

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CASTLEMAINE**
County : **KERRY**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 08-07-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	--
The Built Environment	40	24	--
Landscaping	40	23	--
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	--
Litter Control	40	27	--
Tidiness	20	12	--
Residential Areas	30	20	--
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	--
General Impression	10	6	--
TOTAL MARK	300	184	--

Castlemaine, County Kerry

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Castlemaine is welcome to the 2002 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for your excellent submission, the committee is obviously aware of the work that needs to be accomplished over the next few years and has a strong commitment to the improvement of the environment. We wish the committee / community well on the preparation of marketing brochures for Castlemaine and the development of walks on river banks. We look forward to enjoying these in the not too distant future.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Most buildings were presented to a high standard and the Church of Ireland and its grounds were particularly admired. The school and its grounds looked well as did the Statoil properties, Griffins Lounge and Bar, Centra and Kelliher's also. A problem exists regarding the presentation of many commercial properties in respect of their yards and curtilage areas in general, these detract substantially from an otherwise good presentation under this heading.

LANDSCAPING

Landscaped verges marking the entrance to Castlemaine from the Killarney road were very much admired. Long grass at the base of trees just outside the WD O'Sullivan premises should be cut back to give these trees a better chance to grow. Remember that permanent planting (trees and shrubs) is likely to earn more marks than flower displays which tend to be short lived. Favour native species of trees and shrubs where possible as these support wildlife.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Castlemaine enjoys an enviable location at the confluence of two important rivers which means that wildlife abounds in the area. We are interested to know details of wildlife surveys or species counts undertaken and we look forward to future developments under this heading. Your Tidy Towns Handbook can be a source of ideas here. The riverside picnic area was neatly presented.

LITTER CONTROL

Litter control was good and litter bins seem to be adequate in number. Congratulations on the five new bins and the new signs. Well done also on regular clean-ups and collections by locals.

TIDINESS

A lot of work is in progress in Castlemaine with accompanying

upheaval, will keep your marks low under this heading until completion of projects. As noted above, untidy curtilage areas and yards are a problem, for example the Kerry Farm Shop and the area beside J. & M. Oils. It is noted however that the Kerry Farm Shop and associated premises are nicely painted. Some commercial properties on the Tralee entrance also presented a problem in this respect. Hedgerow was neatly presented and weed control was good overall with the small exception noted below.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The handsome house located across from the school was very much admired. The townhouse located opposite Griffin's needs to be refurbished, this property has some handsome features also which hopefully will be retained. The new large residential development on the Tralee entrance looks promising, particularly in respect of its roadside boundary treatment. It is suggested that the roadside boundary walls of the older houses in towards the town are maintained cleaned and / or freshly painted. The smaller housing development looks good, however weed growth was noted along kerbs here.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The road surface throughout Castlemaine was quite good in parts. Roadside verges further out an approach road had been neatly trimmed but those closer to the village were wild. This is a little unusual. The new Fáilte stones were admired and street furniture in general looked well.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Again thank you for your excellent submission, we look forward to many repeat visits. The overall impression is that Castlemaine is of a rapidly developing town with a strong commitment to the environment. Thank you for your re-entry this year.