

Tidy Towns Competition 2004

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Knockavilla**

Ref: **358**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **215**

Category: **A**

Date: **23/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	33	30
The Built Environment	40	27	27
Landscaping	40	32	29
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	17	14
Litter Control	40	32	32
Tidiness	20	16	16
Residential Areas	30	22	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	29	28
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	215	205

Overall Developmental Approach:

Thank you for this splendid entry, supported by a completed entry form detailed and impressive plan and report covering from 1998 up to the present year together with the maps setting out the Prayer Garden plans and overall programme for the community.

Your Committee and the community in general have got to grips in a highly professional way with the requirements of the Tidy Towns programme and your success in this regard is reflected in your upward trend in marks.

In your planting endeavour wherever possible to engage in ground planting, keeping the use of planters to those locations where for whatever reason ground planting is neither feasible or possible.

The Built Environment:

The centre point of the village is undoubtedly the well positioned and imposing Church. The concourse around it has been well presented and is suitably defined by the stone walls, with the background of the Grotto behind. The former building, now the Hall and all of this area is very well presented. The National School, has the potential to have a greater impact then currently. Enhanced presentation of the area outside the front facing walls for example and the incorporation within the grounds of a suitable wildlife habitat, discussed elsewhere is suggested. Individual

houses, notably the delightful house at the road junction to Golden is a delight.

Landscaping:

The manner in which the landscaping of this community has been organised is both imaginative, creative and successful. Minor items have not been overlooked either. Grassed verges for example have been well cut. Suitable tree planting at the houses on the Dundrum Road supplement the splendid planting at the Church and around the Grotto and phone box areas. All of these play their part and supplement the major new development at the Jubilee Park and St. Senan's Garden for peace. This major undertaking has been completed with panache and great style and is a significant additional element to an already well endowed settlement. The major Famine Memorial was a very appropriate choice for the theme and the entire project has been completed with great taste and suitability. The fine stone wall and raised garden on the approach, direct from the Cashel Road, contributes manfully to an overall pleasing effect. The planting at the edge of the car park gives suitable definition and clear cut divide to the overall scheme.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The promotion of an awareness and appreciation for bird and wildlife is seen as very central to the activities of Tidy Towns Committees. Knockavilla offers many opportunity for such a programme. Perhaps the most appropriate and convenient is within the extensive grounds of the National School. We would echo the comments last year that the project might be discussed with a wildlife officer of the Office of Public Works or, if available a suitably knowledgeable and enthusiastic member of the public with a particular interest in birds and wildlife.

Litter Control:

Management of litter is well under control within the community and we welcome particularly the existence of the timber clad litter bins in an appropriate location.

Tidiness:

The area generally extends a delightful air of order and neatness without being in any sense fussy or inappropriate to its rural roots. Some minor items need attention for example the Diesel sign at J Brown seems hardly necessary any more and an amended treatment of the individual mobile home might be considered.

Residential Areas:

Houses on the Dundrum Road were extremely well presented neat and orderly many with splendid garden displays. The houses opposite the new St Senan's Gardens were very well displayed and the number featured splendid individual gardens efforts.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Roads are naturally very important in a small rural community and Knockavilla has done a splendid job in their presentation. There is a clear cut divide line on each of the approach roads between the village and the surrounding, rural countryside. Speed limit and village nameplate signs are well presented with the exception of on the Cashel approach road. The pathway leading from the Church to the School would benefit from a simple sweeping and in a few locations the removal of road side spoil is recommended.

General Impression:

Knockavilla continues to make splendid progress in the competition. Its presentation and imagination applied to its better enhancement is very obvious to the visitor. All concerned with this splendid presentation are again congratulated and urged to continue their efforts which would be viewed with considerable interest and no doubt pleasure in the coming years.