

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Dun Laoghaire**

Ref: **673**

County: **Dublin**

Mark: **223**

Category: **F**

Date: **22/06/2004**

|                                | Maximum Mark | Mark Awarded 2004 | Mark Awarded 2003 |
|--------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Overall Developmental Approach | 50           | 34                | 33                |
| The Built Environment          | 40           | 32                | 33                |
| Landscaping                    | 40           | 32                | 32                |
| Wildlife and Natural Amenities | 30           | 15                | 16                |
| Litter Control                 | 40           | 28                | 24                |
| Tidiness                       | 20           | 14                | 14                |
| Residential Areas              | 30           | 24                | 24                |
| Roads, Streets and Back Areas  | 40           | 37                | 31                |
| General Impression             | 10           | 7                 | 6                 |
| <b>TOTAL MARK</b>              | <b>300</b>   | <b>223</b>        | <b>213</b>        |

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Welcome to the 2004 competition and thank you for your detailed entry and maps which were very useful on the day of adjudication. The tidy towns committee should be commended for their work with Dun Laoghaire Rathdown County Council, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Tourism and local businesses and the community. The entry into this year's Tidy Towns contained excellent back up information and charter for cleaning Lower George's Street however the adjudicator will be seeking a three year development programme to be included in next year's entry. This will benefit all involved in the preparation of the Tidy Towns event by giving them guidelines of what needs to be done throughout the year and goals to work towards. The local Best Presented Competition is an excellent method of keeping the area tidy during the year. Keep up the good work.

### The Built Environment:

Dun Laoghaire has seen plenty of development in the last couple of years and the addition of the proposed development on Carlisle Pier will definitely liven up the defunct pier. The Harbour Plaza was looking exceptionally well on the day of adjudication a superb amenity. The Royal St. George Yacht Club which was obviously recently painted was also well presented on the day. The rejuvenation of the sea baths as a public sea bathing facility are a valuable leisure amenity which will be enjoyed by everyone when developed. The Crofton approach road was well presented with some established trees and saplings some public benches were in need of attention along this road. Restaurant Na Mara was nicely presented as was the New Ireland building on Upper George's St., Mc

Loughlins public house, the community centre and the Portview Hotel looked particularly well. The Hobblers' Sculpture located on the East Breakwater is a real credit. Good signage on the harbour and town in general.

### **Landscaping:**

There are some lovely planters in the harbour area, beside the Pavilion and outside the council offices which really add a splash of colour. The main street would also benefit from this type of landscaping; plants and flowers will complement the already tree-lined street. The green area's along Queens road are obviously well tended to. The Peoples Park is a fine example of exceptional landscaping with a fantastic mix of blossoms. The dedicated flower bed for Bloomsday 100 was particularly beautiful. The adjudicator noted that on the approach road from Glenagary the roundabout could do with some perennial flowers which would make it more welcoming.

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

The adjudicator notes that the committee has met with the environment offices. The peoples park could benefit from the erection of a nature board showing wildlife habitats. To encourage bird nesting sites the committee could involve local school children to leave bird feed baskets and bird boxes in the trees in the Peoples Park. The natural amenities in Dun Laoghaire have been well developed and are promoted through the provision of leaflets on different exploratory walks 'The Dun Laoghaire way' and the marina area. The information panel located along the sea front is both informative and a wonderful way to teach children about the wild life in sea. Perhaps the installation of a Bird watch Board should also be encouraged. The Heritage brochure is also commended in encouraging visits to local heritage sites.

### **Litter Control:**

The charter for the cleaning of Lower George's Street is an excellent plan of action for litter control creating an awareness of responsibility for the council, local businesses and the public is paramount. Bloomfield Shopping Centre was clear of litter on the day of adjudication. In fact there was very few visible signs of litter on any of the main streets. Most public houses have now installed cigarette disposal points following the announcement of the smoking ban to counteract the over flow of cigarette butt littering the streets. The Councils anti-litter initiatives together with the tidy towns committees and the local community efforts are to be much admired. Congratulations on your litter free status.

### **Tidiness:**

Dun Laoghaire has an overall tidy appearance most public areas are extremely well maintained. The main areas of concern are the back areas and some evidence of weed growth on lanes. The five year plan will be a welcome document illustrating the proposals to combat these problems. There was also some graffiti evident on the walls on the Monkstown approach road which is a pity as the stone walls prior to this are really preserved quite well. The best presented competition is an excellent way to encourage neatness and build an even greater sense of pride in the appearance of business facades and residential areas. Signage around the town was in good condition.

### **Residential Areas:**

Residential areas in general are very well maintained. St. Helens estate and most of the houses on Queens road looked sufficiently well. Edwin Court and Marine Court looked particularly well turned out. There was some signs of kerb weeds in the streets off the town centre and Croften avenue off Croften approach road. Rehab recycling units located in residential areas off the Glashule approach road are well used and tidy and residents should be commended for this.

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

All approach roads well sign posted. The adjudicator notes that the back areas and lanes are still an ongoing concern for the committee which will be dealt with in the five year plan. An outline of the five year plan should be submitted with next year's entry so that progress can be monitored by both the committee and the adjudicator.

### **General Impression:**

Dun Laoghaire gave an good overall impression on the day adjudication. There is a good mix of contemporary sculptures and Edwardian charm. There is evidence of good cooperation between the community on all levels. Keep up the good work!