

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Kilmurry**

Ref: **463**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **196**

Category: **A**

Date: **27/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	20	20
The Built Environment	40	23	23
Landscaping	40	28	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	18	17
Litter Control	40	32	31
Tidiness	20	14	13
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	32	31
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	196	189

Overall Developmental Approach:

The large membership number of 20 members of a total population of 191 people in Kilmurray is very satisfactory. The people of Kilmurray must have been busy in the village helping to make the very fine presentation of the village and surrounds on display now. Great credit is due for this voluntary effort. A plan outlining objectives over the coming 3 to 5 years is needed at this stage and should be submitted with next year's entry. This should be made in conjunction with all interested parties in the village. Such a plan would enable a forward looking and unified approach with the targets identified.

The Built Environment:

The stonewalls are a unique characteristic of the village. These comprise the old walls such as at St. Andrews Church and the old cemetery as well as newly built walls. Most attractive of all are the revealed stonewall banks which have been sensitively recovered without loss of the beautiful flowers. Pennywort, Daises and Foxgloves as well as small ferns make these walls an interest in itself. The school and church look well and the business premises are also cared for, although some painting is needed at "Seano's" and the adjacent walls. Some very well painted walls are attractive and the very colourful houses at St. Mary's Terrace look stunning. There are a number of old houses and walls that seem to have been neglected too and hopefully these can be dealt with. Two building construction or alteration sites were noted and also some buildings needing particular attention near the St Andrews Church. O'Regans old shop premises needs some attention as does the old premises

behind the petrol pumps.

Landscaping:

Gardens contribute significantly to the overall landscape of the village. The grotto and the entrance to the cemetery opposite the schools both look well. The piece of landscaping above the newly constructed stonewall at the top of the village also looks well. Planting by the roadsides in the village centre with all the containerised plantings give great summer colour. The trees in the village centre are progressing well. The substantial tree guards are attractive.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The Kilmurray wood is a wonderful amenity on the doorstep of the village. Most importantly - the side banks and walls of the village roads with their rich flora are a delight and make the village appear as a natural garden, careful attention has been taken with these and this is appreciated. Some projects relating to the appreciation of the wild life in the locality would be helpful. Perhaps all local information relating to the wild life could be gathered and used to hand on to the future generations of the village who may not be aware of what the older generations take for granted.

Litter Control:

There is a very clean appearance in the village and surrounds. The recycling bins are discreetly placed behind the wall but very accessible. A few gates and walls that need attention hopefully will be rectified. The plastic signs on the shops as mentioned last year create clutter and are unnecessary.

Tidiness:

Items such as the few dilapidated buildings and corrugated iron shed opposite the old cemetery, walls needing paint attention and building construction in progress cause some level of untidiness.

Residential Areas:

St Mary's Terrace has beautifully painted houses giving a very striking appearance on approaching the estate. Tree planting is well done on the open spaces. There is a good standard of grass care. The pedestrian entrance is an extra feature. Houses along the approach roads look well and many display fine gardens.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The clearing of the roadsides is lovely. The natural drains and contours of walls remaining intact as stated above is a welcome feature. Some work has been completed with footpath building and there is more to be done, Attention hopefully will be given in the future to repairing the edges of some roads. When this occurs please be alert to the damage that could be done to the good work at the roadside verges.

General Impression:

Great work has been achieved in the village and this shows a very good community village spirit. Attention to detail is evident in many places. A plan as mentioned at the start should now become a priority.

