

Hollywood pipped at Best Kept post



Pictured at the 2011 SuperValu Best Kept Town, Village and Housing Area Awards are L-R: Doreen Muskett MBE, President of NIAC; Ian Beaney, North Down Borough Council; Denis Ogborn, Hollywood Residents Association (HRA); Leo O'Reilly, Permanent Secretary at the Department of the Environment; Olga Jane Lowe, HRA; NIAC patron Joe Mahon; Alan Andrews, HRA and SuperValu Marketing Manager Briega McGinty.

HOLYWOOD has clinched a prestigious honour - but narrowly missed out on top place.

The town was celebrated in the SuperValu Best Kept Awards for 2011.

It was selected as the runner up for the title of Best Kept Medium Town in Northern Ireland.

It was pipped to top spot by Dungannon, Co Tyrone.

Doreen Muskett MBE, president of awards organiser the Northern Ireland Amenity Council (NIAC) said the local town was a deserving award recipient.

"It is obvious that the community in Hollywood has a great deal of civic pride. It is also clear that local people work together to achieve these great results and this community co-operation is indicative of a Best Kept Award winner," she said.

Winning towns and villages, including Hollywood, were presented with a personalised sign, a park bench made from recycled materials and a monetary donation towards their environmental endeavours.

North Down Alliance Councillor Andrew Muir expressed his delight at

Hollywood receiving Runner Up status.

"Whilst I am naturally disappointed Hollywood didn't win this year, achieving Runner Up status against stiff competition is an amazing achievement. I warmly congratulate and thank everyone involved in keeping Hollywood tidy and attractive," he said.

He continued, "Great progress has been achieved during the last year with a number of eyesores gone, areas spruced up, graffiti removed and the scourge of litter tackled on an ongoing basis. The challenge ahead is to continue this work and focus on the areas where judges felt improvement was required in order to ensure we win the award next year.

"I look forward to working with everyone over the forthcoming months to deliver a Tidy Town which attracts even more people to live, work or visit. During these tough economic times it's especially important we have a town which attracts rather than deters investors."

The annual awards are organised by NIAC and sponsored by

independent retail group SuperValu.

Established in the 1950's, they have commended thousands of towns, villages, housing areas, schools and healthcare facilities on their work to improve and preserve the environment.

Ms Muskett continued, "The SuperValu Best Kept Awards were established almost 60 years ago to encourage communities to enhance their surroundings, to protect our diverse wildlife and plant life and make Northern Ireland a great place to be.

"We would like to congratulate all of this year's winners for demonstrating a real dedication to the environment."

The SuperValu Best Kept Awards acknowledge community projects that tackle environmental issues and encourage planting schemes, recycling and wildlife conservation. Entrants are also judged on the absence of litter, fly-posting and graffiti.

Information about the SuperValu Best Kept Awards can be obtained from NIAC on 9040 3681 or online at www.niacbestkept.com

2011 SuperValu Best Kept Towns, Villages and Housing Areas

RESULTS

Towns & Villages

WINNERS:

Large Town	Coleraine	(Coleraine Borough Council)
Medium Town	Dungannon	(Dungannon & S. Tyrone B. Council)
Small Town	Ballycastle	(Moyle District Council)
Large Village	Broughshane	(Ballymena Borough Council)
Small Village	Loughall	(Armagh City & District Council)

RUNNERS-UP:

Large Town	Banbridge	(Banbridge District Council)
Medium Town	Holywood	(North Down Borough Council)
Small Town	Warrenpoint	(Newry & Mourne District Council)
Large Village	Ahoghill	(Ballymena Borough Council)
Small Village	Lack	(Fermanagh District Council)

Overall Winner	Loughall	(Armagh City & District Council)
Most Improved	Dungiven	(Limavady Borough Council)
Welcome Award	Park	(Derry City Council)

Housing Areas

Large Housing Area	Rathecoole, Newtownabbey	(N I Housing Executive)
Medium Housing Area	Coleshill Park, Enniskillen	(N.I. Housing Executive)
Small Housing Area	Garvey Court, Lisburn	(Private)
Sheltered Housing Area	Shiels Court, Ballymoney	(Oaklee Housing)

Ellen McGowan Award	Coleshill Park, Enniskillen (NI Housing Executive)
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The President's Trophy
Florence Johnston (Belmont Allotments)