

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **AUGHRIM**
County : **WICKLOW**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	42	41
The Built Environment	40	28	27
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	24	23
Litter Control	40	33	32
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	25	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	31
General Impression	10	8	8
TOTAL MARK	300	241	234

Aughrim, County Wicklow

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for your completed entry form, photographs, map and copy of 5 year plan which was very helpful in course of adjudication. The very active Tidy Towns Committee are to be commended in their efforts for continuing to make further improvements throughout Aughrim. Congratulations also to all the others involved including FAS schemes, local residents and commercial interests. It is encouraging to see that your successful fund-raising efforts have resulted in considerable improvements to Aughrim. The use of flowers and containers is to be commended. Well done in your efforts to date, you are continuing to make considerable progress and the adjudicator wishes you success in the many years to come.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Firstly the adjudicator would like to commend the new development adjacent to the 1798 monument; it is indeed encouraging to see the use of materials, for example, windows as opposed to PVC. It was also very encouraging to see the use of materials within the coffee shop of this development, congratulations to the developer involved. The 1798 monument is now complete and provides a focus for this part of the town - well done. Lawless Hotel were excellently presented again this year, well done, with the grounds very well cared for. It was good to see the use of Irish in O'Duill's, however the premises would benefit from a painting. The Stone Cutter was excellent, congratulations. The Garda Station was nicely maintained with the use of flower boxes enhancing the building. Byrnes store was neat and tidy outside with nice flower boxes noted in the upper windows. The Catholic Church grounds were very well presented again this year, well done, as was the Church of Ireland which was very appealing. The National Disabled Angling Facility deserves special mention again this year and the adjudicator is amazed at the success Aughrim Tidy Towns Committee have had in transforming this area. However the GAA carpark is one area that needs to be tackled for next year and Herbst's would benefit from painting.

LANDSCAPING

What a joy to see well cared for open spaces throughout the entire village of Aughrim. Congratulations again this year. The junction with the Tinahely, Woodenbridge road was beautifully presented again this year, well done. The nice rockery at St. Martins is also a nice feature but it is disappointing to see the fountain feature not working and

the evidence of one or two pieces of litter within the pond. Riverside Park is an excellent presentation as was the National Disabled Angling Facility. Also the adjudicator was impressed with the area by the Old Stable (to the rear of the Captains Table), along by the river which was well cared for and provides a nice and quite retreat from the passing traffic above. Tinakilly Bridge and the stream was also noted and well cared for this year, as were all open spaces. Again the adjudicator must commend you on your efforts. Even passing up the hill, adjacent to the shops / Credit Union, its nice to see planting is always to the fore and to discover a nice seat with name plaque is also a nice feature, well done.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The comments made by last year's adjudicator do not need to be repeated as the same impression was received by this year's adjudicator. The identification of other wildlife areas on the approach road from Tinahely is also noted. The river area, although very much part of the town, is "left to it's own devices" and it's great to see that wildlife can co - exist within the heart of the village.

LITTER CONTROL

A very good effort here as the overall presentation is one which other towns should take note from. Litter, such a dirty word in other towns is obviously not a problem in Aughrim and this key ingredient, part of the ethos of Tidy Towns has been successfully managed in the case of Aughrim, so congratulations in this regard.

TIDINESS

Recycling bins were noted opposite the Garda Station. Generally there is a very neat and tidy appearance throughout the town. The only thing the adjudicator felt that took from the overall tidy appearance was the presence of gravel along the kerb sides in some cases, for example on the approach from Aughavannagh further out near Redna Bridge.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

It's obvious that the position Aughrim holds in the Tidy Towns Competition in County Wicklow is largely due to the efforts of the residents of the town of Aughrim. Confirmation of this can be seen in the presentation of all your residential estates and the care and attention to detail that is placed on them by the residents. St. Martins was beautifully presented as was Lourdes Crescent, Croghan View, Our Lady's Drive to name but a few. Excellent individual effort is noted throughout. Congratulations and well done to all those involved.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

It is encouraging to see that the approach roads from Aughrim receive considerable attention, for example, a very neat and tidy appearance was noted on the approach from Woodenbridge. The council yard on the right hand side had been suitably screened off, and tree planting was evident on the left hand side. Closer in, allowances were made for on going development works on the left hand side. The approach from Ballinclash was very neat and tidy again this year. The road towards Heather Glen does need resurfacing. A major objective should be to reinstate the footpath along the bridge near Lawless in a sympathetic manner.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The adjudicator enjoyed his visit to Aughrim this year and was very impressed with the presentation. Well done to everybody concerned and good luck for next year.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (09/08/99)

Aughrim has made very significant progress over the years and is now in among the very high scores. The great uses made of the river are an example to many other towns and villages. The entrances from the Avoca road and Rathdrum road are particularly attractive. The many floral displays and the clever use of so many landscaping opportunities are a credit to Aughrim, as indeed are the individual gardens to the residents. The stone walls are a marvellous feature and it is great to see a continuation of this aspect of development. New housing is conforming with existing buildings. With refinements such as a footpath at the bridge some improvements, to pavements in places and coping with some buildings that have been left behind in the improvements, Aughrim will be a very serious contender in the competition.