

Mayor of Monaghan County Council, Noel Keelan, making the presentation of the award to members of the Carrickmacross Tidy Towns. (L-R) Kieran Roche, Denis Durkan, Colr Noel Keelan, Kitty Hand, Gerry Hand and Mary Kerr-Conlon. ©Rory Geary/The Northern Standard

CARRICKMACROSS TIDY TOWN COMMITTEE

The Carrickmacross Tidy Town Committee was established 30 years ago. This dedicated group of people have worked long and hard over three decades to make Carrickmacross one of the most beautiful towns in the country. The town has achieved four Gold medals 2011-2015 in a row in the National Tidy Town Competition. They have also won the inaugural Pride of Place Award, The European Entente Silver Medal, Irelands Tidiest Small Town, Irelands Tidiest Large Town to mention just a few. Every year some 5,000 flowers in 150 tubs and flower beds are placed out and many green areas and maintained. Behind it all is a very dedicated voluntary group that keeps our local environment in pristine condition.



Mayor of Monaghan County Council, Noel Keelan, making the presentation of the award to the Tanagh Summer Camp Instructors. ©Rory Geary/The Northern Standard

TANAGH SUMMER CAMP INSTRUCTORS

Tanagh summer camp runs for 7 weeks throughout July and August. The five day summer camp programme is available to all children and teenagers aged 9-16 years in our county some of whom come from the most marginalized and deprived sections of our community. This camp raises self-esteem, self-confidence, team work, physical exercise and training. Above all else the instructors seek to prompt the children and teenagers in the love of nature and in the love of outdoor physical activity, hence, giving them alternative pastimes and reducing the possibility of the reverting to negative sub-cultures that cause so much damage to their health and well-being. Tanagh summer camp participants include all abilities, cultures and nationalities. 2015 summer camp participant numbers seen the biggest camp to date with 490 young people taking part in our adventure camps. The instructors work closely with the young people on the camps and build up a very genuine and great rapport with them. The campers view the instructors as role models, educators, someone who they can talk to if they have a problem on the camp and can have a laugh and fun throughout the week. Staff give 110% effort, enthusiasm and energy every day and each week to the different camps. The Tanagh instructors don't just treat their day as a work day but as a privilege to be in such a position to empower our young people and be part of such a wonderful lifetime memory for everyone who takes part.

