

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ramsgrange**

Ref: **373**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **201**

Category: **A**

Date: **14/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	33
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	31	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	17
Litter Control	40	29	29
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	21	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	20	20
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	201	199

Overall Developmental Approach:

Do ensure for next year's competition that you include a three to five year work programme. This document need only be two or three pages long, outlining your plans for the village's future development. You should also set against these objectives a timeframe for their implementation. This will be most useful to yourselves to see your progress as the years go by and also in aiding adjudication. Many thanks for your helpful map, which was most useful on adjudication day. The adjudicator was pleased to note your good relationship with FÁS and the County Council. Certainly, last years re-entry into the competition was a most successful one.

The Built Environment:

Ramsgrange has rather a large number of public buildings for a village of its size. All of these were well maintained on adjudication day. Both schools and grounds were well maintained. Perhaps the boundary concrete post and wire fence of the community school could be replaced with indigenous hedging of beech or hawthorn or a stone wall to give a more permanent appearance to the boundary. The church and grounds were well maintained. The post office was quite fresh. Perhaps for next year's competition the Sportsman Inn could be freshened up.

Landscaping:

Great enthusiasm was shown for this category of the competition. The magnificent gravelled area with flowers on the Wexford approach road was greatly admired although the orange cones apparent there give the impression that perhaps this is not finished (?). The landscaped feature on the Arthurstown side of the village, with its displays of daisies and snap dragons, was also admired, although the spoil left over gave the impression that more work may need to be done here, such as grass banking.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

There is scope for further advancement in this area of the competition. The adjudicator noted your work in relation to sewing budlia for the butterflies. Perhaps you could get the local school children of both schools involved in drawing up a wildlife study of the habitats in their area.

Litter Control:

Litter control on the day was generally quite good, although a light scattering was evident throughout the village.

Tidiness:

The adjudicator noted your problems in relation to the recycling areas and, it is to be hoped that a more frequent collection will solve the problem. Unsightly yard areas should be successfully screened from public view. Advertising hoardings should be discouraged as they give roads a rather cluttered appearance. Weed control was a problem in the forecourt area of the national school and at kerbsides opposite the post office.

Residential Areas:

Houses in the village centre contribute well to this category of the competition with their use of window boxes. One in particular, with freshly painted boundry wall was admired. Daisies on the bank forming the front boundary of a house looked extremely well. Do ensure that new houses are in keeping with the nature of the village.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The Wexford Road sported dead grass where the verges had been cut. This road disimproved in standard as one came further in to the village. On the Arthurstown Road, the verges had again been cut but dead grass not removed - the relatively new trees were coming along well.

General Impression:

Rmasgrange is an unusual centre in that despite its small size it contains a number of large buildings! It looked well on the day.