

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Garrykennedy**

Ref: **106**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **254**

Category: **A**

Date: **07/08/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	41	40
The Built Environment	40	35	34
Landscaping	40	37	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	27	27
Litter Control	40	36	36
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	23	23
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	30
General Impression	10	9	9
TOTAL MARK	300	254	252

Overall Developmental Approach:

Garrykennedy Tidy Towns Committee receives a high level of support and sponsorship from the fishing and sailing clubs, which is a great help to your work. Your plan made interesting reading, as you have taken each category of the competition and set a date against your plans and achievements for each of these. The history of the village should make very interesting reading. However, it appeared not to have been included with the report or plan submitted. Your map was very clear and was most useful on adjudication day. Regarding your concerns about Summer judging, Garrykennedy has continued to do extremely well in the competition for a number of years now, despite being visited at its busiest time. Therefore, this obviously isn't a problem!

The Built Environment:

Your work regarding the floodlighting of the castle is to be commended and as previously mentioned the history of the village should make very interesting reading. Both pubs were extremely fresh - Ciss Ryan's and Larkin's, the latter with its attractive thatch and original sash windows. A new gate and what appeared to be slate piers was apparent to the corralled off picnic area. The yellow plastic pipe mentioned in last year's report was still evident in this location.

Landscaping:

Your work regarding hedgerow and tree planting is to be commended. The yellow pipe to the picnic area has been mentioned previously in this report. The adjudicator would like to reiterate the comments made in last year's report regarding the landscaping of the car park areas - particularly that portion opposite the pubs, at the moment these areas just appear to be a sea of black tarmac, and would benefit greatly from the softening effects of landscaping.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Your forest walk is certainly an interesting trek for the visitors and residents of the village to take. The attractive hand-painted board illustrating the wildlife that can be seen along the lakeside was admired.

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day could have been slightly better. In a village of Garrykennedy's size even one or two papers can create a bad impression. Litter was apparent on the Portroe approach, beer cans were evident to the grassed picnic areas and more litter was evident in the car parking areas. However generally the standard was reasonably good.

Tidiness:

The Tidy Towns Committee is commended for its work in regard to the maintenance of holiday homes. Great efforts have been made to disguise the abandoned houses in the village centre by whitewashing the walls, painting the windows and displaying hanging baskets outside. It was quite weedy at the corralled off picnic area previously mentioned and the yellow pipe was still evident in this location. A white bench at the water's edge should be re-painted before next year's competition as it was in poor condition.

Residential Areas:

There are a large number of holiday properties in the village and these are, by and large, maintained to a reasonable standard. Some attractive houses on the Portroe Road were admired. Houses in the village centre and along approach roads were generally well maintained.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

On the Portroe Road the hedgerows were quite overgrown, although the standard was higher further in. Spraying had taken place in this location to stone walling but unfortunately the dead weeds had not yet been removed. Some wild daisies beside a ditch were greatly admired. The use of bi-lingual signage at the entrance to the village is to be applauded.

General Impression:

Garrykennedy continues to perform extremely well in the competition. It is a busy village on the shores of Lough Derg which attracts a large number of visitors. Good luck with your future work.

Second Round Adjudication:

Garrykennedy was presented to an excellent standard at the time of second adjudication. The village was practically litter free. Ducks and swans with their cygrets were being thoroughly enjoyed by the public and the forest trail offered welcome relief from the heat of the August sun. Stone walls and grass verges are being well maintained. Congratulations on work achieved to date and we wish you every success in the implementation of your work programme.

