



Green Horticultural Society Show Countdown

Showstopper jobs for





		Vegetables and F	ruit
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
1	Six tomatoes on a plate	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	 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	frost is forecast. 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.	 Uniform in size and shape Fresh, ripe but firm Blemish free and unpolished Rich in colour with fresh calyx attached
3	Two marrows	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.	 Young and not over-ripe Uniform, well-shaped and tender Any colour
4	Three carrots with tops	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.	 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.	 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.	 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.	 Good length, 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, the 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.	 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.	 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.	 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.	 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	Harvest Basket/Box	This will be made up of items that are ready for harvesting in September. The more varieties you grow, the better your basket will be.	 Maximum diameter or sides of container 15" Mixture of home-grown produce Attractive arrangement Healthy, fresh, clean produce Wonky, but unblemished, produce accepted
13	Ugly vegetable	From any of the above categories or others.	Home grown

		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.	 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.	 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.	 Generic criteria for all dahlia types submitted in this unclassified class. 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.	 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 with aphids creating mal-formed and small flowers. Either spray with Roseclear or rub off the aphids with your fingers.	Generic criteria for all rose types submitted in this unclassified class. 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	
			Foliage/flowers may be home-grown and/or bought	
	Cake stand		Floral arrangement on a tiered cake stand – 2+ layers	
19	arrangement		Arrangement reflects the shape and layering of the cake stand	
	arrangement		Flowers and foliage fresh and unblemished	
			Good combination of contrasting or harmonising colours	
			Foliage/flowers may be home-grown and/or bought	
	Arrangement in a tea pot		Flowers suitable for a teapot	
20			Colour harmony between the flowers, and the flowers and the	
			teapot	
			Design – good balance, proportion, space, form and texture	
			Flowers may be home-grown and/or bought	
	Arrangement in/on a re-cycled item		Re-cycled item can be anything suitable in/on/by which to	
21			arrange flowers: domestic; mechanical; industrial; natural.	
			Flowers and foliage fresh and unblemished	
			Good combination of contrasting or harmonising colours	
			Flowers may be home-grown and/or bought, fresh or dried	
00	Tints and tones of		Flowers and foliage fresh and unblemished	
22	autumn		Flowers and foliage in good condition if dried	
			Good combination of contrasting or harmonising colours	
			Autumn is reflected in the materials and the colours used	







Culinary			
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
23	Lemon Drizzle Cake		 Well risen, even in shape and baking Sponge light and moist Flavour both tangy and sweet Lining paper removed Sides smooth Crunchy layer of lemony sugar on the top Can be round or rectangular
24	Fruit Loaf		 Loaf-shaped Well risen, even in shape and baking Domed shaped top which may be cracked No burnt fruit on the surface Fruit distributed evenly throughout the loaf Fairly moist Denser than sponge cake but not solid Sweet and fruity taste
25	Cornish Pasty	12.5%. MEAT PAGE PAGE	As stipulated by The Cornish Pasty Association Minimum of 12.5% meat and 25% vegetable Roughly diced or minced beef Sliced or diced potato Swede (turnip) Onion Seasoning to taste (mainly salt & pepper) The pastry can be shortcrust, rough puff or puff, but it has to be savoury and able to withstand baking and handling without breaking It can be glazed with egg, or milk, or both, to give the finished pasty its golden colour. It must be crimped
26	Millionaire's Shortbread		 Three distinct layers Soft, firm caramel – not toffee Thin layer of unbroken chocolate 6 pieces
27	Parkin		 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		
			Label should state 'hot' or 'mild'		
			Colour bright and even throughout		
			Dark chutney should be bright not muddy		
28	One jar chutney		Reasonably firm, uniform consistency		
20	One jai chamey		No large pieces of onion, skin, cores or stones		
			No air bubbles or free vinegar		
			Mature flavour		
			Good blended flavour, characteristic of ingredients used		
			Based upon citrus fruit – flavour additions allowed and must		
	One jar marmalade		appear on label		
			Colour bright and characteristic of citrus used		
29			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		
			Colour bright, even and characteristic of blackcurrants		
			No scum, foreign bodies, mould or sugar crystals		
30	Soft fruit Jam		Fruit evenly distributed,		
			Skins tender		
			Jellified texture, not runny with loose liquid		
			Flavour full, fresh and characteristic of the fruit used		
			Date made should reflect 4 week 'Eat by' period (contains		
			eggs)		
31	One jar fruit curd		Colour bright, characteristic of fruit Consistency engage by not runny or rough		
	_		Consistency spreadable, not runny or rough No agg and a pool asymptotic provide or air hubbles.		
			No egg spots, peel, scum, sugar crystals or air bubbles Freeh flavour, well belenged and not green.		
			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:

-	plexity • Workma		
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
32	Animal Portrait in any medium		 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	Bookmark		 If used, no visual signs of glue or fixing tape used Clean, crisp finish with no curled or creased corners Clean and neat Good use of colour and design Well-finished; hand-made rather than home-made Robust enough to last through several books Can be for either children or adults Can be double-sided
34	Up-cycled Item		 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	Bird Feeder		 Can be made from any weather-proof material/s Easy access for feeding Free-standing, hanging or fixed Can be made from new or recycled or reclaimed materials

