to the visual background of village life.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A place full of character and **charm**. Improvements have been very favourably noted, and it is felt that a more significant improvement in marking could be achieved without enormous effort if all residents would display local pride and lend a hand.