

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Keadue**

Ref: **165**

County: **Roscommon**

Mark: **270**

Category: **A**

Date: **31/07/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	45	44
The Built Environment	40	32	32
Landscaping	40	38	38
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	27	26
Litter Control	40	39	39
Tidiness	20	18	18
Residential Areas	30	26	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	36	35
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	270	266

Overall Developmental Approach:

Keadue is welcome to the 2003 Tidy Towns Competition. One immediately experiences a strong sense of heritage on arrival in Keadue inspired by the O'Carolin Memorial Park, the Court Tombs, the Loop off the Miners Way around the beautiful Loch Meelagh and Knockrannay Wood. All of these heritage features are celebrated and honoured. We wish you every good luck in your future plans and in particular with your plan for a National Harp Resource Centre.

The Built Environment:

A few buildings are in need of attention. The O'Carolins Lounge Bar at the top of the Leitrim Road, together with the building which features the auctioneers sign at the top of the Drumshanbo Road. Some dwellings on the main street would also benefit from refurbishment of their roadside facades. The missing letters on the Credit Union premises should be replaced. St. Ronan's Hall is presented to its usual high standard and no doubt the further planned development here will enhance it. Other buildings throughout the village and on approach roads are beautifully presented. The Church was much admired.

Landscaping:

Congratulations on being chosen to represent Ireland in the small town category in the Entente

Florale Competition in 2003. This really is a grand achievement. We look forward to the fruits of your work in relation to the landscaping plan being drawn up and, in this respect, the new flower beds were noted on both the Drumshanbo and Leitrim entrances. The ongoing maintenance to existing landscaping, including grass verges, hedgerow and mature and semi-mature trees, are all appreciated.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Loch Meelagh looked magnificent on the evening of adjudication and the display board here is most informative and attractive. As noted above, both Knockranny Woods and the Loop off the Miners Way are beautiful. Plans for further development at the sports field entrance have been noted. We await the results of the decision of Roscommon County Council regarding the proposed development of the slipway and other facilities at Loch Meehagh. The adjudicator looks forward to spending a weekend in your lovely village and experiencing your fine amenities.

Litter Control:

Litter control was excellent during adjudication and your intense litter control campaign has been successful. Well done on the involvement of local schools in this regard.

Tidiness:

There were very few problems under this heading that could be seen. Well done.

Residential Areas:

As noted previously, a number of dwellings on the main street would benefit from painting. All others, both in the village centre and on approach roads, are presented to the highest standard. The surrounds of the house at the Boyle junction are largely undeveloped, but hopefully the garden will be upgraded. Some boundary walls to the small new housing development behind the Church are beginning to look a little weather stained. Hopefully the entrance here will be landscaped fully on completion of the development.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

All entrances to Keadue are magnificent in their presentation in respect of grass verges, maturing hedgerow and trees at all stages of maturation. Street furniture ranging from heritage lamp standards to water pumps and stone walls are excellent in presentation. Well done in the removal of the two ESB service polls and the transformer and for the removal of Eircom cables on the Carrick on Shannon Road. No doubt you will be successful in encouraging the local authority to repair footpaths.

General Impression:

Everything about Keadue would encourage the visitor to return and spend more time in your lovely village and its environs. Thank you for your continued involvement in the competition and good luck in Entente Florale this year.

Second Round Adjudication:

As usual, there is a very high standard of presentation of Keadue. No doubt the Entente Florale competition entry has helped to boost the level of presentation and this shows very much on a visit. The O'Carolan park is looking magnificent with its wide range of plant interest, design and management. The streetscape is colourful yet not overdone. The lettering on the Credit Union buildings mentioned at the first adjudication seems to be remedied. The Catholic Church and

surrounds are a delight with the well cared for lawns and the beautiful trees. Roadside gardens contribute very much to the overall appearance of the village – particularly on the approach roads and these complement the well cared for roadside verges. The walk to the megalithic tomb is attractive and the metal mesh covered sleepers are very useful – and with such wet conditions on the day of second adjudication more of these would be helpful. The large committee of 46 is a great asset to the development and continuing progress at Keadue. The beautiful condition of Keadue must result in no small way from a great community spirit within the village and congratulations are due for this.