

The Wrea Green Horticultural Society Show Countdown

Showstopper jobs for

May

Vegetables and Fruit			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
1	Six tomatoes on a plate	<p>Transfer the tomato plants to large pots or grow bags when the flowers on the first truss begin to open. Place in the greenhouse but be alert to frost warnings and be prepared to throw horticultural fleece over the plants if frost is forecast.</p>	<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	<p>If growing outside, make sure the plants are hardened off before planting 24" apart. Pinch out the side shoots as they appear so that the plant retains its energy for the main stem and fruit. If you leave the side shoots, you will get a bigger crop of much smaller fruit and the plants will take up lots more space.</p> 	<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	<p>Place your marrow plants into a cold-frame for a week and then in a sheltered position for another week, ready to plant out in June. If you don't have a cold frame, place the plants outside in the day time in the first week and then take them in at night. Make planting pockets for your marrows ready for when you plant them out. Dig a hole a spade's width and depth, Fill with well-rotted manure or good compost and sprinkle fertiliser on the top. You hardened off plants will be planting on the top on this pocket.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young and not over-ripe • Uniform, well-shaped and tender • Any colour
4	Three carrots with tops	<p>Carrots can still be sown this month. If you sowed carrots last month and they are beginning to show, carefully had-weed around the newly emerging seedlings and weeds can soon overpower young carrots. Be very careful not to crush or brush the carrot foliage as this will attract the carrot root fly. Water gently whilst young and then every fortnight (thoroughly) once established.</p>	<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	<p>Earth up newly emerging foliage to protect the plants from frost. Earthing up also protects developing new</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skins clear and free from blemishes • Eyes few in number and shallow • Skins should not be scrubbed

		potatoes from light. Light turns tubers green and green potatoes are poisonous. Keep well-watered.	
6	Three onions	Keep your onions well-watered and remove any flower buds if they appear.	<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	Transplant your leeks to their growing position when they are pencil thick. This can be done as late as July. Plant 20cm apart with 38cm between rows. See April's tips for a full overview.	<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
8	Four runner beans	Sow runner beans under glass. Sow one seed per pot to make planting out into the trench prepared last month, easier.	<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	Sprinkle a good balanced fertiliser around the base of your tree if not done last month. Although most fruit trees will naturally discard excess acorn-sized fruits, (June drop), it might be worth thinning further any damaged fruit to one dessert apple per 15cm and one cooking apple to one per 23cm.	<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	When the seedlings appear, thin out to one seedling every 6". Hand weed around the seedlings, taking care not to brush them which might attract carrot root fly.	<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	Harden off your courgette plants ready for planting out in June. In the meantime, dig 'planting pockets', 3' apart for each courgette. Dig a spade's width and depth and fill, making a mound, with good compost, soil and well-rotted manure.	<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	Ugly vegetable	From any of the above categories or others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Home grown

Flowers			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
13	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. As hard as it is to do, the best blooms usually develop when other surrounding buds have been pinched out.	<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
14	Vase of Chrysanthemums	<p>Plant out in mid-May, once the risk of frost has passed. Space them 45cm (18in) apart</p> <p>Choose a sheltered sunny position; ideally improve the soil by digging in well-rotted organic matter such as homemade compost during the winter at about 10kg per sq m (25lbs per sq yd), usually one to two bucketful per square yard or metre. Then fork in a dressing of general fertiliser (100g per sq m (4oz per sq yd) of growmore or blood, fish and bone) towards the end of April. A 'top dressing' of nitrogen-rich fertiliser is often applied in June to encourage growth (35g per sq m (1oz per sq yd) of sulphate of ammonia, or for organic gardeners 70g per sq m (2oz per sq yd) of dried poultry manure pellets)</p>	<p>There are many types of chrysanthemum and they flower from September to November. For the purposes of this show, we do not specify type or form but judging will be based upon the generic criteria below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rings or canes may be used to support the blooms Blooms are symmetrical Pleasing in form, size, freshness, colour, uniformity, staging and foliage.
15	Bowl of mixed dahlias	Plant out your sprouting tubers towards the end of the month or early June. Alternatively, cut the sprouting shoots off at the base, dip in hormone rooting powder and repot individually. When rooted and established these can be planted out and staked.	<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
16	Vase of sweet Peas	Sweet peas, pinched out and planted out last month, may look disappointingly unwilling to get going. Keep them watered and protect from birds, slugs and strong winds and they will soon shoot up. Interestingly, the Sweet Pea Society discourages pinching out, and the RHS suggests this is only necessary for Autumn sown plants. You might like to try half-and-half and compare.	<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

17	Vase of mixed roses	Keep an eye our green-fly and black spot and treat accordingly. Young buds can soon become encrusted with aphids creating mal-formed and small flowers. Either spray with Roseclear or rub off the aphids with your fingers.	<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
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Floral Art			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
18	Royal Wedding Arrangement		<p>Although the date will have passed, what would you have made for the new Royal Couple? This can be a table decoration; a pedestal arrangement, bride's bouquet or a pew-end arrangement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Flowers may be home-grown and/or bought</u> • Colours reflect a Royal wedding and/or the couple involved • Container/base appropriate to the design • Design – good balance, proportion, space, form and texture • (The judges will acknowledge that the flowers that are available in May will not be available in September)
19	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
20	Planted Welly		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean welly with drainage holes in the sole • Stable – weighted in the foot to ensure stability • Healthy plants • Good colour combinations • Display balanced with the size and height of the boot
21	Harvest/Autumn Arrangement		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Flowers may be home-grown and/or bought</u> • Flowers, foliage and props appropriate to the season and title • Container/base appropriate to the design • Design – good balance, proportion, space, form and texture

