

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **KILMACRENAN**
County : **DONEGAL**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 17-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	32
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	27	26
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	23
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	197	194

Kilmacrenan, County Donegal

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

For a village which has attained a relatively high position in the county, and which was looking smart and prosperous on adjudication day, it is quite disappointing to read somewhat a negative response to the questionnaire. Out of over two dozen entries in Donegal, Kilmacrenan is the only one where co-operation from the Local Authority is described as almost non-existent, and local support is stated to be 'None'. The Committee should perhaps examine its remit and try a different line. So much good work has been done over the years, and is continued this year, that it would be most unfortunate to see a diminution of the Committee's important and useful work.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The chief buildings of architectural interest, the Churches, are very well maintained. The hall or school adjoining the Church of Ireland looked especially neat in its trim lawn. The Lurgyvale Heritage Centre was crowded with visitors on adjudication day; the thatch was in poor condition, which should not be so as this is a showplace - where people are paying admission.

LANDSCAPING

The entry form states that nothing has been done, but the Rosemount estate is most attractive in its conspicuous location beside the main road, with its shrubs, flowers and lawns. New trees were certainly seen on the west side of the Creeslough road. Flowers in public and private places add colour to the scene.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

There does seem to have been little initiative under this heading. There are several suggestions in the Tidy Towns booklet, one or two of which could well be suited to your pastoral and riverine location.

LITTER CONTROL

This was, if anything, even better this year, and is certainly above the national average. Congratulations. Litter is a nationwide problem, which merits continuous vigilance.

TIDINESS

There is still some dereliction, and a very prominent discoloured gable catches the eye on the left as you enter Kilmacrenan from Creeslough. Lengths of whitewashed wall on the Letterkenny road and the Church road mentioned last year were still in need of repainting. Kerbside weed was virtually absent, and no flyposting was seen.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

As mentioned above, Rosemount is a most pleasant estate and sets a very high standard. The new Hilltop estate is beginning to look established - some corners need to be tidied up, and extensive tree planting would be an enormous advantage. The estate under development across the road promises well. The holiday homes were neat and tidy on adjudication day. Many of the older houses were looking very well cared for - among the best examples are the large cream-coloured house at the foot of Main Street and the yellow house on the Milford road.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Except for the short stretch of road up to the holiday homes, paving and surfacing are good. New stone walls and pillars at the new estate are excellent.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

A pleasant village with a number of attractive areas. Improvements needed here and there could be phased from year to year, and to this end a 3- or 5-year Plan would help to identify priorities and set timescales.