

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Bere Island**

Ref: **660**

County: **Cork West**

Mark: **207**

Category: **B**

Date: **05/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	60	47	45
Litter Control and Tidiness	60	31	31
Home, Harbour Areas and Other Facilities	60	45	44
Representation of Roads, Walls and Hedgerows	60	43	43
Overall General Presentation	60	41	41
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>207</b>	<b>204</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Bere Island Tourism and Environmental Group have obviously a great interest in assuring the island's future. The adjudicator was pleased to note that you had doubled your committee in size. Construction work was taking place to the new café on the pier on the day and appeared to be well underway. This stone building is in a prominent location and should be a great asset to those visiting the island. Your work in relation to the planting of apple trees - it being a tradition on the island - is indeed a very worthwhile exercise. Your provision of bird feeders and the encouragement of an environmental protection scheme by the island's farmers is another well worthwhile scheme. Your three year plan made very interesting reading - good luck with its implementation. Many thanks for your most clear maps which were very useful on the day.

### Litter Control and Tidiness:

In terms of litter control - the standard could have been better on the day. Quite a lot of litter was evident along roadways in the ditches. Litter was also apparent at the junction near the post office. In terms of tidiness - outbuildings should not be neglected when considering presentation. A shed adjacent to the school should be re-whitewashed and its roof painted in its traditional red colour. Dumping is a problem still - dumped cars were evident in a number of locations and dumped items were also spotted at Rerrin between the village and the entrance to the marina. A sunken boat in the water also created a bad impression. Dereliction is also a problem in a number of locations including a derelict cottage for sale near the post office. Hopefully this will be re-instated in a manner that is suitable to the village's character. A rusty tank adjacent to the marina at the water's edge created a bad impression. In terms of street furniture, broken benches at the water's edge near the post office

created a bad impression. Palettes were evident in a hedgerow near Derrycreeveen and more dumping was evident in this location. Further dereliction was evident at the old school - could a use be found for this building? The recycling bins at the harbour area could be screened from public view.

### **Home, Harbour Areas and Other Facilities:**

Benches at Lawrence Cove Marina were in need of painting and a broken fence was also spotted in this location. The new car parking tarmacadamed area at the harbour looked quite neat. The church and gates were quite fresh, although the galvanized gates to the graveyard adjacent should be painted. The hall was fine. The grotto was quite fresh and the attractive mural to the boundary wall of the school with its scenes of dragons and celtic tales looked extremely colourful. The post office was quite fresh as was D. O'Sullivan's. Do discourage the use of plastic signs and encourage their replacement with ones of a more traditional timber variety. At Ardagh Holiday Cottages, a broken coping stone was evident to the boundary wall and kerbs inside the site were damaged. The road surface here was also in bad condition. It would be suggested that further landscaping - and colour in terms of the houses themselves - be considered in this location. Many individual houses had colourful floral displays outside. One with sweetpea was particularly admired. The new stone property of Lawrence Cove Lodge was admired in its prominent location. It is to be hoped that development opposite the post office will be of a suitable nature to the island's character. A charming whitewashed house at Derrycreeveen was admired.

### **Representation of Roads, Walls and Hedgerows:**

In terms of signage, directional signs at Ballinakilla were quite grubby and required washing down. Attractive new lamp standards were admired at Rerrin Village. In terms of the hedgerows, an abundance of fuchsia, heather and ferns were noted and admired. Road surfaces generally were not in the best of order - perhaps you can consult Cork County Council in this regard. The phone boxes, in terms of street furniture, were generally in good order.

### **Overall General Presentation:**

Bere Island is a most interesting centre with a wealth of history throughout, ranging from ancient standing stones to more modern military history. It was most interesting to visit on a fine Summer's day.