

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Glencolmcille**

Ref: **542**

County: **Donegal**

Mark: **188**

Category: **A**

Date: **30/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	26	26
The Built Environment	40	30	29
Landscaping	40	28	27
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	15	14
Litter Control	40	18	17
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	27
General Impression	10	6	5
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>181</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for submitting your Tidy Towns 2004 application. Your hand drawn map greatly aided adjudication and was much appreciated. The village is making steady progress but lacks a focused three to five year development plan, which would help identify goals and objectives and enable the committee to set time scales. Perhaps this will be presented in next years submission. The size of the committee does reflect positive community involvement and this is to be commended.

### The Built Environment:

The Oideas Gael building at John Molloys shop is well presented and was bustling with visitors on the day of adjudication. The derelict building adjacent to the fire station needs attention. The filling station in the town centre looks a little sparse with much scope for hanging baskets and potted plants to lift its appearance. Good use of decorative street furniture throughout the village. Fr McDyer's Folk Village is traditionally presented and is also maintained to a very high standard with good visual impact. Evidence of blossoming window boxes noted and admired. The Church of Ireland is a very interesting building and reflects the heritage of this lovely village. Last years comments apply to the Garda Station. North Western Health Board has been repainted and looks well. The isolated untidy looking petrol pump opposite the Gleann Head Tavern ought to be removed.

### Landscaping:

Hopefully the remaining walls along the graveyard beside the Catholic Church will be replaced with the same stone if funding is available. Otherwise, planting of attractive shrubs could be considered to camouflage its drab appearance. The gardens of Bracken Dale B&B is a credit to its owners displaying a lovely array of flowers and shrubbery. There is some nice evidence of tree planting along the green area in front of Marian Avenue with a pleasant picnic area. The quality of grass and cutting, however, needs attention. There is very little evidence of hanging baskets and potted plants throughout the village. Perhaps these would be considered in next years budget. Attention to strimming is required along the stone wall in front of the car park opposite Fr McDuyer's Folk Village. The mature trees in the small car park opposite Roartys have wonderful visual impact, helping to make this neatly curbed car park with its attractive picnic benches a fine place to enjoy the stunning views.

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

The title text for the map sign in the car park opposite Fr Duyer's Folk Village is almost completely faded and illegible and needs attention. There is however, some good clean signage noted for walks around the village. Reiterating last years comments, making the distance known from St Columbas Chapel and St Columbas Well would be very helpful as it is not the easiest or safest road to drive. It would have been interesting to find out details of the project you are working on for next years competition in relation to wildlife and natural amenities.

### **Litter Control:**

Very little evidence of litter was found throughout the village centre, which reflects a high standard of litter awareness within the community. Decorative litter bins were noted in key points around the village.

### **Tidiness:**

There is a very tidy appearance to the town centre, which is helped by good use of decorative street furniture and well maintained shop fronts and individual houses. Some peculiar storage on the green area at the back of Marian Avenue creates an eyesore and should be removed. An number of disused slates and an old wrecked car further along this green area also need to be removed and unfortunately do bring down the tone of this otherwise tidy estate.

### **Residential Areas:**

Fr McDuyer Terrace is maintained to a very high standard, with evidence of some lovely displays of shrubs and rose bushes. Good evidence of tree planting in green areas observed although some attention to weeding along the curbing is required. An individual house undergoing renovation opposite the paint shop looks very untidy and the Committee should ensure that builders remove any extraneous materials before vacating the site. Some attention to paint is required in Marian Avenue.

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

In general the approach roads are generally in good repair. The stone walls adjacent to the fire station are very interesting and look very attractive against the magnificent scenery. The stone well being built along the graveyard is progressing well and should further enhance the village. Signage opposite the North Western Health Board needs attention. The painting of an unattractive sign for Hand Woven Rugs should be painted over and the existing sign re-hung. Some large potholes along the road to St Columbus Chapel require urgent attention.

### **General Impression:**

Glencolmcille is a very attractive and idyllic village with many interesting and attractive features to entice the Tourist to visit. The progress of Glencolmcille is reflected in the marks that have been rewarded. The committee should take on board the marks and recommendations from this report and previous years report in order to further progress the development of this lovely village.