

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Two-Mile-Borris**

Ref: **516**

County: **Tipperary North**

Mark: **195**

Category: **B**

Date: **02/07/2003**

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2003 | Mark Awarded 2002 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 33                | 33                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 28                | 27                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 28                | 27                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 15                | 15                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 24                | 25                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 16                | 16                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 19                | 18                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 24                | 23                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 8                 | 8                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>195</b>        | <b>192</b>        |

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Two-Mile-Borris Tidy Towns Committee is obviously an enthusiastic one with numerous members. Your work in co-operation with FAS, Shannon Development and North Tipperary County Council is to be highly commended. You also appear to have fostered a good relationship with other local organisations such as the GAA. Before next year's competition you will need to formulate a three to five year work programme. This document need only be two or three pages long, outlining your objectives for the village's future and setting a timeframe in which you intend completing these. You will find this an invaluable document as years go by, in order to monitor your progress in the competition. It will also be of great benefit to adjudicators when assessing your village. Many thanks for the map which was most useful on adjudication day.

### The Built Environment:

Do discourage the use of projecting plastic signage and encourage their replacement with those of a more traditional timber variety. The simple pebble-dashed church was admired in its central location within the village. The Spar was quite fresh and Corcoran's looked well. The school was admired with its red roses around the door. The old Tower House is a magnificent asset to the village and would be an even greater attraction were it more accessible. Do not encourage the removal of render from the front of buildings - this is a practice which has become quite fashionable of late. It is impractical from a structural point of view as it will lead to the problem of water penetration- traditional rendered houses were meant to be plastered. It is also incorrect from a

conservation point of view.

### **Landscaping:**

The grotto was simply presented. The GAA millennium monument looked well. The picnic area with timber fence, small footbridge and stream was admired, particularly for the natural appearance of the stream area. The planting of a cherry tree in the school grounds for national tree week is to be commended. A minor point would be, to discourage the over prettification of the village by using too many floral displays and, in particular, too many hanging baskets on poles. A simple and natural appearance is best - it is unnecessary to gild the lily!

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

Your work in relation to an education programme for the youth club, by means of a nature walk is to be commended. Perhaps you could consider further work in this area by getting the school children involved in a project on the wildlife habitats in their area.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter control on the day could have been better. Litter was evident to the grass verges on the roadside opposite the Castle B&B. More litter was evident on the Dublin side of the village, at the entrance to Cluain na Seimne Estate and at the school. Your work in relation to arranging for a representative from the County Council to talk to the school about environmental issues is to be commended, as is the provision of extra litter bins. However, more work is obviously needed in this area.

### **Tidiness:**

The blockwork wall on the Thurles wall looked most unfortunate and should either be painted or perhaps a creeper grown in front in order to disguise it. Do discourage fly posting, as it gives roadsides a rather cluttered appearance. Although the recycling area was fine, the rusty tin roof of the adjacent building looked unfortunate and the area beside it was also quite overgrown. There was another overgrown area behind Corcoran's. Weed control was a problem to the stone boundary wall of the graveyard and at the school kerbside.

### **Residential Areas:**

There are a large number of new housing estates within the village. Those which were admired included the rendered, brick and stone houses of Dún na Rí, Ardleigh Estate (which looked most fresh), the stone boundary wall to Glen Carrig and Castle Park Estate. These were all maintained to a high standard. Cluain na Seimne Estate was not as well maintained, unfortunately. In terms of individual houses, a bungalow which had extended its area of interest down the grassy bank to the roadside was admired and a charming house with a courtyard garden on the Thurles Road looked well. Most of the houses along this road were maintained to a high standard and your work in relation to organising residents associations is obviously paying dividends.

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

The Thurles Road was well maintained and the relatively new trees along here are coming along well. However the road surface was in bad condition. The Dublin Road appeared quite overgrown and the village nameplate in this location was virtually obscured. The Moyne Road was well maintained.

### **General Impression:**

Two Mile Borris is a very attractive with a committee which shows an evident pride in the village's appearance. Keep up the good work!