

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **CLONOLTY**
County : **TIPPERARY SOUTH**
Category : **A**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 26-06-2002

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2002	Mark Awarded 2001
Overall Developmental Approach	50	24	23
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	29	30
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	14
Litter Control	40	28	27
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	19	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	25
General Impression	10	7	8
TOTAL MARK	300	193	190

Clonoulty, Co. Tipperary

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

Thank you for the completed entry form together with the composite map submitted which was most useful on the day of adjudication. Clonoulty is a historic, small settlement in South Tipperary which is making strides to project its interesting features to good effect. Good work has been done on the approach road from the north and especially meritorious is the fine new monument to Connie Ryan of set dancing fame. A number of aspects, which have cost you marks could relatively easily be put to right. These will be dealt with in detail under their respective headings.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Sizeable buildings, notably the two churches have been well presented and are a credit to all involved. The very fine murals at the gable end of the school are particularly striking. The Community Centre (1980) was quite well presented but the doors and windows need repainting. The thatched cottage was a joy while the white and grey house opposite the Church of Ireland with many hanging baskets and window boxes was particularly eye catching. The Post Office and adjoining house were very well presented. While eye catching, architectural opinion is that it is detrimental to a building to remove rendering, as has been done to the shop beside the Church. Tipperary Furniture Company looked well. The splendid work done on the new stone wall on the north of the village (Thurles Road) was particularly striking.

LANDSCAPING

The hedgerows located in front of the school wall were a very attractive feature which caught the eye. The Grotto was well presented while the Cemetery was neat and orderly. The flower beds inset into the new wall on the north of the village by the Clogheen Community Council and Fás were a very special and pleasing feature. The grounds of the Church of Ireland, particularly highlighted by the fine monument, were especially meritorious.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

Although not seen by either Tidy Towns group as mainstream activities, undoubtedly energy expended on the development of wildlife has yielded dividends over time in many communities. Some centres have found it beneficial to identify an area within their school grounds as a designated wildlife and bird life sanctuary. Developing an interest, from an early age in wildlife has enriched many lives. Clonoulty are invited to look seriously at the options that their centre provide in this regard and perhaps discuss them with the Wildlife Officer of Duchas or a knowledgeable, local enthusiast.

LITTER CONTROL

Suitably sited and appropriately sized litter bins were noted in the school entrance area and elsewhere throughout the centre. Litter management generally is good and well done to all involved.

TIDINESS

Many factors contribute, for good or ill, in the heading of tidiness. The sweeping up of loose stones in the entrance area of the school would enhance things greatly. The removal of spoil, which has been done from the base of the wall by the Catholic Church is a very positive development. Cleaning the base of the wall with a strong brush would finish this job very well. Particularly noteworthy was the good presentation of the northern end of the village especially along by the stone walls.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

Some excellent gardens on the Thurles Road, especially those houses opposite the fine stone wall. Individual houses on the Hollyford Road are excellent. Housing stock generally in the village was well presented while a number of individual gardens made a special contribution to an overall pleasing vista.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The signage generally was well presented and especially pleasing was the village nameplate on the Rossmore Road explaining items about the village. On the Dundrum Road however the village nameplate badly needs to be washed and the planting at it was noticeably sparse. The "Caution Children Crossing" before the school looked well and the verges were well cut back from this point. The approach from the north (Thurles/Holycross) is a delight and very well presented in all its aspects.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Clonoulty is a long village with a number of interesting features which have been well presented. Attention to the matters outlined above will help to ensure it continues its progress in the Tidy Towns competition.

All involved and participating in this years entry are applauded for their efforts and urged to continue.