

**PRESS RELEASE 6th November 2023**

**Wexford County Council Annual Residents Awards make a welcome return.**

There was a great atmosphere in County Hall last Thursday 2nd November at the Annual Residents Awards Day. The Wexford County Council Estates Competition which has not been held since 2019 was re-launched earlier this year. 39 Resident’s Associations and 27 individual entries were received all of an exceptionally high standard making for a difficult decision for the judges.

St Joseph’s Estate, Ballymurn was awarded the Best Estate in the County. In presenting the award, Cathaoirleach of Wexford County Council, Cllr. John Fleming said: ‘Resident’s associations throughout the county as well as individual local authority tenants have been working hard to maintain and improve their communal spaces.   The pride that is taken both individually and collectively was evident as the judges worked their way through the County.   They saw beautiful planting schemes, well maintained green areas, communal orchards and composting and upcycling projects, some of which are on display here today.   Today is a great opportunity for Wexford County Council to acknowledge all that hard work’.

Awards for the best estate and best garden in each district were presented by the respective District Cathaoirleach.

Mindful of our ongoing efforts and obligations regarding Climate Change, this year saw a new award introduced for Best Biodiversity Initiative, and a Special Award for ingenuity in Upcycling.  So impressive was the standard of entries that the judges awarded Special Achievement awards to acknowledge all the hard work being done in so many estates throughout the County.

The full list of awards include:

**Best Estate in the County:** St Joseph’s Estate, Ballymurn

**Best Estate in each District**

**Gorey/Kilmuckridge** – Ounavarra Park, Ballycanew

**New Ross** - Beechview, Newbawn

**Enniscorthy** – Cloney Park, Davidstown

**Wexford**  – Mill Haven, Castlebridge

**Rosslare** – St Brendan’s Estate, Rosslare

**Best Garden** in each district:

**Gorey/Kilmuckridge District** John Doyle, Orchard Way, Camolin

**New Ross** Rosemary Rossiter, St Martins

**Enniscorthy** – Kathleen Fortune, Rosemary Heights

**Rosslare -** Mary Tubritt, St James Drive, Tomhaggard

**Best Window Box Display** – Sinead & Siobhan O’Leary, Greenwood Avenue

**Best Biodiversity Initiative** – Paul Lenniston, Garan Beithe, Coolcotts

**Special Award for Upcycling Initiative** - Cois Abhainn Estate, Blackwater for re-purposing hub caps into Sunflowers

**Special achievement award** - Denis Redmond, for his garden at Abbeyview, Campile

**Special achievement award for improvement** - Cum an Tobair Estate, Oylegate

**Special Achievement Award** - Croghan View Estate, Coolgreaney

Well done to all involved.

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