Culinary

Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
22	Victoria Sponge		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be baked in one or two tins • No cooling rack marks on top or bottom surfaces • Raspberry jam, sufficiently and evenly spread • Light sprinkling of caster sugar on top • Pale golden brown in colour, evenly baked • Top flat without air bubbles or crinkly edges • Bottom and top halves of equal thickness • Texture, fine, light and even • Flavour delicate with no dominant flavour
23	Decorated Cake		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The cake can be any shape or type (fruit, sponge, chocolate etc) • It can be iced or decorated with nuts, fruit or other edible items • It can have iced messages • It can have a combination of edible and non-edible decorations such as flowers. • It should not have too many non-edible props.
24	Quiche (any filling)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shortcrust pastry base light and short, not hard and brittle – no soggy bottoms • Egg mixture is cooked in the middle • Pastry at the edges even, pale golden and not too thick • Adequate filling with no over-spilling • Filling uniformly diced or chopped and evenly distributed • Well-seasoned, good flavour combination
25	Round of shortbread		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presented in the round • Approximately 12mm (1/2 inch thick) • Marked into sections with a knife before baking • Neat, evenly shaped and smooth • Pale golden brown. Not overcooked at the edges or pale underneath • Crisp texture • Smooth base • Traditional butter flavour • May be lightly sprinkled with caster sugar
26	Harvest sheaf loaf		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be edible (not made as a craft item) • Shape relevant to harvest time • Well-shaped and patterns well-defined • Golden, glossy finish.

Jams and Chutneys

Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
27	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
28	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
29	One jar jam (soft fruit)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colour bright, even and characteristic of the fruit used • No scum, foreign bodies, mould or sugar crystals • Fruit evenly distributed, not too many stones • Skins tender • Jellified texture, not runny with loose liquid • Flavour full, fresh and characteristic of the fruit used
30	One jar lemon curd		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date made should reflect 4 week 'Eat by' period (contains eggs) • Colour bright, characteristic of lemons, and even • Consistency spreadable, not runny or rough • No egg spots, peel, scum, sugar crystals or air bubbles • Fresh flavour, well-balanced and not greasy
31	One jar jelly (savoury or sweet)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jelly brilliantly clear • No pulp, haze or scum • Colour even, bright and characteristic of the ingredients used • Consistency should tremble but hold its shape • No air bubbles • Flavour true to the ingredients used, full and well balanced

Art and Craft

Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
32	Portrait in any medium		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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. For woodwork, pottery and ceramics items, this should be attached to the item. Art work up to A3 including mount. <p>These classes are not currently covered by national WI criteria. Judging will therefore tend to be based upon personal preference of the judge, taking into account the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eye-appeal – is there a focal point? • Colour • Perspective • Balance and composition • Tonal value • Use of materials including presentation • Sign on the back or cover signature
33	Pencil or ink drawing		34
35	Item of woodwork		

Needlecraft

Needlecraft			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
36	Stuffed toy		<p><i>Class covers Soft Toys; Stuffed Toys; Knitted Toys; Rag Dolls</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All entries for classes 36-40 must have the name, address and telephone number of the entrant attached and the class number in which it is to be entered. All buttons, eyes and extras must be firmly attached Toy suitable for intended age group – safety, size and sturdiness Good play or comfort value Fur fabric toys must not have fur trapped in the seams Stuffing must be evenly distributed and soft
37	Item of needlework		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Decorative items; clothes; toys, bags; purses, etc., any item that has used mainly needlework techniques in the construction Kits allowed Hand or machined Framed or open Effective combination of thread, fabric and stitching to give colour and texture appropriate to the shape and intended purpose Stitching shows skill in applying known and adapted techniques
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	Crochet work		<p>Judging will consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complexity Workmanship Use of colour Aesthetic appeal Function
40	Knitted item		

Amateur Photography

Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
41	Sun up/Sun down	Sunsets and Sunrises over any type of natural or manmade landscapes	
42	Sport	Just what it says on the tin! Action shots; celebration/despair shots; team or individual.	
43	Building/architecture	Local, national or global. Buildings or aspects of buildings, (windows, doors, roofs) that are interesting and beautifully photographed.	
44	Wrea Green	<p>This year, we would like to try to produce a 2019 Wrea Green Calendar to raise funds for the Horticultural Show. We hope to create a calendar from your photographs in and around the village. In order to do this, we would need a selection of seasonal photographs, each of which would clearly represent the season or relevant month on the calendar.</p> <p>What to do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look out for photo opportunities for the calendar. We would like seasonal photographs showing all aspects of village life such as Field Day; the car show; cricket; football; the allotments; the green; school sports; church festivals; the Christmas Tree switch on as well as quirky and unexpected ones. • Enter the photo/s in Class 44 in the usual way. (Instructions will be in the Summer Brochure) • Save the image somewhere safe so that we can use it for the calendar should it be chosen. 	
45	Black and White	Black and white photographs of anything where the use of black and white has enhanced the subject more effectively than colour might have done.	

- **All photographs must be no bigger than A4, including the mount.**
- **Unframed**
- **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.**
- 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?

Children's Classes			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
46	Miniature garden in a box		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a seed tray or similar sized box • Can be a living, growing garden or a temporary display for the Show • 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	Shoe box scene		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can incorporate both the box and the lid • Google 'Shoe Box Scenes' to get inspiration.
49	Plasticine or Das® clay dinosaur		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use plasticine, Das® or similar. • Model a dinosaur and paint if preferred. • Ensure that it will stand and not fall over!
50	Drawing or painting of your family	Everyone you can think of, including your pets!	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Up to A3 • Landscape or portrait • Paint or pencil • Signature and age group on the back, top left.

Prizes for classes 46 to 50 will be awarded to entries by children in Year 3 and below and for children in Year 4 to Year 7

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