

"Caring for our environment"

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

Results

Date of Adjudication : 11-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	34	32
The Built Environment	40	26	25
Landscaping	40	31	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	23	23
Litter Control	40	25	24
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	212	207

Ardfinnan, County Tipperary South

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The most detailed application form and the excellent map were very useful. It is obvious that from both documents that your Committee continue to make substantial progress which is reflected in the way on which Ardfinnan was presented on adjudication day. You received an in-depth report from last year's adjudicator. The following comments are therefore views on the progress you have made to-date and should be read in conjunction with the 1998 report. It is indeed gratifying to read about the continued support you are getting from the various local bodies including the GAA club, your Local Authority, FAS and your schools.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

All the commercial premises mentioned in last year's report were again very well presented as were the church and school. Congratulations to all concerned. This is a major part of the competition and the high standard of presentation indicates excellent local support for your efforts. The bridge over the River Suir looked extremely well and that the way it was presented could act as a model for many other towns and villages with a similar facility.

LANDSCAPING

The very favourable comments made in last year's report are still applicable. The adjudicator was very impressed with the whole village green area presentation, the wonderful display of flowers, shrubs and trees and the way that the seating and bridges are being maintained. Some wonderful flowerbeds were to be seen around the village which were in full bloom which in turn were augmented by many instances of hanging baskets and flower baskets on telegraph poles. Work on additional flowerbeds was also observed in one of the housing estates. This is to be commended. The village green continues to be the main feature of Ardfinnan. It was presented in a very neat and tidy manner which reflects great credit on your Committee and the residents in general.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Your comments on the stream were noted and you are to be commended for this. In addition it was so wonderful to see so many swans in what is a relatively built up area. If you have not already done so the current thinking is that your Committee might set aside a specific area for preservation and development with a view to attracting wildlife. In the event you might make some mention of this

specially designated area when entering next year so that the adjudicator can have specific sight of it.

LITTER CONTROL

Ardfinnan was practically litter-free on adjudication day. Congratulations to all concerned. Unfortunately there was some evidence of litter in one of the housing estates at the top of the village which detracted somewhat from the overall effort.

TIDINESS

The overall impression this year again was one of a neat and orderly village which reflects great credit on the Community. Again congratulations are due to all concerned.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Housing estates in general looked well and individual houses were very well presented, some have very nice gardens. Individual co-operation is also a very important part of the competition as without it no committee can hope to succeed. It is important therefore, if you have not already done so, to have representation from the private house sector on your Committee and in particular representation from housing estates. Some individual houses also had excellent landscaping which added to the overall beauty of the village.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

All approach roads to Ardfinnan were well maintained. Grass verges are being tended and this was very noticeable. Flowerbeds on approach roads were also noticeable. This is an important part of the competition as approach roads tend to set the tone for the rest of the village. In the village itself roads and footpaths are being well maintained. The Main Street looked particularly good.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ardfinnan is a delightful village and your Committee are to be highly congratulated on the way it was presented on adjudication day. In addition, they are also to be commended on the 3 to 5 year plan that they have produced and in particular on their aspirations regarding wildlife and the environment. Keep up the good work !