

National Pride Of Place Award For Tuamgraney



Pictured at the Pride of Place 2008 awards ceremony in Cappoquin, County Waterford, on Saturday 8 November 2008 L-R Cllr Christy Curtin, Damian Heaney, Tuamgraney Development Association (TDA), Geraldine Heaney, TDA, Madeline Taylor-Quinn, Mayor Of Clare, Gordon Daly, TDA, Mary Cassidy, TDA, Tom Coughlan, Deputy County Manager, Clare Co. Council, Nicola Cullinan, Clare Co. Council

Sunday, 09 November 2008

Tuamgraney has received national recognition after being named one of the principal winners in Co-operation Ireland's annual **Pride of Place Competition 2008**.

At a weekend award ceremony held in Cappoquin in Waterford, the East Clare village was named overall winner of Category 2, catering for population centres of 200-500 people. The Tuamgraney Development Association accepted a Waterford Crystal trophy and a cash prize of EUR2,000.

Four other local organisations were shortlisted in the All Ireland competition, which aims to recognise and celebrate the vital contributions that community groups make to society.

Gleann an Óir, Tullyvarraga, Shannon; The Burren Centre, Kilfenora; Obair Afterschool Project, Newmarket on Fergus; and Seanoirí Iaichtín Naofa, West Clare Resource Centre, Miltown Malbay, were all first time participants in the competition.

Mayor of Clare, **Cllr. Madeleine Taylor Quinn** congratulated the Tuamgraney Development Association on achieving national success in the competition.

The Mayor described the Association as a wonderful example of what could be achieved by adopting a partnership approach to improving community life.

Commenting on the Pride of Place competition, the Mayor stated, *'This competition focuses on local communities, both north and south of the border, coming together to shape, change and enjoy all that is good about their area. Groups have the opportunity to network, exchange ideas and learn from others and further promote their activities.'*

According to **Mary Cassidy**, Secretary of the Tuamgraney Development Association, *'The Pride of Place award is a tribute to everyone who has contributed to the Association's success, including those who helped out during the Pride of Place presentation in July. We would particularly like to thank Clare County Council and the local Engineer in Scarriff for their valuable contributions. Special mention should also be made of the fifteen local community organisations who pledged their support, including sporting and recreational groups, along with residents associations and schools.'*

Ms. Cassidy explained that the immense civic pride in Tuamgraney resurfaced with the formation of Tuamgraney Development Association twelve years ago, and the Association together with the community had made significant progress in that time.

*'Tuamgraney Development Association was formed following a public meeting in response to concern about the decline of the area. The goal of the Association is to continue to seek enhancement and promotion of Tuamgraney in order to make it a better place to live, work, play and visit. The challenge now is to build on our Pride of Place 2008 success. Our overall aim shares its name with our current plan **'Towards A Better Tuamgraney'**, she added.*

After its inception in 1996 the Tuamgraney Development Association drew up an Environmental Improvement Plan 1996-2001, and a subsequent plan 2002-05. The scope of the current plan 2006-09 mirrors the aims of the Association itself, firstly to carry out and facilitate further environmental and amenity improvements in Tuamgraney, and secondly to promote Tuamgraney, and also to raise funds to carry out the necessary works. The village and the Association have won numerous awards in recent years, including Clare In Bloom and a Regional landscape award in the Tidy Towns competition, as well as increasing substantially year on year marks and performance in the Tidy Towns competition. The Association works closely with the community, public representatives, local businesses, Clare County Council and other bodies.

Pride of Place, first piloted in the summer of 2003, came from the Local Authority All-Island Steering Forum - a forum that encourages strategic, sustainable approaches to cross border co-operation. Since 2003, the following communities in Clare have taken part: **Kilrush, Kilkee, Newmarket on Fergus, Ennis, Labasheeda, Shannon, Tuamgraney, Miltown Malbay, Sixmilebridge, Ballynacally, Scariff, Kilfenora and O'Briensbridge/Montpelier.**



President Of Ireland Mary McAleese with Tom Dowling Chairman Pride of Place Committee and Co-operation Ireland Chairman, Christopher Moran at the awards ceremony.

President McAleese announces 2008 Pride of Place Award Winners

President of Ireland, Mary McAleese, was guest of honour at the All-Island Pride of Place Gala Awards ceremony at Cappoquin Community Centre, Waterford on Saturday 6 November). Hosted by Waterford County Council the President announced the winners to an audience of approximately 500, which included representatives from all of the 113 nominated groups.

During the evening, the President paid tribute to all the participating groups who work tirelessly to create and promote pride in their cities, towns and villages.

The **Pride of Place** Competition recognises and celebrates the vital contributions that community partnerships make to society. The focus is on people coming together to shape, change and enjoy all that is good about their local area. It differs from other similar projects in that they specifically recognise the involvement of the local community in all aspects of rural and urban regeneration including, promoting social cohesion, involvement in planning, the promotion of heritage and environmental awareness.

