

The Wrea Green Horticultural Society Show Countdown

Showstopper jobs for

March

Vegetables and Fruit			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
1	Six tomatoes on a plate	Tomatoes intended for planting indoors or outdoors can be sown at the end of March. Don't sow them any earlier or they will become too leggy and pot bound before it's warm enough to put them out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniform in size and shape • Ripe but firm • Rich in colour with fresh calyx and stalk intact • Blemish free and unpolished
2	Nine cherry tomatoes on a plate		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniform in size and shape • Fresh, ripe but firm • Blemish free and unpolished • Rich in colour with fresh calyx attached
3	Two marrows	Jobs and advice next month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young and not over-ripe • Uniform, well-shaped and tender • Any colour
4	Three carrots with tops	Jobs and advice next month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good uniform shape • Tender roots, free from side shoots • Skins clear and colour bright • Tops trimmed
5	Four potatoes	Buy your Second Earlies seed potatoes to chit and then plant out in early to mid-April for harvesting in July and August. (Maincrop potatoes can go in in late April for harvesting in late August to October.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skins clear and free from blemishes • Eyes few in number and shallow • Skins should not be scrubbed
6	Three onions	For exhibition, sow thinly in trays in a propagator, windowsill or greenhouse. Transplant into 3" pots when large enough to handle before planting out in well prepared soil. For culinary use, sow thinly directly outside in March and April. Thin to 15cm apart for cropping 24 weeks after sowing.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uniform bulbs, firm, well-ripened and of good colour • No thickness or softness in necks • No excessive removal of outer skins • Tops neatly ties with natural material and roots neatly trimmed. See www.youtube.com/watch?v=AtAVHegHb4k for demonstration video
7	Two leeks	Leeks can be sown outdoors this month. On the allotment, seeds are best sown in rows, 30cm apart. Mark a straight line and use the corner of a rake to make a shallow groove in the soil, about 1cm deep. Sow seed thinly along the trench, cover with soil, water and label. When seedlings have three leaves each, about four to five weeks later, thin to leave plants every	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good length of straight, blanched stem without any bulbous base • Solid, thick and tight with clean spotless skins; no ribbing • Not excessively stripped • Firm, fresh, undamaged, leaves • Roots uncut, with soil washed and teased away

		15cm - the seedlings you remove could be used to plug gaps elsewhere.	
8	Four runner beans	Although it is too early to sow runner beans, the bean trench can be dug. Dig a trench 3 feet wide and 1 foot deep. Over the next few weeks fill with compost that should be rotted down by the time you plant your bean plants in late May or June.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straight, fresh, pods of good colour • No outward sign of seeds • Stalks attached • Slender and long • A crisp snap when broken
9	Three apples	Jobs and advice next month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not polish – retain the ‘bloom’ • Eyes and stalks intact • Clear, unblemished skin • Good colour for the cultivar
10	Three Parsnips	Sow as soon as the soil is workable; this month or next. Sow 2cm deep, 2 to 3 seeds together which will be thinned to 10cm to 14cm apart for medium roots and 20cm apart for larger ones when large enough to handle. Sow the rows 30cm apart.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long, large, well-developed, symmetrical, well-shouldered and shapely. • White roots, smooth-skinned and free from side-shoots or blemishes. • Taproot intact, • Leaves trimmed to 75mm.
11	Three courgettes	Jobs and advice next month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young and tender • Uniform shape and colour • Approx. 15cms long and 3 to 4 cms in diameter. Round varieties approx. 7 to 8 cms in diameter – any colour but well-matched
12	Growing pot of herbs	Jobs and advice next month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean, labelled pot • Variety of healthy herbs • Minimum of five different herbs • Maximum size of container 12” diameter or sides
13	Harvest Basket/Box	Variety! Start planning for a great selection now.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum diameter or sides of container 15” • Mixture of home-grown produce • Attractive arrangement • Healthy, fresh, clean produce • Wonky, but unblemished, produce accepted

