

Tidy Towns Competition 2003

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rosslare**

Ref: **644**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **220**

Category: **C**

Date: **16/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	37	36
The Built Environment	40	29	29
Landscaping	40	33	32
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	25	24
Litter Control	40	33	33
Tidiness	20	17	17
Residential Areas	30	24	24
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	15	14
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	220	216

Overall Developmental Approach:

Rosslare Development Association is obviously a diligent and busy one. Your plan is set out extremely well, taking the format of a series of boxes, whereby you tick off "yes" or "no" as you achieve your objectives. This makes for an extremely adjudicator-friendly format! The adjudicator noticed that this plan has now reached its final year and, therefore, it is time to draft a new one for next year's competition following the same successful format.

The Built Environment:

Both public and commercial premises throughout the village looked well cared for on the day. In terms of public buildings, the church and grounds looked extremely well, as did the school area. The public lavatories were quite fresh. In terms of commercial premises Kelly's Resort Hotel looked well, with some marvelous planting to the front. The Oyster Restaurant was quite fresh. The Watersport Centre was fine as was the Bay Lodge. Do ensure that any remaining plastic signs are replaced with ones of a more traditional timber variety. At the Sport and Recreational Centre a wire fence is still in place, but hedges appear to be taking shape and developing well - hopefully, these will, in time, replace the fencing.

Landscaping:

Incidental landscaped features throughout the long area that is the composition of Rosslare looked well on adjudication day. The gravelled entrance feature, with its planting at Sandy Lane was admired, as was the cobbled and conifered area on the opposite side of the roundabout. The roundabout itself looked extremely colourful with its petunias. Do try to encourage the replacement of timber / concrete fences with indigenous hedging or stone walling. The car park area with its stone wall was fine, but is there more scope for further landscaping in this area in order to give it a more natural appearance? The entrance area to the golf course was well maintained and contributes strongly to this aspect of the competition. St. Brioc's Well was simply maintained with a bench and overhanging tree - it looked quite fresh. The RNLI monument was well maintained and the adjacent picnic area was admired, with its flower-filled boat and pergola. A landscaped space in close proximity to this, was also well maintained. However, the granite rocks would be sufficient to act as bollards so the timber posts and wire could be removed.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

This is an aspect of the competition in which Rosslare is indeed fortunate, with its wealth of birdlife, and in its close proximity to the natural resource of the sea and magnificent Burrow area. A number of information boards have been placed at strategic locations, such as at the Burrow and at the picnic area on the far end of the village. The adjudicator was also interested to read the marine debris timeline board which gives interesting information on the length of time various items take to break down. The motto "Leave Nothing on the Beach but your Footprints" is also a good one!

Litter Control:

The standard of litter control on the day was reasonably good, given the volume of visitors to the resort and the length of area that you have to cover. One or two papers and bottles were evident on the approach road, at the entrance to the Burrow walk and the picnic area at the opposite end of the village. More papers were evident in the car park area opposite Crosbie's Cedar Hotel.

Tidiness:

Overall, the village of Rosslare gives a neat and ordered appearance. The caravan parks are generally well maintained, although one or two could be screened more successfully from public view. Concrete post and wire fences have been previously mentioned. A lot of ongoing maintenance was evident around the village on adjudication day.

Residential Areas:

The standard in this category of the competition was very good, given the fact that a lot of the housing stock would be holiday homes which can be less frequently maintained than houses that are occupied all year round. A number of well maintained estates were admired such as Drimagh Close, Kinsella Meadows and Woodlands. The Strands is a good example of beautifully maintained holiday homes. Some were not quite up to the same standard and will require more planting in order to more successfully blend them into the surrounding environment. The Commodore Barry Estate was well maintained, with its jaunty michaelmas daisies at the entrance feature. The magnificent victorian wrought iron canopies to some houses on the Coast Road are quite charming and unusual. One or two individual houses extend their areas of interest to the roadside which creates an extremely good impression.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

The main approach road to the village looked well with its granite nameplate on a grassy bank. The grass verges in this location had been roughly cut back but, further in, the dead grass had yet to be removed. The colourful planting of petunias at the roundabout was admired. In terms of signage, the junction sign with the Coast Road should be repainted before next year's competition. The new footpaths throughout the village were admired and must be very beneficial to the pedestrian.

General Impression:

Rosslare is an attractive seaside village with much to offer the visitor. The development association has a large area to cover and are making great efforts to maintain the high standards that they have reached in the competition. Well done to all concerned.