

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **LUGGACURREN**  
County : **LAOIS**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	32	31
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	27	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	29	29
Tidiness	20	13	13
Residential Areas	30	19	19
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	26
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>196</b>

# **Luggacurran, County Laois**

## **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Welcome to the 2002 Tidy Towns Competition. Thank you for details of your 5 year plan. Your village is very special and great care must be taken to preserve its unique character. It is recommended that, apart from listing the various individual projects to be undertaken, a long term goal or vision be expressed so that all developments are leading in the same direction.

## **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The RC Church is cleanly presented and the mature trees frame the entrance. The church grounds feature two period style lamps. The Church of Ireland Church is a relatively modern building and generally looks well although the metal bell 'tower' is in need of painting. The grounds are well kept with mature trees and lawn. The Post Office is attractive. The village has beautiful stone walls throughout. The restored stone house with its timber windows is in keeping with the village style, although some finishing work is required to front wall. The Midland Health Building is most attractive with its yellow and green colour scheme. The Forge looks very well with its green painted doors, cut grass and planter of flowers.

## **LANDSCAPING**

The School is well presented. The walls are fine although there are some weeds near the entrance. At the back of the building there are a lot of weeds. The playing pitch is perfectly well presented. On the left hand side is a fine wall topped with mature hedging. On the right hand side leading towards the church are some new trees which are an investment in the future. There are some overhead wires and ducting should be kept on the agenda. In the meantime, some movement towards the introduction of more decorative lamp standards should be considered. Further up into the village are over hanging trees beyond which are the pump and trough. The trough is 20th century and is perhaps a bit modern in style. The pump is nicely painted and presented. Llandii hedge in front of house to the right is effective screening but not in keeping with the natural native trees etc. The pump is delightful with its floral surround and hanging basket on its spout. The FAS building looks well with its hanging basket and nearby floral display. The adjudicator has reservations about painting of the stone wall on the house just opposite the pump. The house garden is superb.

## **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Close to the bridge there is a wildlife area at the back of which is a dilapidated house. The bridge is the village 'showpiece' and is very well maintained and presented with cut verges, steps down to the river and work on-going to rebuild riverside retaining wall on right. There is an attractive planted area to the left. Some restoration work on bridge

shoulders could be improved - concrete finish not too good. An information map is recommended.

## **LITTER CONTROL**

Your no tolerance policy in regard to litter is working well.

## **TIDINESS**

A little rubbish evident in one garden, blue barrells etc. There were weeds on top of old wall. Some wall rendering was damaged. The wall from Lalandii hedge towards the T-junction could do with smartening up. Weeds in front of the ESB transformer have been sprayed but not removed.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Housing is well presented and note was taken of gold topped railing frontage. The garden around the post office, its associated residence and buildings is outstanding. Beyond the post office are modern bungalows and a couple of semi-detatched houses. The exterior walls could do with freshening up. Note was taken of houses with diamond patterned roof slating and old world style country gardens to the front.

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

Approach roads have a nice display of plants at the village signs. It is recommended that where possible old iron rather than the modern tubular gates be used.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

This is a delightful village. The ducting of overhead cables while a considerable challenge for a small village would be a very welcome development. Resurfacing of roads and the introduction of footpaths should be done with care and kept in proportion to existing buildings.