

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rialto**

Ref: **246**

County: **Dublin**

Mark: **188**

Category: **C**

Date: **13/07/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	32
The Built Environment	40	31	31
Landscaping	40	25	24
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	13	12
Litter Control	40	22	22
Tidiness	20	14	14
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	22	23
General Impression	10	6	6
TOTAL MARK	300	188	186

Overall Developmental Approach:

Rialto are once again thanked for their application form, along with all the other material supplied for this year's Tidy Towns competition. The tidy towns committee is quite a strong committee for the area, all 12 members should be congratulated on their approach and work. In future a 3 - 5 year development plan for the area should be included, which would outline all future / proposed developments for the area. A good working relationship should be maintained with the newly appointed Dublin city council officer for the area to ensure the residents are well informed of plans, etc. for the area.

The Built Environment:

Rialto looked very well on the day of adjudication and all participants should be commended on the overall appearance of shop fronts and residential areas. The constant upkeep and maintenance of shop fronts and residential areas enhances the overall development of an area. Many of the shop fronts were well maintained, with Bird Flanagans, Charlie Byrnes and the Credit union all looking well. These shop fronts were nicely maintained and fresh looking with a lovely array of colourful flowers or planters outside. The credit union had some lovely planted boxes on its internal window which were clearly visible from the outside. The Boulangerie also looked well on the day of adjudication with a nice crisp black facade. The snooker hall, opposite the Nissan garage, could do with some redevelopment. There maybe plans to redevelop this building; if so this should be included in the entry form.

Landscaping:

The work carried out by the Rialto environmental group over the last year should be commended. The initiatives in relation to the window boxes and hanging baskets for both residential and commercial units is paying off, with many of the shop fronts displaying wonderful splash of colours with very well maintained window boxes and hanging baskets. The environmental awards also encourage the local community to landscape their areas. The roundabout at the village was very well landscaped with a large variety of flowers. Many of the shop fronts had lovely hanging baskets and planters. Many of the residential areas had nicely landscaped gardens. There are some lovely green areas within Rialto Cottages which would benefit from some redevelopment and landscaping.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

Due to its city location the wildlife opportunities within the area are minimal. However the adjudicator was delighted to see that the community is in the process of organising an environmental field trip for the local children along the banks of the canal. It is important to involve the children in the area in the tidy towns project.

The purchase of a bilingual information panel along the canal would also be a welcome addition to the area and help generate interest in walks along this area.

Litter Control:

The litter control in the area should be commended, as there was little evidence of litter along the commercial areas and in many of the residential areas. Some litter was evident outside the Amber grill and at the bottom of St. Anthony's road. It is important to maintain vigilance in this area.

Tidiness:

Rialto is a well tended to area, with many areas looking nice and fresh. Some kerb maintenance is required on some of the streets off the main commercial area, mainly New Ireland road, Herberton Park and uppercross road. Some graffiti was also evident at the bottom of Herberton park.

Residential Areas:

Many of the residential areas were well tended to with nicely matured and well maintained gardens. The residents of the areas should be commended for their overall commitment to the upkeep of the area.

Rialto Cottages is a lovely traditional residential area which was well maintained and little evidence of litter, as was New Ireland road, and the Tudor houses off the main roundabout. The garden competition which took place this year is an excellent initiative to involve the local community in.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Many of the approach roads were well tended to with little evidence of litter. Some attention to kerbsides is required. Many of the side roads off Herberton road were well maintained.

General Impression:

Rialto's environmental group plans should be commended as these plans have helped maintain the area and generate interest among the local residents. Inclusion of the local schools in the overall development of the area is something you could look at in the future to ensure the local children are fully aware of their environment and its importance. Work with Dublin City Council and local businesses should be commended and maintained in future years. Overall the tidy towns committee should be congratulated on their work in the area.

