

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLOGHEEN**
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**
Category : **B**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 19-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	29	28
The Built Environment	40	28	28
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	16
Litter Control	40	27	25
Tidiness	20	15	14
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	24	24
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	195	190

Clogheen, County Tipperary

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for all the information and the map sent with the entry form which was most useful on adjudication day. It is gratifying to read that you have the support of Fás and your local school children for your efforts. In addition, street cleaning by your County Council was also seen on adjudication day. Sponsorship is also very important for your efforts and those providing it are to be applauded. Tidy Towns Committees are being encouraged to produce a 3/5 year plan, the purpose of which is to set out on a year-to-year basis what can be achieved within their physical and financial resources. In the event, this will also have the effect of measuring what you are achieving on a year-to-year basis. The plan need not be elaborate and can be done in conjunction with your Local Authority, Fás and other interested parties. If you decide to produce such a plan please send a copy with your entry form next year so that the Adjudicator can have sight of it. You received an in-depth report from last years Adjudicator. The following therefore is by way of comment on further progress to date and should be read in tandem with that report.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

As last year, the Churches, Courthouse, Schools, Health Centre, Community Centre, Fire Station and Garda Station were very well presented. The new plaques on the Courthouse and St. Paul's Church of Ireland were noted. Stone walls, which are a feature of Clogheen, are being well maintained. The bridge looked well as did the old ruin in Brewery Lane. In the case of the latter however the landscaping is in need of attention. Many commercial premises throughout the town looked well. Others are in need of a coat of paint. In this respect comments made under this heading last year are still applicable.

LANDSCAPING

Trees and shrubs planted in the past are now maturing and look very well. Many sites were visited and these, together with hanging baskets and window boxes, where presented, create a very nice atmosphere around the town and are being well looked after. Comments made in last years report regarding housing estates with open spaces are still applicable. On adjudication day some of these were badly in need of cutting. For the future, perhaps part of your planning should be that you concentrate on trees and shrubs which will give you some colour on an all-year-round basis. On this take the best advice you can. Your County Council usually has an Officer with responsibility for landscaping.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

The river bank at Wyses was visited and excellent work has been done. Your comments regarding your efforts last year were noted. Perhaps what is required is the planting of some trees and shrubs with berries which would provide additional food for wild birds together perhaps with feeding tables and nesting boxes, which hopefully would attract and retain such birds. Wonderful work on this type of development has been done at Ardfinnan and Marlfield. The Adjudicator feels certain that advice could be sought there. The Wildlife Officer of Duchas is also available to help.

LITTER CONTROL

Unlike last year, Clogheen was practically litter free on adjudication day. Congratulations to all concerned. This is an important aspect of the Competition and needs constant monitoring.

TIDINESS

In general the town was presented in a very neat and tidy manner. Cockpit Lane does need some attention as does the area at the end of Brewery Lane. It should be noted that adjudication is not just confined to the Main Streets but also to the side streets and back areas.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Housing Estates in the town were visited and in general houses looked extremely well and are being well maintained. Individual private residences also looked well. Many had lovely gardens in full bloom which were a joy to see. As already mentioned, attention to open spaces would further improve the appearance of some of the estates. If you have not already done so you should invite representatives from these estates onto your Committee. This type of collective and individual effort is a vital part of the Competition. You cannot succeed without it.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

Approach roads looked very well and, in many cases, showed signs of cutting. Road surfaces and pathways throughout the town are in good condition and in this respect, credit must go to your Local Authority. Bearing in mind that adjudication takes place from the town name signs or speed limit – whichever you opt for – the condition of approach roads is very important as it tends to set the tone for the rest of the town.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

The impression is one of enthusiastic involvement in the Tidy Towns concept and this is being reflected in the presentation of the town this year particularly in terms of tidiness and litter. Further progress will be made through planning and attention to detail. The Adjudicator looks forward to returning to Clogheen next year to see further progress

made.