



## Committee Newsletter June 2019

Dear TidyTowns Committee,

Thank you to you all who have entered the 2019 SuperValu TidyTowns competition and to those who entered our special awards for 2019.

We are currently finalising the registration process and in the coming days all of your entries will be sent out to your allocated TidyTowns Adjudicator.

The Adjudication for 2019 will commence on Saturday June 8<sup>th</sup> and will run up to Saturday August 4<sup>th</sup>. TidyTowns Adjudicators will visit your area to see your hard work at any point throughout that period.

### 2018 Winner

Last year in 2018 we celebrated the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the SuperValu TidyTowns competition and out of the record number of 883 entries, Listowel were crowned Ireland's Tidiest Town.

To mark their achievement the President of Ireland Michael D. Higgins and his wife Sabina paid a visit to Listowel recently and unveiled a plaque to commemorate their wonderful achievement.



Great crowds turned out in the town square to give the Presidential party a hearty Kerry welcome and St. John's Theatre and Arts Centre was packed to the rafters to hear the wonderful speech from President Higgins. Afterwards the plaque which is set in a special piece sculpted by local sculptor Darren Enright was unveiled. Refreshments were served in the Kerry Writers Museum and a specially made cake for the event was enjoyed by all. Well done to Listowel Tidy Towns and Kerry County Council for their organisation and welcome for everyone.



## Other items of interest;

- 2019 wildflower open days are being held on; Thursday June 20<sup>th</sup>, Saturday July 13<sup>th</sup> and Sunday July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Full details at [http://www.wildflowers.ie/wild-zone/open\\_day/wildflower\\_growers\\_open\\_day.htm](http://www.wildflowers.ie/wild-zone/open_day/wildflower_growers_open_day.htm)
- Leave No Trace are delighted to launch our Biodiversity Community Toolkit which was an output of our Tidy Towns pilot programme. You might like to share it with the groups or on your website. [Biodiversity Community Toolkit](#)

- Community Foundation for Ireland ([foundation.ie](https://www.foundation.ie)) have a new €200k grant fund for community groups to get them working with ecologists to develop a local biodiversity plan for their townland. Grants get bigger if they collaborate with farmers on hedgerows/field margins. This is CFI's first ever nature grant and their database is low for environmental groups so please help us get the word out there! The closing date for applications is June 28th.

Full details: <https://www.communityfoundation.ie/insights/news/environment-and-nature-fund-2019>

- Deep RiverRock, together with the Minister for Communications, Climate Action and Environment Richard Bruton, announced that every bottle within its PET portfolio will be made from 100 percent recycled PET plastic from June 2019. The move sees Deep RiverRock become the first major water brand distributing across the island of Ireland to produce a 100 percent recycled bottle. Please follow the link below to find out more:

<https://coca-colahellenic.com/en/media/news/irish-water-brand-deep-riverrock-switches-to-100-recycled-plastic/>

- Did you know that Deep RiverRock are tapping into the heartbeat of Community Groups across Ireland who collectively follow their pursuits and passions? The Thirst For Better campaign aims to celebrate and help Community groups raise vital funding, enabling them to continue to do the things they love. The campaign mechanic is simple! By registering online with #ThirstForBetter, your community group can receive a donation of 10c for every bottle code redeemed by your supporters. More than 100 community groups of all shapes and sizes have already started raising money through the campaign and there's room for more. Why don't you join them? Or if you know of any groups doing great work in your community, let them know about the #ThirstForBetter campaign and encourage them to take part today.

Registration and further information including T&Cs can be found at: <https://deeriverrock.ie/thirstforbetter>

- The awards ceremony for the 2019 Ireland's Best Kept Towns is being held on Tuesday June 25<sup>th</sup> in Farmleigh House in Dublin. This year Ballymacarbry, Co. Waterford and Silvermines, Co. Tipperary are finalists in the village category, Ballymore Eustace, Co. Kildare and Bantry, Co. Cork are representing the small town category with large town category entries from Ardee, Co. Louth and Arklow, Co. Wicklow. The finalists for the large urban centre category are Wexford. Co. Wexford and Galway City Centre. We wish each of the finalists every success in their relevant category and in the overall competition.
- Malahide in Co. Dublin will represent Ireland this year in the Communities in Bloom competition. The Just visit will take place in July and we send our best wishes to Malahide for the awards ceremony which will be held in Canada later in the year.
- Mulranny in Co. Mayo and Listowel in Co. Kerry will represent Ireland this year in the 2019 Entente Florale competition, we wish both centres every success in the competition. The Jury will visit both areas in late July and results will be announced in September.
- The awards ceremony for 2019 will be held in The Helix on Monday September 30<sup>th</sup>. Results books and copies of your 2019 Adjudication report will issue to you on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

If you require any further information please visit our website at [www.tidytowns.ie](http://www.tidytowns.ie) or contact the TidyTowns unit at [tidytowns@dracd.gov.ie](mailto:tidytowns@dracd.gov.ie)

Can we once again remind you all to follow us on social media for updates and information via the following;



<https://www.facebook.com/OfficialSuperValuTidyTowns>



<https://twitter.com/TidyTownsIre>

We would like to thank each of you for your dedication and commitment to making your place “a better place” and for your interest in the SuperValu TidyTowns competition. We wish each of you and your committees every success in the 2019 competition.