

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLARENBRIDGE**
County : **GALWAY**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 29-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	20
The Built Environment	40	25	26
Landscaping	40	28	28
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	28	29
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	18	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	22
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	176	177

Clarenbridge, County Galway

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

There is now a good tradition in Clarenbridge in addressing a number of aspects related to tidy towns including; litter control, the presentation of the green, and in more recent times the attention to matters relating to wildlife. The introduction of a 3 to 5 year plan is recommended to ensure that developments are in harmony with long term aspirations.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Feature building in Clarenbridge is without doubt the unusually designed and doric columned Church. The thatch roofed Paddy Burkes is full of character. Otherwise, while not exceptional the buildings along the main street are attractively presented. The Oyster Hotel displays interesting architectural features, and the Clarenbridge Crystal and Fashion shop is highly attractive. Work at the back of the parish hall is ongoing.

LANDSCAPING

The village green displays the main landscaping element in the village. It has a fine variety and stands on mature trees. Considerable effort has been made to create an entertaining visit to the green through placement of old farm carts etc. To some extent the visual advantage offered by the green is lost behind the surrounding walls. This area was devoid of any weed or litter. The gardens surrounding the church were also well presented. The new amenity at the Clarin River looked well and the adjacent Clarenbridge Crystal and Fashion shop was exceptional.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The access development at the Clarin River bridge has opened wildlife development in this area. Access is to one side only allowing natural flora development to prosper and attract various species of wildlife. There are some signs of algae bloom which should be monitored.

LITTER CONTROL

There is evidence that there is a very effective litter control programme in operation. All the main streets were virtually litter free, but some care needs to taken at the Clarenbridge Bridge amenity.

TIDINESS

Clarenbridge displays a good level of tidiness. There was a little verge trimming required on the coast road and along the verges at the housing estate near the parish hall. The buildings along the main street are two storey and, apart from numerous television airials, had an organised and tidy aspect.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

There is an attractive terrace of houses along the northside of the green

which should be protected for the future. Above the parish hall is a small if not remarkable housing estate. It is clean and could be improved with a little care to verge trimming.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Galway access to the town is well, if not exceptionally presented. There is a flower bed display under the town sign which is almost hidden by grass. Closer the new wall for the Clarenbridge Court Hotel is a clean cut if stark welcome, but no doubt maturity will improve its presentation. On the Ennis side the approach is well dressed with mature trees, and the clean well maintained walls give a good impression. The coast road has the most interesting approach with its thatched cottages, but some verge trimming is required.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Clarenbridge with its wide main street is a most pleasant village to visit. There are plenty of entertainments for the passing visitor which adds to its social life. It has a problem with heavy goods vehicles passing almost continuously to the detriment of air quality and peaceful atmosphere.