

"Caring for our environment"

Centre : **MILLSTREET**
County : **CORK**
Category : **C**

Results

Date of Adjudication : 07-06-99

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 1999	Mark Awarded 1998
Overall Developmental Approach	50	38	36
The Built Environment	40	31	30
Landscaping	40	33	31
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	16	16
Litter Control	40	28	28
Tidiness	20	15	13
Residential Areas	30	21	21
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	28	28
General Impression	10	7	7
TOTAL MARK	300	217	210

Millstreet, County Cork

OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH

The enthusiasm of Millstreet Tidy Town's and Tourism Association was only too obvious from the magnificent yet simple written tour and accompanying map. These and your five year plan made very interesting reading. The strong level of support and communication that you maintain with both the local authorities and the local community is clearly paying dividends.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Generally shops on Main Street were extremely fresh and colourful. However do not forget gable walls which are extremely prominent as the buildings step up and down along the street. Some were quite neglected although the facades were very fresh, Murphy's was particularly fresh as was Centra in its bright yellow and blue with some colourful hanging baskets. The Bank of Ireland in stone is a magnificent building. The Garda Station and Post Office were fine, as was the Catholic Church. However the gable to the latter and boundary wall of the adjacent graveyard should be freshened up before next year's competition. The deservedly award winning railway station looked very smart indeed. Especially with its planting adjacent to the railway track.

LANDSCAPING

The standard of densely planted landscaping throughout Millstreet was excellent on the day. Of particular note was that at the entrance to the Green Glens Arena opposite the community school. Also admired was the planting opposite a house to the far side of the community school with magnificent variety of shrubs including bamboos. The perennial beds along the Mallow approach on each side of the road were admired. Throughout the town there was a good mix of densely planted shrubbery and colourful annual flowers. The adjudicator was pleased to note that the ash trees native to this island are coming along well and had a marvellous effect as they march up either side of Main Street. Perhaps the concrete fence on the Mallow Road (although it had been freshly painted) could in time be replaced with a stone wall or a beech or hawthorn hedge. The grounds of the community school looked magnificent and the marvellous restoration of St. Anna's graveyard was admired.

WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES

You have indicated two areas that you have set aside for wildlife around the town. Do bear in mind that this category of

the competition pertains to the management of the wildlife already in existence in the town. The Tidy Town's Handbook will give you ideas of how best to manage and encourage the existing wildlife you have both within the town and its surrounding area.

LITTER CONTROL

On first impression the town looked virtually litter free. However, some problem areas were noted. Some litter was strewn along the Mallow Road. A few papers were apparent on the Killarney Road and also what appeared to be small plastic milk bottles. There was some more litter at the entrance to the Green Glens Arena at the community school end. A few papers and cans were also found at the boundary wall of St. Anna's graveyard and also strewn along Station Road. This problem was sporadic; the general impression, as already stated, was a clean town.

TIDINESS

The town of Millstreet looked generally neat and ordered in its appearance on adjudication day. The judge was pleased to note your continued interest in the laneways and back areas throughout the town, which are obviously of great importance. Perhaps the yard area behind the Co-op Superstores could be screened more successfully from public view. An abandoned garage on the Mallow approach would benefit from a mere coat of paint, which would immediately brighten up its appearance. The rear of some tin sheds was apparent and quite prominent on the approach along the Killarney Road. Perhaps these could be freshly painted in a cheerful traditional red. The planted bed to the car park appeared to be quite bare and weedy.

RESIDENTIAL AREAS

The standard of houses throughout the village and in estates along approach roads was fine on adjudication day. Some magnificent gardens on the Mallow approach were admired. Even the verges to the fronts of the houses had received attention. However, a two storey house along this road appeared to be rather flaky and some boundary walls needed attention. Generally most houses looked fine. A very attractive and unusual modern house with magnificent grounds was admired at the entrance to the Green Glens Arena. Some of the boundary walls to houses on Murphy's Terrace needed some attention and looked quite grubby. A magnificent garden extending to the roadside on the Macroom Road was admired as were two marvellous gardens on the Station Road. One had evidence of much industry even on the day, while the other had a magnificent display of red poppies and colourful cape daisies overflowing its stone boundary wall.

ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS

The Mallow Road is an attractive approach into the town with its overhanging mature trees and magnificent hedgerows. The new bridge was noted and admired as were the recently planted ash trees which are coming along nicely. The road leading beyond the Green Glens Arena was filled with magnificent foxgloves and ferns. However its surface was quite potholed. Along Station Road the foxgloves and ferns were also admired. Unfortunately some litter was apparent and the town nameplate sign needed a wash.

GENERAL IMPRESSION

Millstreet has maintained a consistently high standard in the competition for many years now. This adjudicator was pleased to note on a return visit after several years that this year was no exception.

SECOND ADJUDICATION (10/08/99)

Considerable consistent hard work is evident in Millstreet resulting in a very fine presentation. The huge amount of tree and shrub planting that has been done is a great achievement providing all year round effect. The townpark is an attractive asset and the work at St. Anna's is commendable. The main street is attractively presented with so many interesting shop fronts and such an array of colour. The community spirit and dedication of all people involved in taking Millstreet to its present level is marvellous and credit is due to all concerned. The continuation of projects with the same determination in Millstreet will ensure more success in the future.