

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **EYERIES**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 06-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	46	45
The Built Environment	40	34	35
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	21	20
Litter Control	40	36	35
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	26	26
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	33	32
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	254	250

Eyeries, Co. Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

One of the major features of Eyeries is that it is a totally unplanned village, the development of which has been influenced partially by geographical features. The Tidy Towns Committee has adopted a very focused strategic approach to the development of the village in Tidy Towns terms, and that has brought well deserved results. Well done to you very hard working Committee for what they have achieved to-date.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As you have quite correctly identified in your Application Form for the 2000 Tidy Towns Competition dereliction is one of the main problems what you have had to tackle over the past number of years. At last it appears to the adjudicator that you are on the way towards resolving this difficult environmental issue. It was very pleasing to see that a number of new buildings are being built and that other renovations were in progress on adjudication day. Other buildings are for sale and it is hoped that new owners will adopt a sympathetic approach towards the external presentation of their buildings. The School building was very nicely presented and the murals on the road boundary wall are a very attractive feature. On the Eyeriesbeg Road the good presentation of the old stone barn and modern farm buildings was noted. Some buildings in the village are in need of re-painting or touching up of existing paint-work. On other building the reveals of doors and windows need attention The mural of the Chailleach Beara has been damaged by an overhead leaking roof gutter. Try and restore this mural which commemorates some of the important local folklore.

LANDSCAPING

The newly planted area near the Church was noted and this adds additional colour to this part of the village of Eyeries. The planting of native shrubs and plants that will encourage birds and butterflies is welcomed. The baskets and window boxes were well presented, but please do not over do this aspect of the presentation of the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The development of the local walks from Eyeries is an important feature of the village and is welcomed. It is noted that you have plans to provide additional information boards on the local flora and birds. Eyeries Park was well presented and the roadside fencing is being well maintained. The river area is showing the results of all your hard work and is now an important feature of the village. Maintenance of this area on

an on-going basis will be required. Your bird nesting boxes were noted but the adjudicator wondered if they were located in the best location to encourage nesting birds.

LITTER CONTROL

On the day of adjudication litter control was extremely good and this has been a strong feature of your village presentation for the past few years.

TIDINESS

The adjudicator has made allowance for untidiness caused by building development or renovation. It was noted that the 2000 phase of your ESB wires undergrounding project did not appear to have started by adjudication day. When this final section of this large project is completed it will make a great difference to that end of the village. On the Dreenagh road a small enclosed space with a locked gate was noted. This has become overgrown and requires attention.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Residential properties and gardens were presented to a very high standard. Private gardens were also very colourful and are being well maintained.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

On the Kenmare approach the fuschia on the low stone walls looked well. However some slight cutting back of the bank on the left hand side is required. On the Castletownbere approach road some slight trimming of banks is again required. The new Eyeries sign at the end of this approach road is well presented in the natural stone enclosure. Old stone walls and trees are a feature of some of your approach roads and these create very good habitat areas for wildlife. On the Eyeries Beg approach some trimming is also required. The "Old Road" approach road has an excellent mixture of old and new stone walls, and earth banks. The Eyeries sign on this approach road needs attention, and on the Dreenagh Road the fallen Speed Limit sign needs attention

GENERAL IMPRESSION

It was a pleasure for your adjudicator to adjudicate Eyeries. It is a most attractive village, full of character and interest. It is no wonder that it attracts so many visitors who were very evident on adjudication day.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (08/08/00)

The school was extremely fresh in its presentation, even the colourful children's murals of the stone boundary wall were

fresh! The approaches to the village were well maintained, although the directional signs on the top road and the village nameplates on each side were quite grubby and needed washing down. The new stone surround Welcome sign was admired and the marvellous displays of monbretia and nasturtiums overhanging a stone boundary wall at the centre of the village looked marvellous. Eyeries resists the temptation to over prettify and is quite restrained in terms of its floral displays. Do ensure that this approach is maintained. One or two of the houses and their gables along the Main Street will need freshening up before next year's competition and the Hag of Beara mural was still quite flaky at second adjudication day. Eyeries is always a pleasure to visit even on a rainy adjudication day.