

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **RAHENY**  
County : **DUBLIN**  
Category : **E**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 10-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	27
The Built Environment	40	25	24
Landscaping	40	27	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	24	26
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	24
General Impression	10	7	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>186</b>

## **Raheny, County Dublin**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The adjudicator noted your frustrations in relation to the population of Raheny relative to its size. Your updating each year of your three year plan is most helpful in terms of assessing how your progress. Your plans to incorporate a heritage trail is a marvellous idea as Raheny is a very unique and interesting village. Hopefully, your work with the Heritage Society will prove successful.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Both public and commercial premises throughout the village were well maintained on adjudication day. St. Mary's convent with its very mature grounds was beautifully maintained. The distinctive modern church is a most unique example of its kind. However the side wall and boundary (the latter of which was also damaged) will need painting before next year's competition. The shops along Main Street were fine – however, do try to discourage plastic signage. If necessary these should be replaced with ones of a more traditional timber variety. The old stone church and youth club looked fine and the Station House Pub was in extremely good condition (– a wet paint sign was visible on the day!) The library was well maintained as ever with its beautifully landscaped grounds. Luigi's restaurant in its prominent location as you reach the crossroads looked quite pristine.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Of particular note in the category is the enthusiasm shown by the private sector in this regard. The heavily landscaped banks to Luigi's with their old village pump feature was greatly admired and the pretty foxgloves and geraniums in front of the Bank of Ireland created an attractive splash of colour. Public buildings also play their part – of note the grassy banks to the grounds of the Garda Station. The relatively new trees each side of the street adjacent to Luigi's are coming along nicely.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Raheny is indeed fortunate in this regard, in relation to its close proximity to the sea and St. Anne's Park. Your plans in terms of opening up the Santry River to view are to be commended and this adjudicator looks forward to seeing the results of your landscape architect's proposals.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

The standard in this category of the competition could have been better on the day. Quite a bit of litter was evident blowing along the Watermill Road. Litter was also evident

outside the Spar Shopping Centre by Belmont Park. Papers were blowing around to the front of the Crescent and some of the litter bins appeared to be quite scratched.

## **TIDINESS**

The village looked well cared for on adjudication day. Minor problem areas are outlined as follows. Do try to discourage the unfortunate practice of advertising hoardings. Graffiti was still evident to the railway bridge – however, some improvement appeared to have been made in this regard. Graffiti was also evident to a gable wall at Watermill Drive. A side wall of the garage behind the funeral home looked quite flaky and in need of some attention.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Some brick cottages on the Watermill approach were greatly admired. However, one or two of the boundary walls on this approach were in need of painting. An attractive banked garden spilling to the roadside to a bungalow by the Garda looked well. The crescent of single storey gothic style cottages with their pointed arched and leaded windows are a marvellous asset to the village. The adjudicator noted the need of some work to the cobbles at the front and wishes you the best of luck in this regard. The simple and well maintained landscaping to the Ashcroft Estate was also greatly admired.

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

The approach roads to Raheny were generally in good condition on the day. The new cast iron signs directing you into the centre of the village look extremely well. In terms of other street furniture, the perspex to the telephone boxes at Belmont Park was quite scratched and some painting will need to be done to the poles to the traffic lights at the centre of the village.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Raheny is indeed a unique and interesting urban village with a wealth of historical and architectural assets. Good luck with your plans for its future.