

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **DURRUS VILLAGE**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **B**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 23-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	26
The Built Environment	40	30	28
Landscaping	40	26	25
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	14	13
Litter Control	40	25	29
Tidiness	20	11	12
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	23	22
General Impression	10	7	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>184</b>	<b>183</b>

## **Durrus, County Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Many thanks for your comprehensive submission including your objectives for 2001. These made extremely interesting reading. Your plans in relation to a "whole community" plan or programme is certainly very interesting. The new work to the sports field is commendable and the stone bi-lingual welcome sign when complete will make a very cheerful entry to the town on the Bantry Road. The adjudicator noted your problems in relation to speeding through the village and perhaps speed restrictions could be considered in order to counteract this problem. It was also noted that you are working on your five year work programme. It is essential that at this stage in the competition you formulate this document in order to give yourself a structured and cohesive approach to improving the village.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Both public and commercial premises throughout the town looked extremely fresh and well cared for on adjudication day. Ivo's looked very fresh in yellow with attractive window boxes. O'Brien's Food Market was also extremely fresh – perhaps the plastic signage could be replaced with that of a more traditional timber variety. Other premises of note were Carraig Buí Stores, the Long Boat with its abundant hanging baskets and O'Suilleabháin's all of which were extremely fresh. The Post Office was also well maintained and the Garda Station and grounds looked quite magnificent. The Catholic Church on the hill with its trees leading up the avenue was admired as was the marvelous Church of Ireland on the hill with its large cedar trees and graveyard to the front overlooking the waterside. The Church of Ireland National School looked quite fresh but its boundary wall was quite grubby. The Paddy Barry's building has been a problem for a number of years now and it is to be hoped that a resolution to this problem is forthcoming in the not-too-distant-future.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Incidental landscaped spaces throughout the village looked well on adjudication day. The triangular village green with its neatly cut grass, roses and picnic benches was as well maintained as ever. The attractive new very colourful planted bed in its sloping stone surround looked well on the Bantry Road as did the village pump further out. The graveyard was well maintained.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The adjudicator noted your work in relation to the clearing of the riverside areas. Perhaps you could consider involving the local schoolchildren in both national schools to put together a

map indicating areas of wildlife interest in the locality which could be combined with some nature walks.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

The standard of litter control on the day could have been better. In a village of Durrus's size even one or two papers are all the more evident. Litter was noted in the waterside on the Kilcrohane Road and scattered along Main Street.

### **TIDINESS**

Weed control to the base of a boundary wall on the Goleen Road was a problem on the day. Piles of construction material and pallets behind a stone wall near Wiseman's created a bad impression. Construction materials should be removed once the work has been completed. The harbour and pier area were, on the other hand, well maintained. A couple of derelict buildings in the village centre such as Barry's mentioned previously and the abandoned house opposite the triangle create a bad impression.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most of the houses within the village centre and along approach roads were well maintained on the day. A pretty garden on the Goleen Road was admired and the holiday cottages are extremely well maintained. A terrace of houses on the Kilcrohan Road was admired especially Ivy House. Perhaps you could introduce some landscaping behind the stone wall of the single storey houses on this road. Michaelmas daisies overhanging a boundary wall to a house also on the Kilcrohane Road made a cheerful display.

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

The standard in this category was generally quite good. Along the Bantry Road a stone wall was under construction. The grassy banks had been cut back and foxgloves were noted in the hedgerows. The nameplate on this side looked quite grubby but road works appeared to be in progress. On the Goleen Road the hedgerows had been cut back and road works were also apparent. The road leading from Wiseman's appeared quite overgrown. The Kilcrohane Road was extremely well maintained with its neatly cut hedgerows to one side and low wall to the water's edge on the other. An attractive ruined mill building was noted across the still water and wild daisies were apparent at the waters edge.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Durrus continues to progress well in the competition. In order to make further progress it is essential that you have a constructive approach in terms of a five year plan and the adjudicators look forward to reading this with next year's entry.