

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **BALLINA-MAYO**  
County : **MAYO**  
Category : **E**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 20-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	36	37
The Built Environment	40	24	24
Landscaping	40	30	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	19	20
Litter Control	40	17	17
Tidiness	20	9	9
Residential Areas	30	16	16
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	24
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>182</b>

## **Ballina, County Mayo**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Thank you for your completed entry form including map and photographs of projects and nominations. When enclosing photographs, please make sure to use a waterproof marker to label the pictures as they appeared to be obliterated. It was difficult to match picture to actual location in some places. It would be helpful if you could provide a more detailed map highlighting the precise location of projects, activities and nominations in the future. Some of the comments made by last years' adjudicator, both positive and negative still apply.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The Cathedral, the Railway Station, the Church of Ireland and the Post Office are still the most remarkably kept buildings in the town. Generally, the buildings mentioned in the previous year are in same proper conditions. Unfortunately, the situation regarding premises in need of attention, especially buildings in Lord Edward and Teeling Street remain unsatisfactory. Facades in Ardnaree Street would be more attractive if freshened up with paint. There are still a lot of PVC and aluminium window frames and plastic or mass-produced signs installed, which affects the handsome town-centre street houses.

### **LANDSCAPING**

The work at Primrose Hill Dolmen has been completed and the new stonewall and wooden fence were favourably noted. As in the previous year public gardens and spaces are well landscaped. Tubs window boxes and baskets brighten up the appearance of the town. The new playground at Tom Ruane Park has been laid out in an exemplary way. The work at the new tennis court was not completed by adjudication day and will be awaited next year.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The special planting along the Brusna (Bunree bridge/Island in river) is a real success. The nomination for the wildlife award at "Bishops Field" could not be considered due to insufficient attention. Most trees are in bad condition, i.e. uprooted or bend.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

On the day of adjudication there were outbreaks of litter at the corner of Pearse Street/Dillon Terrace, in front of Ballina Angling Centre, in Ardnaree Street opposite the Texaco filling station and on the grounds of the Abbey in Cathedral Road. It was favourably noted that weekly clean-ups and tidy streets competitions are carried out. A remarkable number of new litterbins have been noted.

## **TIDINESS**

There are still difficulties in giving the town a more tidy and attractive look. As in the previous adjudication, derelict/unattended and overgrown sites such as in Teeling Street (besides car park) (weeds opposite bus station/Ardnaree Street) were noted. Unfortunately, the rusty corrugated iron roof adjacent to market square has not yet been refurbished.

## **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Most of the domestic houses in Ballina are well looked after and a credit to their owners. Well-kept homes were seen at Bachelors Walk, Arbuckle Street and Clare Street. Some buildings at the housing estate "Tyrawley Terrace" would need some more attention in respect of weed control. Some façades need to be freshened up with paint.

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

The principal approach roads are in good condition. Well-trimmed verges and new trees give a good impression. The car parks are well kept, but there were still poor surfaces seen in places like Teeling Street and Ardnaree Street. The well-maintained crossings (Lord Edward Street), lamp standards and other street furniture were favourably noted.

## **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Ballina with its unique location on the river Moy has great potential in this competition and should be supported by individual householders and the local authority.