

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **ROSCREA**  
County : **TIPPERARY NORTH**  
Category : **D**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 28-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	43	42
The Built Environment	40	36	34
Landscaping	40	35	33
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	20	20
Litter Control	40	28	27
Tidiness	20	12	13
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	8	8
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>221</b>

## **Roscrea, County Tipperary**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Roscrea continues to impress and reveal more of the heritage aspects of the town on each visit. Much of the work which needs to be undertaken from here on is out of the control of the Committee. However, we note from the considerable amount of material that formed your entry, that representations are presently being made on a number of the main issues including traffic management and the underground ducting of wires. A small point – we would suggest that you include the map separately in future for ease of use during adjudication.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

The opening up of the area around the Round Tower and the development of the whole St. Cronan's complex is an immense achievement. Also, the work on the Mall by the Moneen River and the Glebe House entrance make this a very distinctive area. Other buildings such as Damer House and the old Petty Sessions premises were well maintained. The Fire Station, the Mid-Western Health Board premises and the Railway Station were also looking well. In regard to the latter, we would suggest that you ask your horticultural advisor to suggest some appropriate planting of flowers or flowering shrubs to Iarnród Éireann in relation to the grounds here. No doubt they would welcome any suggestions – other Railway Stations we have seen are often delightful and provide a great welcome to the traveller. It is good to note that there has been movement in respect of your dereliction problems. In regard to commercial premises, Castle Street premises were well presented, the wedgwood blue building next to the Bank of Ireland being painted on the day. Some other well presented buildings that were especially noted were: - The Strand/Tommy Macs, the Home Centre Furniture Store at Ballahall with its bilingual signage, the Fianna Fail office with colourful hanging baskets, the AIB Bank and Oliver Douglas and Sons, Hardware at Rosemary Square. However, inappropriate plastic signage was still in evidence at quite a number of premises throughout the town.

### **LANDSCAPING**

In connection with landscaping we note that Angela Jupe is preparing a submission for the NRA in regard to the roundabouts and this is to be welcomed. The new lanterns at Rosemary Square, near the fountain, are an elegant addition to this part of town. Good planting was noted on the Old Dublin Rd; near the Railway Station Bridge and at the housing estates further out this road. Other places providing colour were the planting on top of the stone wall at Doherty Bros. in Rosemary Square and the hanging

baskets maintained by two residents beside the Park. The Park, which was very busy during adjudication, was neat and tidy and well laid out. The trees planted in and around Roscrea continue to flourish and will leave a wonderful legacy for the future.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

The Green School Campaign is a worthwhile initiative in this category. We also note your plans for a wildlife Park in the Sheehane area where, unfortunately, itinerants have a camp at present.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

All your endeavours in this regard, especially the litter picks are paying dividends and there was very little litter to be seen on the day of adjudication. Good quality litter bins were strategically placed around the town.

### **TIDINESS**

Kerbs were mostly weed free although there was some grass to be seen at the traffic islands on the ring road. The major black spot in respect of tidiness in Roscrea is the large poles and thick cables traversing the streets of the town. However, as mentioned above, we are aware that you are endeavouring to find a solution to this problem. A more permanent looking plethora of verge side signs have been put in place at Racket Hall. These have spawned quite a number of similar type verge side signs for commercial business premises on the road back to the roundabout and also around the edge of same. These are not conducive to the image that a Heritage Town would want to convey.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Housing estates and other private residences in and around Roscrea are contributing to the tidy towns effort. As mentioned previously, more use of vibrant colour throughout the town would be welcome. It was good to note the new paths at the housing estate on the old Dublin road.

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

The traffic element of this category is a major problem in Roscrea. Even with the bypass, the centre of the town on the day of adjudication was amazingly busy including quite an amount of large commercial vehicular traffic. Movement throughout was very disorganised. Main Street was horrendous, with delivery vans double parked (in the afternoon) and people backing out from kerbside parking at each side of the road. Good photographs could not be taken of the Fountain area in Rosemary Square because of the "abandoned" cars surrounding it.

We note that a Traffic Management plan has been agreed and look forward to the situation changing by next year.

Signage was mostly good throughout but the bent sign outside Shaws was still in the same condition and a Heritage Trail Display Board at the Petty Sessions building also needed attention.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

Perseverance will be required by the Committee to obtain action on the problems outstanding in a reasonable length of time. However, with your record to date we look forward to you overcoming these obstacles through negotiation and hard work and wish you well in your endeavours.