Flowers			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
14	Single bloom	Select the variety you might like to enter and buy the seeds or begin to nurture the plant if it's in your garden.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leaves below the water-line removed Flower at its peak – not under-developed or past its peak A good specimen of the cultivar in shape, colour and size
15	Jug of home-grown flowers	Any mixture of annuals and perennials grown at home or allotment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Home grown Perennials or annuals or a mixture of both Flowers turgid and fresh Good balance of jug dimensions and flowers
16	Bowl of mixed dahlias	Plant you dahlia tubers in multi-purpose compost in 2-3 litre pots this month. Place the pots in a light, frost-free position and keep the compost moist. They will form bushy plants, ready for planting out after the frosts have gone. Or for later flowering, plant out, but protect the new shoots from frost with cloches or horticultural fleece. Pinch out all but five shoots sprouting from the tuber to encourage lots of flowers.	<p><i>Generic criteria for all dahlia types submitted in this unclassified class.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blooms fresh and clean All florets intact, firm and without blemish or defect Colour(s) clear and well-defined and consistent throughout in self-coloured varieties Shaded, bi-coloured varieties are evenly shaded or tipped throughout the bloom
17	Vase of sweet Peas	Pinch out the tops of any winter sown sweet peas to encourage side shoots and lots of flowers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to 15 spikes Strong spikes with well-spaced blooms Long, straight stems Flowers fully open and fresh Large, erect flowers Closed keel (the joined petals under the main petals) No developing seed pods or colour loss
18	Vase of mixed roses	Prune shrub roses by half to an outside facing bud. Cut out any dead or cross-over stems.	<p><i>Generic criteria for all rose types submitted in this unclassified class.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Doubles – open to half or three quarters Singles and semi-doubles – fully opened Blooms fresh, clean and sparkling Full depth of colour which is bright and glowing Straight stems Clean, undamaged foliage, cleaned only with water Good colour combination of mixed roses No overcrowding or large spaces Display balanced with the height and size of the bowl

Floral Art			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
19	Just green arrangement		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Foliage/flowers may be home-grown and/or bought</u> • Variety of healthy, green foliage of different hues • Plant material should be fresh and turgid • Minimum of six stems • Green flowers, if used, must not be dyed
20	Arrangement in a tea pot		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flowers suitable for a teapot • Colour harmony between the flowers, and the flowers and the teapot • Design – good balance, proportion, space, form and texture
21	Seaside arrangement		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Flowers may be home-grown and/or bought</u> • An arrangement that reflects aspects of the seaside; natural, or humans at work, play or sport • Accessories such as driftwood, pebbles and shells, if used, enhance the arrangement • Colour harmony reflects the seaside • Width of a shoe box
22	Floral Hat		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Flowers may be home-grown and/or bought</u> • Arrangement may be in or on a hat or an arrangement in the shape of a hat • Use of hat stands allowed

Culinary

Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
23	Chocolate Cake		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cake well-risen, even in shape and baking • Sides smooth • Icing rich and glossy • Sponge should be moist
24	Afternoon Tea for two		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attractively displayed • 4 savouries and 3 sweet items per person • Finger sized portions
25	Savoury Pie		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A firm pastry encasing the whole pie • Pie presented out of the baking tray or tin • Pastry golden brown, glazed and decorated • Completely filled with the chosen savoury filling • Filling well-flavoured and tender • No soggy bottoms
26	Millionaire's Shortbread		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three distinct layers • Soft, firm caramel – not toffee • Thin layer of unbroken chocolate • 6 pieces
27	Parkin		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Texture close and crumbly • Evenly risen, top flat and glossy • Very dark brown • Ginger flavour is distinctive

Jams and Chutneys

Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
28	One jar chutney		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Label should state 'hot' or 'mild' • Colour bright and even throughout • Dark chutney should be bright not muddy • Reasonably firm, uniform consistency • No large pieces of onion, skin, cores or stones • No air bubbles or free vinegar • Mature flavour • Good blended flavour, characteristic of ingredients used
29	One jar marmalade		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Based upon citrus fruit – flavour additions allowed and must appear on label • Colour bright and characteristic of citrus used • Jelly-like consistency – not runny or too firm • No air bubbles or scum • Peel tender, uniformly cut and distributed (sliced not minced) • Slightly bitter taste true to the fruit used
30	Blackcurrant Jam		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colour bright, even and characteristic of blackcurrants • No scum, foreign bodies, mould or sugar crystals • Fruit evenly distributed, • Skins tender • Jellified texture, not runny with loose liquid • Flavour full, fresh and characteristic of blackcurrants
31	One jar fruit curd		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date made should reflect 4 week 'Eat by' period (contains eggs) • Colour bright, characteristic of fruit • Consistency spreadable, not runny or rough • No egg spots, peel, scum, sugar crystals or air bubbles • Fresh flavour, well-balanced and not greasy

Art and Craft

All entries must have the name, address and telephone number of the entrant on the back and the class number in which it is to be entered.

Art work up to A3 including mount.

