

# Tidy Towns Competition 2003

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **The Harrow**

Ref: **528**

County: **Wexford**

Mark: **219**

Category: **A**

Date: **07/06/2003**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2003	Mark Awarded 2002
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	26
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	34	34
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	15
Litter Control	40	39	39
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	22	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	30	30
General Impression	10	7	7
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>217</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

You certainly have a very large committee, given the population of the village - its 50% of the population! You obviously feel a strong affinity with the historical significance of the village, in terms of 1798 and its close proximity to Boolavogue. Good luck in your efforts to get the approach roads re-surfaced as, at the moment, the road surfaces in the area are in very bad condition. Perhaps for next year's competition you could consider drawing up a small work programme outlining your objectives for the next number of years and setting a timeframe against which progress could be measured. This would be of great benefit, both to the adjudicators and yourselves, as it would clearly indicate the progress made as the years go by.

### The Built Environment:

The small number of premises in the village were well presented on adjudication day. Kelly's Shop and Bar looked well - the attractive circular dry stone feature to the adjacent wall was greatly admired. Don't forget out-buildings when considering presentation. The shed with the post box should be re-whitewashed before next year's competition. The blue colour scheme for the cottage out-building opposite was admired - all of its doors and gates tone well together.

### Landscaping:

The 1798 monument is simply presented with its stone wall and planting. This is an approach which should be used throughout. Perhaps the chains, pillars and bollards are gilding the lily somewhat and rather take from the good impression made. If car parking is a problem, you should consider using bollards or boulders in this location. The colourful daisies in semi-circular concrete tubs were admired throughout the village and the village pump was simply presented.

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

This is an aspect of the competition which could be improved upon. Perhaps you should consider growing berry producing trees and shrubs in order to encourage the abundant birdlife in the area. Bird boxes would be another possibility. You should consult your local wildlife expert to give you some idea of the existing wildlife habitats in your area and how to maintain and encourage these.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter control was good on the day. The adjudicator noted your problems regarding littering at weekends. Do ensure that the chip van doesn't encourage the associated problems of fast food litter in years to come.

### **Tidiness:**

The blue ivy-clad cottage could be painted before next year's competition, as could the shed with the post box mentioned previously. Do discourage fly posting as it gives roads a rather cluttered appearance.

### **Residential Areas:**

The blue cottage with the window boxes filled with geraniums and the old metal feeding manger were greatly admired and, as mentioned previously, should be painted before next year's competition. The small number of houses in the village were all maintained to a high standard on adjudication day.

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

Perhaps you could consider erecting village name-plates on approach roads - the one at the crossroads was maintained to a high standard, as was the signage throughout. The street furniture in terms of chains and pillars has been mentioned before. Perhaps you could go for a more simple and natural approach to your landscaped areas.

### **General Impression:**

The Harrow is a neat and beautifully maintained little hamlet which continues to do extremely well in the competition.