

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **RATHANGAN**  
County : **KILDARE**  
Category : **C**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 08-08-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	44	44
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	35	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	27	26
Litter Control	40	26	27
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	29
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>237</b>

## **Rathangan, County Kildare**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENT APPROACH**

Welcome to the Tidy Towns Competition of 2002 and thank you for your application. Rathangan was a lovely pleasant village to visit, obviously. The very well cared for Canal, the River Slate and the Killinthomas Wood are all beautiful natural amenities and your developments around these are complimented. Your development plan is excellent and you appear to be aware of many aspects of the town's development. Well done on involving many organisations and the town's schools.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

Rathangan enjoys a mix of old and new. Most of the built environment is well presented. The stonewalls and bridges are a lovely feature of the village. The Church is well presented, as are all three schools. The Bridge Bar looks especially well. The Village Pump, Hackett's and Ryan's Pharmacy were also admired. The derelict building at the top of the Main Street (on the left near the green area) is in need of attention, as is the building on the village side of the Little Lilies Crèche Sign on the Bracknagh Road.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Your efforts under this heading are complimented, with many beautifully landscaped areas noted throughout the village. Landscaping on approach roads was admired e.g. the landscaping at Tannery Park is excellent. Tree planting and landscaping were admired in different residential areas e.g. Ard Mhuire, the landscaped areas outside the School on the Lullymore Road is particularly admired, as is the entrance to Annesboro View.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your interpretive signage was much admired. Congratulations on your success in the Barrow Awards last year. With natural amenities like the Canal and the River Slate and Killinthomas Wood you are very fortunate. However you have developed these amenities very well – by encouraging people to use them and educate those who do use them. Tannery Park is another excellent amenity and an important wildlife habitat. The Canal Walk and other walks including the Nature Trail are complimented.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control was reasonably good on the day of adjudication. Your motto is very good. Some litter was noted on the Kildare Road and a little on the Main Street.

### **TIDINESS**

There are no major problems under this heading. Be diligent where weeds are concerned, and continue to encourage residents and businesses to present their properties to the highest standards possible, including boundary walls and all areas visible from the roadside.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Residential areas are presented to a very high standard. The Ard Mhuire estates look very well. Spencer Court was magnificent in its presentation. Some residents at Demesne needed to pay attention to boundary walls. Glebe Court & Annesboro View were very well presented.

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

Signage to Rathangan was good and the bilingual signs are complimented. Some of the bins are in need of attention e.g. one at the entrance to Ard Mhuire (across from the Old National School) and one on the Main St outside Corry Insurance and Auctioneers. The surface outside Drummonds Ltd needs resurfacing.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Rathangan is a lovely rural village enjoying many fine amenities. The village is well presented and a joy to visit – well done on this year's presentation. You are being considered for a number of awards including Access & Interpretation of Heritage, Caring & Enhancement of Heritage, Landscaping Award, Waterside Award & Wildlife Award.

## **Second Adjudication (08/08/2002)**

Whereas much of Rathangan was well presented other areas were poor and tended to reduce the overall impression somewhat. On a wet morning uneven road surfaces and potholes were quite dangerous - an example of inconsistency since the town centre was well surfaced. The newer housing estates are disappointingly suburban in appearance and do not relate to the heritage of the town, particularly the very fine streetscape. The green at Ard Mhuire was magnificent. There was a little litter on the Edenderry Road and on the Kildare Road, most notably at Demense. The linear park is again highly commended but you must now attend to the few untidy yards, forecourts, buildings, etc. as applicable alongside. The recent wildlife signs are particularly appropriate. We look forward to returning next year.