

Tidy Towns Competition 2009

Adjudication Report

Centre: **Ballyduff** Ref: **122**
County: **Wexford** Mark: **241**
Category: **A** Date(s): **01/07/2009**

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2009
Overall Development Approach	50	32
The Built Environment	50	29
Landscaping	50	36
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	50	23
Litter Control	50	36
Waste Minimisation	20	7
Tidiness	30	14
Residential Areas	40	25
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	50	31
General Impression	10	8
TOTAL MARK	400	241

Overall Development Approach:

Welcome to the Tidy Towns Programme for 2009 and thank you for the completed Entry Form, photographs and details of the decisions made at your recent committee meeting. Thank you for alerting us to the position of the speed limit signs. The special dry fill stone work giving the distinct herring-bone effect is most interesting and seems to be a skill or craft unique to this part of Wexford. Few villages have the same extent as that of Ballyduff. In effect this along with the Storytelling house has become your trade mark and face to the world and we feel justified in describing it as the "Ballyduff dry fill stone wall".

The Built Environment:

The by now famous story telling house was, as always, very well presented with many items of interest in the small garden. We were delighted to note the old world shop for Doyle Provisions which was so well presented. The Church was admired and well set off by the hanging baskets in the Cemetery. Excellent presentation of the School with once again, the herring bone dry fill stone wall very much to the fore. We enjoyed the low level wall with planting which was looking very well.

Landscaping:

The junction is marked by excellent planting and a wonderful job done on the Ballyduff dry fill stone wall. Well done to the craft person involved. The cemetery reflected well on the attention it is receiving. Wonderful three layered timber planter. Excellent planting is to be noted in many locations and individual gardens also add to the over all impression.

Wildlife and Natural Amenities:

The selection of suitable plant and shrubs to provide the vital food chain is ideal and will in time aid in the promotion of good and thriving bird life. Discuss the options with a local bird life enthusiast or consult the Wild Life Officer attached to the Office of Public Works for ideas as to how to proceed. Don't overlook the school grounds as a suitable location for a small nature habitat.

Litter Control:

We welcome the anti litter sign "Beauty dies where litter lies". The constant reminder is sadly always necessary even in such a small community as Ballyduff. A very suitable litter bin was noted at the school with again an anti litter notice this time in Irish.

Waste Minimisation:

The recycling wheelie bins at the school were noted with approval. Warm congratulations to the pupils, teachers and all associated with their success in securing a Green Flag. This is a difficult series of tests and well done to you all for your achievement.

Tidiness:

Well done on the overall presentation of the village. Hedges were suitably cut back, areas around the various houses were free of material, shops and other buildings have not allowed merchandise to be stored in view of passers by. Spoil and general earth and muck were not found on the roadways or along the sides of roads.

Residential Areas:

Forest View Houses are delightful and well presented. The house beside the school was a delight. The Talbot Lodge again featured the Ballyduff dry fill stone wall to excellent effect. The limited number of houses in Ballyduff was each well presented.

Roads, Streets and Back Areas:

Speed limit signs on the approach from Camolin are in good order. The overarching trees give a wonderful light and shade pattern on this approach. The road surface was suitable and free of serious pot-holes. The splendid village name signs especially when in stone were all well presented and looked very well indeed.

General Impression:

The fame of the storytelling house has spread and especially the tranquillity and peacefulness of its setting. Having enjoyed my visit there I fully subscribe to that feeling. Your entry form speaks and reflects on the fact that all are at one in your objectives to make Ballyduff an even better place to live and grow. To everyone associated with this year's entry our best thanks and applause. Please keep up the good work and you are wished well in next year's competition