

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLYLOOBY**  
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 15-06-1999

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	22	21
The Built Environment	40	24	23
Landscaping	40	25	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	23	24
Tidiness	20	13	12
Residential Areas	30	19	18
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>167</b>

## **Ballylooby, County Tipperary South**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for the information sent with your entry form and your sketch map which was most useful on adjudication day. It is gratifying to read that you still have the support of your Local Authority, your local schools and FAS and long may this continue. Your comment regarding your marking last year has been noted. The reality is however that in 1998 you received 167 marks as compared with 159 marks in 1997 an increase in marking and not a decrease as suggested in your comments. Last year's adjudicator gave you a detailed report on Ballylooby. The following therefore should be taken as comment on further progress to date.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The School, Church, Post Office and the Ned Tobin monument all looked well as did indeed most of your commercial premises. The Thonoge Lounge deserves special mention as does the thatched pub which was quite charming. Ballylooby does not have many buildings and premises but you are making very good use of what there is.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The general standard of landscaping was excellent. The grotto was superb and in full bloom on adjudication day. The Ned Tobin monument also looked extremely well as did the landscaping on the Cahir road. It was nice to note a good mixture of flowers and shrubs which will give you some colour on an all-year-round basis.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Under this heading the cleaning of the river bed was noted. However the thinking at the moment is that your Committee might consider setting aside an area either in or close to the adjudication area which would be preserved and developed for the attraction of wildlife. In this you should seek the advice of a local environmental expert or the Irish Wildlife Conservancy. In this respect there is helpful advice in the Tidy Towns Handbook. In the event of you embarking on such a project perhaps you would, on the adjudication form next year, identify the area concerned so that the adjudicator might have sight of it.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Unfortunately, Ballylooby was not entirely litter-free on adjudication day. Litter was to be seen in the vicinity of the

school, the church, in the precincts of the Thonoge Lounge and indeed on some approach roads which was very unfortunate as it took away from a very good overall impression. This is an important aspect of the competition which needs constant monitoring.

## **TIDINESS**

Other than the comments on litter mentioned above, Ballylooby was presented in a very neat and tidy manner on adjudication day. This would seem to indicate the stress which local residents put on this aspect of the competition and for which they are to be congratulated.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

As last year, most houses were very well presented. Some had excellent gardens which were in full bloom.

## **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

The approach roads were well presented with evidence of work having taken place. Streets in the village also appeared to have been well maintained.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Ballylooby is a very pleasant village indeed. Your landscaping and the wonderful flowers around the grotto in the centre of the village create a very nice ambience. As mentioned last year you should consider drawing up a 3 to 5 year plan. This can be a simple plan done in conjunction with, for example, your Local Authority. In the event try to do as much as you can in any given year within your physical and financial resources and keep the adjudicator informed through the entry form on progress being made. Your Regional Tourism Authority - based in Waterford - runs an annual Tidy Towns Seminar which is worthwhile attending and which normally has a number of specialist guest speakers. Help and advice can be achieved from that source as well as visits to other centres such as Kilsheelan and Kilkenny City. In the meantime you are doing excellent work. Congratulations to all concerned !