

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **NEWCESTOWN VILLAGE**  
County : **CORK**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 14-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	28	28
The Built Environment	40	32	28
Landscaping	40	34	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	18
Litter Control	40	34	35
Tidiness	20	12	16
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	28
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>218</b>	<b>214</b>

## **Newcestown, Co. Cork**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Newcestown Tidy Village and Development Association have prepared a short but clear five year plan and set out, as observed by last year's adjudicator, achievable objectives. However, you should set a timeframe against these proposals in order that both yourselves and the adjudicators can gauge your progress as the years go by. The village has made great strides in the competition since winning its endeavour awards in the mid 1990's. Many thanks for your map which very clearly indicated these areas where work is planned or has been carried out.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Church was well presented with its attractive boundary wall and hedge behind. Most buildings were freshly painted. Encourage replacement of plastic signs with ones of a more traditional timber variety and discourage the use of stickers in shop windows, as these can give it a very cluttered appearance. The Post Office was quite charming and the School and its boundary wall were extremely fresh. The ongoing work to the entrance area of the pitch and putt course was noted and, presumably, a pile of sand in this vicinity will be removed once work is complete. The old petrol pumps at the garage had been freshly painted and the attractive gate opposite was admired for its unusual quality. Perhaps the concrete block boundary wall of the GAA grounds could be rendered or painted, as it looked quite unfortunate on the day. The hall was freshly painted and sported some cheerful hanging baskets – perhaps its forecourt area could be softened by means of the introduction of some planting and/or trees, as, at the moment, it appears quite bare.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The standard in this category of the competition was extremely good. The old red cart filled with flowers adjacent to the shop was admired. The attractive grass verge adjacent to the grotto was well maintained – do remove the white plastic chain as this detracts somewhat from its appearance. The well cut grass verges throughout were admired, as were reasonably new ash trees and planting to stone walls. The grotto was well maintained as was the planting of marigolds in the stone beds on grass verges closer to the village centre. The picnic area on the Crookstown / Bandon junction with its traditional agricultural machinery looked extremely well. These items had been freshly painted although one had yet to be. The wild flowers opposite were admired.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your proposals in relation to the bird sanctuary are indeed commendable ones – perhaps when this work is achieved you

could erect a sign indicating the bird life that is attracted to this area. The yellow flag irises to a field in this location looked quite cheerful.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Although the standard of litter control on the day was good, even one or two papers in a village of Newcestown's size appear all the more apparent. A number of papers were evident on the Bandon Road on its grass bank and more were apparent on the Kilmurry Road.

## **TIDINESS**

Rusty tin roofs to out buildings create a very bad impression to the visitor approaching the village on the Bandon Road. Directional signs as mentioned elsewhere in this report should be freshly painted, as many appeared quite rusty. The rusty old cars at the garage with its attractive old petrol pumps should be more successfully screened from public view. The roofless shed on the Kilmurry Road should be re-whitewashed before next year's competition. The timber post and wire fence on the Castletown Kelleigh Road should be replaced with hedging of an indigenous variety such as beech or hawthorn.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

There are a number of new houses being built in the village and along approach roads. Do ensure that a good quality of finish is achieved and that these buildings will be in keeping with the character of the village. A neglected cottage at the village centre opposite the church was in need of a fresh coat of paint, in particular its tin roof. An attractive house on the Crookstown Road with a yellow boundary wall was admired as was the charming house and garden adjacent to the Post Office. A raised stone bed in front of a house on the Kilmurry Road created a very cheerful impression. The magnificent grounds and attractive stone boundary wall to the Parochial House with its planted area was greatly admired.

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

The standard in this category of the competition was quite good. The attractive square traditional signs were admired as were the neatly cut grass banks throughout. Foxgloves, ferns, wild fuchsia and montbretia were evident to hedgerows. The Bandon Road however, appeared quite overgrown and on the Kilmurry Road weeds had been sprayed but the dead weeds had yet to be removed. Signage could have been presented to a higher standard. The village nameplate on the Bandon Road appeared quite grubby, directional signs at the crossroads were also quite grubby, a rusty pole by the grotto looked unfortunate, and a rusty diagonal mark on the children crossing sign at the school looked most unfortunate. The pole to the directional signage at the picnic area was also quite rusty.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Newcestown is an attractive village which continues to progress well in the competition.