



Comhairle Cathrach & Contae Phort Láirge  
Waterford City & County Council

## **Silver on the double for beautiful Dungarvan in Entente Florale**

The people of Dungarvan should feel particularly happy and proud this week with news that the town has won two Silver Awards for its cleanliness, beauty and presentation, one in national competition, the other in the international field.

In Tullamore on Saturday night last, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, Dungarvan was awarded a Silver Medal in the International Entente Florale competition having impressed the members of the jury in the various categories in which the town was being judged. The icing on the cake came with the awarding of the Chairman of the Jury Prize for the Mitigation of Climate Change.

Then on Monday, came the news that Dungarvan had won Silver in the Tidy Towns Competition as well, another endorsement of the combined work of the Local Authority, Tidy Towns Committee and generous volunteers.

While much of the groundwork for the town's improvements has been carried out over the years, the extra effort which was put in since the announcement of the town's nomination to the Entente, was an added benefit. So, the streets and the hinterland looked at their best on Judging Day, 19<sup>th</sup> July last.

On Monday, Cathoirleach of Dungarvan and Lismore Municipal Council, Cllr. John Pratt extended his congratulations and appreciation to everyone who had contributed to making the town so beautiful and presentable, not only for the competitions, but also for the residents and the many visitors who come to the town annually.

"This was a true community effort," he said, "because not alone did organisations like the Tidy Towns Committee and volunteers go out on the streets to collect litter on a regular basis, but they also showed good example and inspired others to make their contribution as well.

"I thank all those who contributed to this success," he continued, "as well as the Council who also made many improvements to the town and made sure

that it was consistently clean and tidy throughout the year. It was a difficult year with the drought conditions, but they managed to maintain the beautiful flower beds, tubs, boxes and baskets as well as the open spaces. Dungarvan never looked better and I could see that the judges were highly impressed.”

Especially pleasing to the eight member jury drawn from the participating countries were the visual presentation of the town; its commitment to sustainability of the environment; the preservation of the built heritage, the landscaping of the town and especially in the community involvement in maintaining its image of cleanliness and natural beauty.

Winning the Jury Chairman’s Prize for Mitigation of Climate Change was another endorsement of the Council’s policy and implementation over the past years. Once more the Greenway delivered its benefits, as it was the nominated initiative in this category.

Of the Greenway the Jury said: “It is a fantastic realisation and demonstrates a vision, The Tidy Town’s Three Year Plan impressed them greatly.”

“Measures to reduce emission of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) help to mitigate the effects of climate change,” says the Competition Prospectus. “But these measures do not stop, or reverse climate change itself.”

The Judges were particularly pleased with the St. Mary’s School presentation which was an elaborate garden perfectly laid out and maintained. They were especially impressed that all of the verbal presentations were made by the pupils and not the teachers.

The Tourist Office also came in for positive comment in the report. “Having a Tourist Office that is well staffed and helpful for visitors was a major interest for Jury Members. The personal package for tourists caught their attention as did the special scheme for dementia sufferers.”

All of these endorsements, of the high quality presentation of the town, as well as two Silver Awards this year, are welcome and will inspire all those who work on its behalf to maintain and even improve these standards.

The countries competing were: Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy and Slovenia.