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:

		nanship • Use of colour • Aesthetic appe	
Class	Entry	Jobs and advice	Judging Criteria for the show
36	Sock puppet		 A hand puppet made from a sock Sock must be clean Puppet stuffed to show shape and form Eyes, ears and other additions must be securely attached Consider displaying on a support – e.g. a kitchen roll holder.
37	Needle-Felting		 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		 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	Christmas Decoration		 Christmas decoration made using mainly needle-craft Free standing, fixed or hanging Good combination of colours to reflect Christmas or Nativity
40	Knitted item		 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	Pets	Cute or uglyConventional or exoticYours, or one that caught your eye	All photographs must be mounted no bigger than A4	
42	Doors	Domestic, industrial, commercial, religious, historic, mechanical, natural – whatever gets you through to the other side!	All photographs must be mounted, no bigger than A4, including the mount. Unframed All photographs must have the name, address and telephone	
43	Red	Up for your own, unique interpretation – just like last year!	number of the entrant on the back and the class number in which it is to be entered. • Does the photograph show originality?	
44	Nature	In any of its forms: Life Death and decay Weather Landscape Geography	 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? 	
45	People	Whoever; wherever, whenever doing whatsoever. Individuals or groups.	- 15 the photograph clean and suitably mounted:	



PRE-SCHOOL AGE

CHILDREN NOT YET AT SCHOOL OR ATTENDING A PRE-SCHOOL

	Children's Classes		
	Pre-School Age	Judging Criteria	
46	Jug of flowers	 Fresh flowers and leaves with no fading or drooping Height of flowers is balanced with the size, height and shape of the jug Name, age and PS* tied or stuck on the jug 	
47	Beach in a Box	 In a seed tray or similar sized box Seaside or coastal theme Props should enhance and contribute to the design Name age and PS* provided with box 	
48	Junk Model	 Create a model of anything you like out of plastic and other recycleable materials e.g. Rockets; cars, monsters, buildings, aliens, mobiles . Name, age and PS* provided with model 	
49	Painting of a vegetable or vegetables	 No bigger than A3 Use of paint not crayons Name, age and PS* on back of painting – top right-hand corner 	
50	Vegetable made from playdough, clay, plasticine or any malleable material	 3D Vegetable modelled from any malleable material such as clay, plasticine, playdough etc. Name, age and PS* provided with model 	

^{*}PS to indicate pre-school age

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN RECEPTION, YEAR 1 OR YEAR 2

Changes to Chidren's Classes Schedule

Please enter your child in the school year group (Not class name) they are in at the time they created their entry.

Year 2 pupils in a mixed Key Stage class, please enter from these classes.

	Reception and Key Stage 1	Judging Criteria
51	Jug of flowers	 Fresh flowers and leaves with no fading or drooping Height of flowers is balanced with the size, height and shape of the jug Name and age and Year Group tied or stuck on the jug
52	Book Cover for a Traditional Tale	 Two-sided folded A4 card showing traditional tale title (and author if known) on the front and 'blurb' on the back Short 'blurb' giving brief summary of the story – e.g. An exciting story about a little girl and a Big Bad Wolf! Will be displayed standing, so card should be used A spine included and the title written on this sideways Name, age and Year Group on inside cover
53	Portrait of a famous person	 No bigger than A4 Any medium; paint; crayon; pencil Name of the subject on the front Name, age and Year Group on the back, top right hand corner
54	Landscape painting	 No bigger than A3 Use of paint Name and age and Year group on back – top right-hand corner
55	Traditional Tale character/animal model.	 A 3D model of a traditional tale character in any medium; clay, plasticine, playdough, card etc Include a label of the character's name Name, age and Year Group included with the model

FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN YEAR 3, YEAR 4, YEAR 5 OR YEAR 6

Year 3 pupils in the mixed Key Stage class, please enter from these classes

	Key Stage 2	Judging Criteria
56	Six Cup Cakes	 Cupcakes are uniform in size Attractive in appearance Texture is light and moist Flavour is pleasing Icing is smooth and enhances the cake. Name, age and Year Group included with the entry.
57	Story – 500 words	 A fictional, original story of no more than 500 words. Written or printed on one side of the pages as the stories will be displayed in a book Characters may be real people, current day or historical, but the story must be fiction Name, age and Year Group under the title
58	Aztec Mask	 A mask made from any medium; card, Modroc, clay, papier mache, etc Based upon historical illustrations from the Aztec civilization Include a hole from which the mask may be hung Name, age and Year Group included with the entry.
59	Coastal Landscape painting	 No bigger than A3 Use of paint Name and age on back – top right-hand corner
60	Photograph of a farm animal	 Photograph must be taken by the entrant No bigger than A4 including mount Colour or black and white Any farm animal Name, age and Year Group on the back of the photograph