

# Tidy Towns Competition 2004

## Adjudication Report

Centre: **Rossmore**

Ref: **204**

County: **Tipperary South**

Mark: **195**

Category: **A**

Date: **23/06/2004**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2004	Mark Awarded 2003
Overall Developmental Approach	50	30	30
The Built Environment	40	30	28
Landscaping	40	24	23
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	29	28
Tidiness	20	15	15
Residential Areas	30	20	20
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	25	25
General Impression	10	6	6
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>191</b>

### Overall Developmental Approach:

Although small, Rossmore has a distinctive character which is well accentuated by the ongoing activities of your committee of six, aided by the community at large. The Millennium Plaque and the Water Pump are worthwhile attempts to create a focal point to the village itself. Your fine stone walls, an increasing feature of the village are to be applauded. Planting too at the flower beds and the picnic area are maturing nicely. For optimum benefit ensure that the stone walls are appropriately capped.

### The Built Environment:

The fine Racket Ball Club still needs a little treatment to optimumise its impact, perhaps painting the front walls and some treatment to the foreground could be undertaken.

The National School was looking fine, being recently painted with a good choice of colours. The Catholic Church was well presented and at a different scale, the Post Office made its contribution.

### Landscaping:

The picnic site at the Drombane Road is maturing nicely. To facilitate its use, on what is a narrow road, some thought needs to be given to providing parking. The Church grounds in general looked well but weeds at the base of the front wall did detract.

In general attention is directed to the removal of weed and spoil along the kerbs.

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

The development of a wildlife sanctuary within the School which you have identified is to be applauded. An awareness leading to an appreciation of birds and wildlife leads to lifelong enrichment and is a strong element within the Tidy Towns Programme. The picnic site also might, by judicious planting, play a role in this regard.

### **Litter Control:**

Litter management within Rossmore was of a high order with, sadly one or two locations where perhaps a litter bin would assist. Be sure that appropriate arrangements for the servicing of litter bins are in position however as part of the planning before they are installed.

### **Tidiness:**

Many elements collectively add to or detract from the overall tidiness of a centre. From structural considerations, especially important in a rural setting where a desirable clear cut divide between the village and the surrounding rural countryside is necessary, to smaller elements, signage perhaps, discarded stock in trade all play their part, for good or ill in determining marks under this category. Freshly painted premises certainly are important and perhaps in this regard, Davern's might consider repainting.

### **Residential Areas:**

The housing stock in Rossmore is limited but well presented. The house opposite the School makes a major contribution as do other homes within the centre. Be aware that the front wall, the garden and the house when taken as a unit are considered and not merely the house itself.

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

In a small community like Rossmore the presentation of the approach roads is of particular importance. The village nameplate and 30mph signs on all roads were well presented however on the Drombane approach remove the very battered Slow Through Village sign which, perhaps fortunately, is partly obscured. The Caution Children Crossing while not in such a bad condition would also benefit from attention. Plaudits for the manner in which the village nameplates are presented on both approach roads. The road surface generally is quite acceptable and a simple sweeping of the road verges would greatly enhance the overall presentation.

### **General Impression:**

Rossmore is a small village with a good heart and it is endowed with a number of fine public buildings. Its School, Church and Graveyard are well presented as focal points. The extent and presentation of your stone walls is to be applauded and this has given the village a pleasing sense of enclosure. All associated with this programme are applauded for their efforts and encouraged to continue in the years ahead.