

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **RING**
County : **CORK**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 15-06-2001

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2001	Mark Awarded 2000
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	--
The Built Environment	40	20	--
Landscaping	40	20	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	--
Litter Control	40	36	--
Tidiness	20	8	--
Residential Areas	30	21	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	--
General Impression	10	7	--
TOTAL MARK	300	186	--

Ring, Co. Cork.

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Ring is indeed welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition in this your first year of entry. You certainly seem to have plenty of members on your committee! Your development plan tackle all of the necessary practicalities in relation to the village's future development. Your aspirations in terms of fostering a good working relationship with local businesses, Cork County Council, FÁS and, especially, the local community are indeed fine ones. The adjudicator was pleased to note your enthusiasm to maintain the village's natural character and beauty. The questionnaire was certainly a very good idea. Many thanks for your interesting social history of Clonakilty Bay. Your aspirations in relation to developing a wildlife walk and future development of the Mill are indeed fine ones.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Barry's Bar is a charming old traditional front which should be restored to its former glory. Kitty Mac's appeared quite fresh and its cheerful geraniums in window boxes were greatly admired. Perhaps you could, in the long term, erect an information board outlining the history of the old Mill for visitors. Deasy's Bar seemed quite fresh. However encourage the replacement of projecting plastic signs with ones of a more traditional timber variety – staining was evident to the façade below these signs. The tin roof to the stone out building (– possibly the Coast Guard Station?) should be restored to its cheerful red colour. An extremely flaky two-storey building near the bridge created a bad impression.

LANDSCAPING

There is much scope for development of this aspect of the competition. An incidental planted bed quite far out on the Courtmacsherry Road was greatly admired. The area adjacent to the waters edge with its red and yellow boat filled with flowers was admired. The pump was simply presented with flowerpots either side. There is scope for further development in this aspect of the competition – at entry points and focal points throughout the village.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Ring is indeed fortunate in this regard in its magnificent location on Clonakilty Bay – a multitude of wild swans were evident on the day. Wild fuchsia was noted overhanging the stone boundary wall to a cottage on the Clonakilty Road and salt resistant seashore flowers were evident at the stone wall adjacent to the pier.

LITTER CONTROL

The standard of litter control on the day was extremely good with little or no litter being evident. However you have

correctly identified that bins are essential to maintain this standard! Do ensure that their design is in keeping with the village's character – i.e. not too urban in character.

TIDINESS

A derelict building on the Clonakilty Road beyond the Mill looked quite sad. On the Timoleague Road the port-a-cabin and rusting iron vans, trailers etc. looked most unfortunate and should be removed or screened from public view.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

An attractive garden to a house with vertical slates looked most attractive. There is ongoing work to a large scale development with dormer windows opposite the Timoleague / Courtmacsharry junction. The council houses at the village center were quite fresh and an attractive garden at the junction of the Timoleague and Barryroe Roads was greatly admired.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Work will need to be done on this aspect of the competition before next year's entry. Along the Courtmacsharry Road weeding was necessary and the roadsides appeared quite overgrown. The Clonakilty Road is most attractive with a multitude of boats in the water. Along the Timoleague Road a village nameplate is required. Contact your local authority in this regard. This road was quite overgrown and in terms of street furniture the yield sign was in need of washing down.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Ring is a character-filled fishing village. Congratulations on your first year of entry – considering this fact the village looked extremely well cared for. Good luck with your future endeavours.