

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ladysbridge**

Ref: **597**

County: **Cork South**

Mark: **211**

Category: **B**

Date: **29/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	29
The Built Environment	40	30	30
Landscaping	40	32	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	12	12
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	18	19
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	26	25
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	211	209

Overall Developmental Approach:

The plans, which have been submitted with the entry form, will guide you through the coming years to build on achievements already made in the village and surrounds. The village centre consists of five roads converging to meet, the traffic generated by this arrangement places pressures on the village centre. This is particularly so since new building estates are being developed. Involvement by residents of the estates in any future planning is important so that an integrated approach can be made.

The Built Environment:

Stonewalls are a defining feature of the village. This theme has been well enhanced by the building of the new bridge. The stonewall entrance to the Rathcallan estate is also good. The erection of the new stonewall behind the monument is a welcome addition. When this is completed it will form a very good feature. Stonewalls at the cemetery and carpark continue this theme. The church looks well, there is some wall staining on the school building. The Parish Hall, School and Church are important buildings. The thatched village centre public house looks well. The filling station is well maintained, serves as a post office and provides easy parking. People coming into the village, rather than cluttering up the narrow busy convergence of five roads hopefully will use the large carpark by the Church and cemetery more.

Landscaping:

There are a number of well landscaped features in the village – the area by the river looks interesting with the picnic tables and flowering plants by the wall on view from the bridge. The roses were looking very well and in full flower on the path approach to the Church. St. Joseph's cemetery is well cared for as are the hanging baskets in the village providing good summer colour. The Rathcallan housing estate has been landscaped well with good tree planting. The central green was ready for seeding. Gardens by the roadside s contribute well to the overall landscape of the village by the care that is taken with the gardens - credit is due to individual householders for their efforts.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The river could present an interesting wildlife project. Perhaps a riverside path could be made? If there are any local wildlife features in the nearby area, projects could be investigated to find ways of allowing people more opportunity of enjoying wild life habitats and interests. Work needs to be done in this area.

Litter Control:

There is a very clean appearance around the village and litter campaigns seem to be working well. There was some litter noted by the picnic tables at the river and this is a pity as the riverside is such a pleasant area. Continued vigilance is needed to keep litter at bay. The recycle banks were noted.

Tidiness:

Attention to wall painting in the village centre is needed at the yellow wall approaching the church. The work in progress on the wall building beside the monument is causing a little disruption at this point, the grass is being damaged by the work – hopefully this will be completed swiftly and the restoration of the grass will follow quickly.

Residential Areas:

The town houses are incorporated well into the centre of the village and it is good that life is brought into the village centre in this way. The two housing estates are looking well. Work is continuing at Rathcallan and hopefully when complete the entire site will be finished off well. The Willowfield estate is well screened by the trees to the front. The houses are well cared for. Individual homes on the roadsides are cared for well adding to the village style.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The roads through the village are very uneven. There are a number of potholes on the approach roads to the village, which have been filled – this is only a short-term solution. The very high wall on approach from the Castlemartyr side looks very well. Footpaths are in need of repair in a number of places in the village – despite the note concerning this with the entry. The new footpaths from the Rathcallan estate end abruptly. A new footpath by the bridge is good. There is no footpath in the village at a point from the monument towards the church. Perhaps when resurfacing work is being carried out would be a time to press for ducting underground of the cables. The plaque on the new bridge was noted and also the pump. Traffic tends to approach the village at speed and maybe more "slow down" warning of the village entry should be given.

General Impression:

The village has a unique identity and it is important that this be retained through all development. Work achieved to date has been very helpful, there appears to be a good community spirit in the village.

