

*"Caring for our environment"*

Centre : **NEWTOWNCASHEL**  
County : **LONGFORD**  
Category : **A**

**Results**

Date of Adjudication : 12-07-2000

	Maximum Mark	Mark Awarded 2000	Mark Awarded 1999
Overall Developmental Approach	50	45	44
The Built Environment	40	34	33
Landscaping	40	35	35
Wildlife and Natural Amenities	30	26	24
Litter Control	40	36	35
Tidiness	20	17	16
Residential Areas	30	23	22
Roads, Streets and Back Areas	40	34	34
General Impression	10	9	9
<b>TOTAL MARK</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>252</b>

## **Newtowncashel, County Longford**

### **OVERALL DEVELOPMENTAL APPROACH**

Newtowncashel is very welcome to the first Tidy Towns Competition of the third millennium. Congratulations on another excellent presentation this year. The adjudicator particularly appreciated your application and the clear way in which work achieved for the year 2000 has been identified together with your concise three to five year plan. Well done on this. We are particularly interested in how you propose to develop the wildlife value of Newtowncashel and its environs. It is good to note the support you get from the local community both practical physical support as well as financial support. The Heritage Centre is being considered for the Heritage Award.

### **THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT**

We note with interest your plan to improve Hopkins shop over the next three to five years, together with providing parking at the Heritage Centre. No doubt the greening of the high wall on the church side will be a welcome development also. Casserleys Post Office continues to look well and it was a pleasure to note the refurbishment of a shop front located just before the church. Well done on the presentation under this heading. There appears to be some on-going construction work at the school and on a site opposite the quarry – you may like to forward details of these for next year's competition.

### **LANDSCAPING**

Well done on the extension of your landscaping programme. Birch trees are always beautiful, they are particularly beautiful when bare in the winter months for their silver bark. They are not known as the Lady of the Forest for nothing. Flower and shrub displays throughout the village continue to impress immensely. The new shrub beds in the GAA centre have been noted.

### **WILDLIFE AND NATURAL AMENITIES**

Your plans regarding the quarry make interesting reading. We are particularly interested to note that you have identified thirty nine species of plants and flowers on the quarry shelves and mounds. We are also impressed with your activities to attract more birds into the quarry by planting berry producing trees. The water pool seems to be a good idea and the rocks and bog oak and other artefacts are attractive features. You are right to try to achieve a balance here between amenity and wildlife. Perhaps fewer straight lines in the quarry might be a good idea given the nature of what you are trying to achieve

here. Do we have details of your nature walk? If not, send it in with next year's application so that this can be considered in the competition also. Is the quarry amenity area accessible? It seemed to be locked on the day of adjudication and the adjudicator didn't like to climb over the chain link fencing. The quarry is being considered for the wildlife award.

### **LITTER CONTROL**

Litter control continues to be excellent. How do you achieve this, would you like to send us in details next year on your litter control strategies.

### **TIDINESS**

There were no major problems under this heading. The village was tidy in most respects. Some corners of the grounds of the GAA clubhouse may need a little attention. Make sure that all building materials are removed upon completion of work.

### **RESIDENTIAL AREAS**

Residential properties are presented to a very high standard, congratulations on another fine presentation under this heading. Some gardens are very much admired.

### **ROADS, STREETS AND BACK AREAS**

Well done on the commitment to have overhead service cables ducted. This will make a big difference to the village. Road surfaces are good and street furniture is well presented.

### **GENERAL IMPRESSION**

It is always a pleasure to adjudicate Newtowncashel and experience different aspects of your development each year.

### **SECOND ADJUDICATION (02/08/00)**

Once again the miles of grass verges and greens had been well mown. They complement beautifully the undulating pastoral landscape in which the village is set. Two papers were noted blowing in the wind during our second visit! The only significant problem hindering further progress would seem to be the several shabby or otherwise neglected sheds.