

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	Earth up newly emerging foliage to protect the plants from frost. Earthing up also protects developing new potatoes from light. Light turns tubers green and green potatoes are poisonous. Keep well-watered.	<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	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	Growing pot of herbs	A pot planted up with small herbs this month, should be ready for display by show time. Or, seeds can be sown in outside pots this month. Will your pot contain annual herbs or perennials?	<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	This will be made up of items that are ready for harvesting in September. The more variety you grow, the better your basket will be.	<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
13a	Ugly Vegetable	From any of the above categories or others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •

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. 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
15	Jug of home-grown flowers	This will be a selection of what you have blooming around September 7 th . The more you grow, the more you'll have to choose from. Some flowers will benefit from cutting back after their first flowering and you may get a second batch.	<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 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
17	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
18	Vase of mixed roses	Keep an eye our green-fly and black spot and treat accordingly. Young buds can soon become encrusted	<p><i>Generic criteria for all rose types submitted in this unclassified class.</i></p>

		with aphids creating mal-formed and small flowers. Either spray with Roseclear or rub off the aphids with your fingers.	<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
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? <p>PLEASE NOTE THE DEADLINE FOR PHOTOGRAPH ENTRIES IS THURSDAY AUGUST 29TH</p>
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	<p>We've widened our local class to include the whole of the Fylde. Anything, anywhere, as long as it is in The Fylde.</p> <p><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></p>	
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.