

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **RATHGORMACK**  
County : **WATERFORD**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 14-06-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	25
The Built Environment	40	23	22
Landscaping	40	17	16
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	23	18
Tidiness	20	11	10
Residential Areas	30	18	15
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	19
General Impression	10	5	4
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>145</b>

## **Rathgormack. County Waterford**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

The attitude, as expressed on your entry form, is enterprising and forward-looking. As suggested by last year's adjudicator, you should follow the example of the vast majority of Tidy Towns Committees and Residents Associations in preparing a 3- or 5-year Plan, with what you believe to be achievable targets for each separate year in each category, instead of trying to progress on a number of different projects all at the same time: it is wonderful how such a Plan expedites advancement and, in the process, MAY gain additional marks under the above heading. However, as it turns out, your increase in marking this year is unusually high. Thank you for your map, which is one of the most informative and easily read we have received.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

On adjudication day, the Church and the School, in their well-kept grounds, were most attractive. The new paint on the Church gates was favourably noted. There was evidence of much ongoing environmental improvement at the new Community Centre, the result of which will be looked forward to next year. An un-named yellow building in the village centre was very smart indeed, but a shop opposite the main intersection could do with freshening up. Two derelict buildings were noted, one with a planning application attached – it is hoped that this will succeed and a fine replacement result.

### **LANDSCAPING**

A great deal of work was under way. This has the potential to attract an increase in marks next year, assuming that work continues in the way it has begun. The exposed stone banks and planting at the Garda Station are attractive and eye-catching.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Not very much seems to have been undertaken, but it is better to take one's time rather than go 'full steam ahead' on all fronts. The suggestions made by last year's adjudicator should be taken into account; you might also make a start at primary school level by inviting the teachers to initiate a competition in a class - for instance, each pupil going out and listing all the kinds of trees, flowers, birds, animals etc. seen; or perhaps drawing examples of what they find. 'Creating awareness' is the motto.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

This has been really successful. (It is hoped that this is a year-round achievement, and not that the adjudicator had a lucky day!) Congratulations to the whole community. It is hoped that the unusually significant increase in marking will be sustained next year. It is hoped that the unusually significant increase in marking will be sustained next year.

## **TIDINESS**

With so much improvement work going on, creating its own debris, the village does not yet project a particularly tidy air; but it is easy to see that this will change. The two vacant houses mentioned above, a broken wall adjacent to the filling station where there is what you describe as a 'black spot' waiting to be developed, some kerbside weed and the brown result of over-zealous poisoning (or, where poisoned weed should have been removed) opposite the Church – these small items contribute negatively. The Glenbia frontage could be upgraded.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Private homes, within the village and in the two outlying areas, are well presented. As mentioned before, some boundaries could do with improvement. Kerbside weed was a problem in some places at Monadiha, but in general the frontages and the charming gardens give an excellent impression. There is a really beautifully kept pink house with garden opposite the main Monadiha estate – this sets an enviable example.

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

The road surface will presumably be improved by the County Council after the excellent pavement scheme has been completed. Stone walls were admired. The design of lamps at Monadiha is attractive – the side road here surely should be lighted as well. The new lighting in the main street is good.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

A pleasant village with a progressive feeling. One of the pleasures of this visit has been the anticipation of seeing the fruits of the present work, next year.