Judging will consider:

- Complexity
- Workmanship
- Use of colour
- Aesthetic appeal

Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
32	Animal Portrait in any medium		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eye-appeal – is there a focal point? • Good perspective • Good balance and composition • Good tonal value • Good use of materials including presentation • Sign on the back or cover signature
33	Greetings Card in any medium		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If used, no visual signs of glue or fixing tape used • Clean, crisp finish with no curled or creased corners • Clean and neat cutting (unless tearing technique has been used) • Mounts and motifs are placed squarely unless deliberately intended otherwise • Good use of colour and design • If 3D, could it be easily posted? • Well-finished; hand-made rather than home-made
34	Up-cycled Item		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any used/old item that has been re-purposed • Re-designed old clothing should be wearable if intended to wear • Shabby-chic items should be functional or attractive • Re-constructed broken items into something different (e.g. cutlery or clock workings jewellery;) • The finished items should be well-made and reflect a standard of finish appropriate for the item (i.e. scuffed woodwork on a shabby-chic item is acceptable but drawers that stick are not)
35	Mosaic		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A piece of art or image made from the assembling of small pieces of coloured glass, stone, or other materials. • The finished surface should be smooth without rough edges sticking above the design • The grouting should be of an even width throughout the design • The design may be flat or on a 3D object such as a vase, picture frame or mirror • It may be abstract or representational

Needlecraft

**All entries must have the name, address and telephone number of the entrant on the back and the class number in which it is to be entered.
Art work up to A3 including mount.**

Judging will consider:

- Complexity
- Workmanship
- Use of colour
- Aesthetic appeal

Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
36	Mini Scarecrow		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximum height 1 metre • Traditionally mounted on a vertical pole/stick • Good use of materials and stuffing
37	Needle-Felting		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A 3D object (animal, vegetable, plant or other, created by the 'stabbing' technique of needle-felting wool) • Finished item should be well-shaped and represent the item upon which it is based, well • Stray fibres should be kept to a minimum with the overall outcome being firm and tightly felted • Good use of colour with soft colour merging where appropriate • Added pieces should be firmly secured at the joins • Additional details may be added but these should not make up the bulk of the finished item.
38	Item or picture in cross stitch		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No size limit • No trailing threads • Even, accurate stitches formed in the same direction • Thread should fill each hole and not catch the hole edges • Stretching should ensure vertical and horizontal lines parallel to the mount or frame
39	Bunting		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand or machine sewn • Neat stitching on joining tape • Pennants equal in size and symmetry • Pleasing use of colour and pattern • Up to 20 pennants per item
40	Knitted item		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Design, colour and yarn is appropriate for the knitted item's function • Tension is consistent and provide a suitable fabric and texture • The item should be finished well with invisibly joined seams and matched patterns • Button holes should be neat and spaced well (not necessarily equidistant)

Amateur Photography

Class	Entry	Jobs and Advice	Judging Criteria for the show
41	Humour	Any image which would make the viewer smile or is an image of the subject, or subjects, in a humorous situation.	<p><u>All photographs must be mounted, no bigger than A4, including the mount.</u> <u>Unframed</u> <u>All photographs must have the name, address and telephone number of the entrant on the back and the class number in which it is to be entered.</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the photograph show originality? • Does it reflect the class title? • Is it in perfect focus? • Is it properly exposed? • Is the photograph well-composed with the emphasis on the main subject? • Is the photograph clean and suitably mounted?
42	Danger	Interpret this in any way you choose. It could be an image of something that could be dangerous; a dangerous pastime or situation.	
43	Blue	Sea; sky; flowers; still-life of blue things; sports team in blue.....	
44	The Fylde	We've widened our local class to include the whole of the Fylde. Anything, anywhere, as long as it is in The Fylde. <i>(The Fylde, according to Wikipedia, is a coastal plain in western Lancashire, England. It is roughly a 13-mile (20-kilometre) square-shaped peninsula, bounded by Morecambe Bay to the north, the Ribble estuary to the south, the Irish Sea to the west, and the Bowland hills to the east.)</i>	
45	People	Whoever; wherever, whenever doing whatsoever. Individuals or groups.	

Children's Classes			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
46	Beach in a box box		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a seed tray or similar sized box • Seaside or coastal theme • Props should enhance and contribute to the design
47	Flowers in a jug		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fresh flowers and leaves with no fading or drooping • Height of flowers is balanced with the size, height and shape of the jug
48	Fairy- tale garden in a jam jar		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lots of ideas on the internet. • Using a jam jar and whatever materials you like, create a fairy tale scene. • Moss, ferns, stones, bark, 'mushrooms', little houses; fairies and elves, gingerbread houses; witches
49	Recycled plastic model		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a model of anything you like out of plastic. • Rockets; cars, monsters, buildings, aliens, mobiles . .
50	Painting or drawing of Wrea Green		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to A3 • Landscape or portrait • Paint or pencil • Signature and age group (7 and below, 8 to 11)

Prizes for classes 46 to 50 will be awarded to entries by children 7 years old and below and 8 years to 11 years

Entry forms and entry items will be submitted to us from Ribby-with-Wrea School at Summer half-term. Children who live in the village but do not attend this school, will receive an entry form with the summer brochure.