

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rathcabbin**

Ref: **170**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **185**

Category: **A**

Date: **20/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	31	31
The Built Environment	40	29	27
Landscaping	40	26	26
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	23	23
Tidiness	20	11	11
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	20
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>182</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Lorrha and Dorrha Community Council have certainly achieved a lot over the last number of years. Your race nights to raise funds are a good idea. The three to four year plan is nearly complete, as we have now reached 2003. For next year's competition you should re-write it in order to incorporate the coming years. The adjudicator could clearly see, by reading the document, what has been successfully achieved and what has yet to be. Which is most encouraging and quite appropriate. Your plans to create a village focal point are looked forward to with eager anticipation.

### The Built Environment:

The shop was fine and the school looked extremely fresh. The magnificent circular modern church with its wealth of permanent planting was greatly admired. It is a wonderful example of modern ecclesiastical architecture. The Last Chance Bar, the Health Centre and Kelly's Village Store were very freshly painted.

### Landscaping:

You stated in your application form that the village has little or no landscaping and that you hope to develop some more planting to the area opposite the health centre - good luck with this endeavour. Your proposals to plant trees on the private farmlands bounding the main street is also a very good

idea. The landscaped area around the church was greatly admired.

### **Wildlife and Natural Amenities:**

Your plans to plant mountain ash to encourage birdlife are to be highly commended. Your aspirations to achieve a balance between tidiness and sensitivity to wildlife are to be commended. Perhaps you could get the local school children involved in drawing up a list of the wildlife habitats in the locality?

### **Litter Control:**

The standard of litter control on the day was reasonable, although could have been improved upon. Perhaps the local school children could be given a number of talks by the Lorrha and Dorrha Community Council to explain the importance of this particular aspect of the competition. A number of papers were evident on the Portumna Road and more was evident strewn along the Birr Road.

### **Tidiness:**

A tin roof to an outbuilding on the Portumna side of the village will need repainting before next year's competition, as will the village pump. It is to be hoped that Kennedy's garage will be sold and redeveloped in the not too distant future, as at the moment it looks quite unfortunate. Weeds were evident at the wall opposite the church on Main Street and also to the base of the stone wall with inset seating further along this road. Weeds were also evident to the recessed area on the road to Ballyoughter Estate.

### **Residential Areas:**

The housing estate at Balloughter looked extremely well. A number of new houses are being built within the village and along approach roads. A pile of stones was noted which will be used to construct a stone wall in front of one house. The new council houses were admired. Do ensure that if removing render from buildings that these were not vernacular buildings that were intended to be plastered. Dúchas is anxious that such buildings are not damaged in this way as it is incorrect from a conservation point of view and will cause practical problems such as water penetration later on.

### **Roads, Streets and Back Areas:**

The stone walls along the left hand side of the Portumna Road were admired although the village nameplate was in need of some attention. Papers were noted on the Birr Road and the sign in this location will also need attention before next year's competition. The village nameplate on the road to the Balloughter Estate was also in need of attention, although this is an attractive approach to the village with its stone wall with overhanging beech trees. Again, in terms of signage, the children crossing sign in the centre of the village appeared quite grubby.

### **General Impression:**

Rathcabbin is a peaceful midlands village which continues to make great efforts and progress in the competition.