This is the sixth year of the Pride of Place Competition, which is run by Co-operation Ireland in partnership with the All-Island Local Authority Steering Forum, a forum which encourages strategic and sustainable approaches to cross-border co-operation by Local Authorities.

Local Authorities from practically every county in Ireland have nominated groups in their local area. Each of the nominees demonstrated what can be achieved when people work together to enhance and change parts of their area for the good of the whole community.

Tony Kennedy Chief Executive of Co-operation Ireland said:

*“The unique all-island **Pride of Place** competition has a positive effect on communities throughout the island of Ireland. It highlights local authorities commitment to supporting groups who undertake initiatives to improve their communities. Although there can only be one winner in each category, tonight is a opportunity to recognise and celebrate the efforts of all groups.”*

Prizes were awarded to the winner and two runners-up in six population and three themed categories. Awards in the separate cities competition and number of special awards were also announced.

The winners were

Category 1.

- Winner: **Ardaghey Community Development, Co Monaghan**
- Runner up: **Gowna Community Development Association, Co Cavan**
- Runner up: **Glasthule Estate Forum, Co Dublin**

Category 2.

- Winner: **Tuamgraney Development Association, Co Clare**
- Runner up: **St. Mullins Community, Co Carlow**
- Runner up: **Multyfarnham Park Development, Co Westmeath**

Category 3.

- Winner: **Kilworth Village Renewal Committee, Co Cork**
- Runner up: **Castlefin Partnership Initiative, Co Donegal**
- Runner up: **Milltown Community Council, Co Galway**

Category 4.

- Winner: **Cappamore Development Association, Co Limerick**
- Runner up: **Crossmolina Community Council, Co Mayo**
- Runner up: **Virginia Development Association, Co Cavan**

Category 5.

- Winner: **Ballyhaunis District Community Council, Co Mayo**
- Runner up: **Kinnegad Community Council, Co Westmeath**
- Runner up: **Na Calaí CDP (Portumna), Co Galway**

Category 6.

- Winner: **Portlaoise Parish Centre, Co Laois**
- Runner up: **Mullingar Community Workshop, Co Westmeath**

Category 7 Theme: *Care of the Elderly*

- Winner: **Carnew Community Care, Co Wicklow**
- Runner up: **Dawn Court Day Care Centre, Athlaca, Co Limerick**
- Runner up: **Mountmellick Voluntary Housing Association, Co Laois**

Category 8 Theme: **Community Facility**

- Winner: **Temperance Hall Committee, Co Longford**
- Runner up: **Bee Park Resource Centre, Manorhamilton, Co Leitrim**
- Runner up: **Ionad Naomh Padraig, Bunbeg, Co Donegal**

Category 9 Theme: Environment

- **Winner:** **Bonane Community Co-operative Society, Co Kerry**
- **Runner up:** **Castlecomer Discovery Park, Co Kilkenny**
- **Runner up:** **Loughbrickland & District Community Association, Banbridge, Co Down**

Special Endeavour Award : Aisling Group International, Navan, Co Meath

Special Endeavour Award : Altnaveigh House, Newry, Co Down

Best Island Award : Valentia Island, Co Kerry

CITIES

Category 1.

- **Winner:** **North Great George's Street Preservation Society, Dublin**
- **Runner up:** **Claddagh Residents Association, Galway City**

Category 2.

- **Winner:** **Renmore Residents' Association, Galway City**
- **Runner up:** **Learmount Community Development Group (Park Village, Derry)**

Category 3.

- **Winner:** **Lower Ormeau Residents' Action Group, Belfast**
- **Runner up:** **St. Brigid's Family and Community Centre (Waterford Inner City)**

Category 4.

- **Winner:** **Engage with Age, Belfast City**
- **Runner up:** **Mahon Retired Residents, Cork City**

Category 5.

- **Winner:** **St Andrew's Resource Centre, Dublin City**
- **Runner up:** **St. Munchin's Community Enterprise Centre, Limerick City**

Winning Local Authority: Mayo County Council

Useful Links

Funding Bodies

Special EU Programmes Body www.seupb.org

Border Action www.borderaction.ie

Community Foundation for Northern Ireland www.communityfoundationni.org

Community Relations Council www.community-relations.org.uk

Educational Guidance Service for Adults www.egsa.org.uk

ICBAN www.icban.com

Proteus www.proteus-ni.org

Rural Development Council www.rdc.org.uk

Training for Women Network Ltd www.twnonline.com

YouthNet www.youthnetni.org.uk

Conflict Resolution and Research Bodies

EU Instrument for Stability http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/ifs/index_en.htm
and the **Peace building partnership** http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/ifs/pbp_en.htm

