

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Clonoulty**

Ref: **354**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **196**

Category: **A**

Date: **23/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	25	25
The Built Environment	40	29	28
Landscaping	40	29	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	26	24
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>193</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for the completed entry form, for the well notated most useful map of the village. A small centre, Clonoulty is well endowed with fine public buildings which have been well maintained and suitably presented. A feature of the village is the splendid stone walls which have been progressively refurbished and are, as a consequence, increasingly more noticeable and impactful. The nine members of your Committee are clearly receiving the informal support of very many in the community.

The history of the village is very much to the fore with, for example the plaque to Connie Ryan, the manner in which the former Church of Ireland is presented, in addition to the fine stone walls referred to already.

A difficult remains with the derelict cottage at the junction which, because of its setting closing the view along the Main Road, is of particular significance.

### The Built Environment:

The splendid thatched cottage is so correct in its setting in the lengthy stone wall. The fine new entrance to Meadow House backed by the splendid gardens is a lovely introduction to the village. The Community Centre (1980) looked very well and was suitably and freshly painted. The two Churches were both presented in an ideal manner. We applaud the flying of four flags at the

National School, which help to accentuate the attractiveness of this modern building.

The removal of the rendering on the public house is eye catching. However some architectural opinion is concerned at this practice believing that it leaves the exposed wall open to accelerated wind and rain damage. Again we would applaud the extent and the presentation of the stone walls throughout the village. Good signage, for example on the Tipperary Furniture Company is an added plus.

### **Landscaping:**

The modest planting at the junction is commended. Additional planting of ground covering, low maintenance shrubs might be considered. The planting on the Rossmore Road was of a high standard and appropriate in scale. The Cemetery was very well presented and the gardens in the house opposite the former Church of Ireland building was splendid. The mural on Mulhalls Public House caught the eye, was colourful and imaginative. The treatment of incidental open spaces was in many places up to a good standard,

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

The promotion of an interest in wildlife, with its many beneficial effects is strongly encouraged by the Tidy Towns movement. The extensive School grounds would seem to be a natural location for such a development. Other areas for example the grassed area at the Holy Cross or northern end of the village also provide opportunities. Selected areas perhaps in the housing estate below Mulhall's also offer opportunities.

You are encouraged to discuss this with a local bird life enthusiast or secure the services of the Wildlife Officer from the Office of Public Works.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter management was acceptable in most locations while still leaving room for some improvement. The installation of additional litter bins, once appropriate arrangements have made for their servicing, is suggested. The area around the School, normally a high risk area was admirably free of litter.

### **Tidiness:**

The recycling facility at the side of the School was well positioned and appeared to be in appropriate use. Some of the back and white fencing needs attention while repainting the white horizontal bars would add significantly to the impact of this presentation. We draw attention again to the amount of spoil that is in evidence at the entrance to the National School. This is such a good presentation overall, that we would urge attention to this minor defect.

### **Residential Areas:**

In general Clonoulty is a well presented neat and tidy settlement. The housing stock of Clonoulty has been augmented substantially by fine new houses on the approach road from Cashel and also splendid new residences on the Rossmore Road. The housing stock, on the northern end of the village was well presented with many splendid individual gardens. A number of houses were recently painted.

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

On the Cashel approach road the village nameplate and speed limitation signs were well presented, while on the Holy Cross/Thurles similar comments apply. The road surface on the Rossmore Road

was very much below par while the village nameplate and signage generally here was excellent. Signage throughout the village was in a good order notably those for the Tennis Club.

### **General Impression:**

Clonoulty is a small well managed well ordered community which is creatively exploiting its many fine buildings, venacular stone walls and other inherited attributes. The new pathways and suitable planting, for example on the Rossmore Road, indicate that the present generation is equally determined to ensure that their place is a better place. All associated with another fine entry are applauded for their efforts and encouraged to continued their endeavours to enhance and improve their native place.