ARK www.ark.ac.uk

CAIN cain.ulst.ac.uk

Central Statistics Office www.cso.ie

Centre for Cross-Border Studies www.crossborder.ie

Democratic Dialogue www.democraticdialogue.org

Economic and Social Research Institute www.esri.ie

Glencree Centre for Reconciliation www.glencree.ie

INCORE www.incore.ulst.ac.uk

Joseph Rowntree Foundation www.jrf.org.uk

NI Statistics & Research Agency www.nisra.gov.uk

North/South Ministerial Council www.northsouthministerialcouncil.org

Pavee Point www.paveepoint.ie

The Irish Times www.Ireland.com

Enterprise and Employment

Chambers of Commerce www.chambers.ie

Enterprise Ireland www.enterprise-ireland.com

Irish Business & Employers Confederation www.ibec.ie

Cross border mobility www.crossbordermobility.info

Europe

Europa europa.eu.int

European Commission (Ireland) www.euireland.ie

European Community Networking Organisations www.communities.org.uk

European Foundation for the Improvement of Living & Working Conditions
www.eurofound.ie

European Movement www.europeanmovement.ie

European Parliament (Brussels) www.europarl.eu.int

European Social Fund / www.esf.ie

European Structural Funds www.eustructuralfunds.ie

National Forum on Europe www.forumoneurope.ie

Special EU Programmes Body On-line applications site www.eugrants.org

Government Departments (ROI)

Department of Agriculture and Food www.gov.ie/daff/

Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism www.gov.ie/arts-sport-tourism

Department of Communications, Marine and Natural Resources www.marine.gov.ie

Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs www.pobail.ie

Department of Defence www.defence.ie

Department of Education and Science www.education.ie

Department of Environment and Local Government <http://www.environ.ie/>

Department of Finance www.finance.gov.ie

Department of Foreign Affairs www.gov.ie/iveagh

Department of Health and Children www.doh.ie

Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform www.justice.ie

Department of Social and Family Affairs www.welfare.ie

Department of the Tanaiste, Enterprise, Trade and Employment www.entemp.ie

Department of the Taoiseach www.taoiseach.gov.ie
Department of Transport www.transport.ie
Inter-agency online publications database (AD, CPA, ADM/CPA and Comhairle)
www.cidb.ie/interagencyvcsresources.nsf
Office of the Attorney General <http://www.gov.ie/ag/>

Government Offices Northern Ireland
Northern Ireland Office www.nio.gov.uk

Interest Groups

Coiste na n-larchimi www.coiste.ie
EXPAC www.expac.ie
Omagh Support & Self Help Group www.omaghbomb.co.uk
The Aisling Centre www.aislingcentre.com
Threshold www.thresholdservice.com
Victims Liaison Unit www.nio.gov.uk/issues/victims.htm
Victims Unit www.victimsnri.gov.uk

Useful Links (IE)

Citizens Information Database www.cidb.ie
Community Exchange www.activelink.ie/ce/
Community Workers Co-operative www.cwc.ie
Irish Farmers Association www.ifa.ie
Leader II Leaderii.ie
Maritime Festival-Interreg project maritimefestival.net
National Women's Council of Ireland www.nwci.ie
Planet www.planet.ie
The Equality Authority www.equality.ie
The European Anti Poverty Network <http://www.eapn.org/>
Volunteer Resource Centre www.volunteeringireland.com

Other Useful Links (NI)

Association for Higher Education Access and Disability <http://www.ahead.ie/>
Equality Commission for Northern Ireland <http://www.equalityni.org/>
Further Education and Training Awards Council <http://www.fetac.ie/>
Irish National Association of Adult Education <http://www.aontas.com/>
National Policy and Advisory Board for Enterprise, Trade, Science, Technology and Innovation <http://www.forfas.ie>
Northern Ireland Anti Poverty Network <http://www.qub.ac.uk/mgt/proj/30/niapn1.htm>
Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action <http://www.nicva.org/>
Northern Ireland Economic Council <http://www.niec.org.uk/>
Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission <http://www.nihrc.org/>

Cooperation Ireland

Our Mission is:

"To advance mutual understanding and respect by promoting practical co-operation between the people of Northern Ireland and of the Republic of Ireland."

To achieve this aim Co-operation Ireland works with:

Youth and Community Groups, Schools, Local Authorities, the Media, Economic Development Agencies, Businesses and Training organisations, Statutory Organisations and Governments.

Our Work

Over the years Co-operation Ireland has developed a varied range of projects which allow groups to come together. Jointly these groups work on a selected project and through this they get to know one another, become comfortable in each others' company and respect one another. Through this model groups have an opportunity to discuss the often 'swept under the carpet' topics of culture, identity and religion.

<http://www.cooperationireland.org/>

Co-operation Ireland Websites

Art Links <http://artslink.cooperationireland.org/>

Beyond Borders <http://beyondborders.cooperationireland.org/>

Civic Link <http://www.civic-link.org/>

Co-operation Ireland USA <http://www.cooperationireland.org/usa/>