

# CHURCH CROOKHAM GARDEN SOCIETY



## MEMBERS HANDBOOK AND SHOW GUIDE 2020

*New members and show visitors welcome*

**Trading Hut Open Saturdays**  
10 -11.30 am 15<sup>th</sup> February to 26<sup>th</sup> September  
Memorial Hall Car Park, Sandy Lane GU52 8LD  
**PLANT SALES AND ADVICE** most weekends

**AGM, SOCIAL EVENING & QUIZ – free to members / £3 non-members**  
FRIDAY 28<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.30pm at The Willis Hall

**SPRING SHOW AND SEED SWAP**  
**SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> March 2020**  
Set up from 9.00, final entries by 10.30am, Open for visitors 11.30 Trophies at 12pm  
WILLIS HALL, CHURCH CROOKHAM

**ANNUAL SHOW**  
**SATURDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2020**  
Set up from 9.00, final entries by 10.30am, Open 2.00 - 3.30 pm  
CROOKHAM MEMORIAL HALL, CHURCH CROOKHAM  
Trophies to be presented at 3.00 p.m.

**ADMISSION FREE TO BOTH SHOWS – VISITORS WELCOME**

**HARVEST SUPPER**  
Friday 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2020 AT 7.30pm  
WILLIS HALL, CHURCH CROOKHAM



**CHURCH CROOKHAM GARDEN SOCIETY**  
**www.ccgsoc.org.uk**

**OFFICIALS**

**Chairman**

Mr Alec Grant  
12 The Crescent  
Crookham Village  
Tel: 07856532477

[alecjgrant@icloud.com](mailto:alecjgrant@icloud.com)

**Vice Chairman**

Miss Gillian Dukes  
34 Chesilton Crescent  
Church Crookham  
Tel. 01252 672314

[g.dukes2@ntlworld.com](mailto:g.dukes2@ntlworld.com)

**General Secretary**

Mrs Liz Kirton  
3 Nuthatch Close  
Ewshot  
Tel: 01252 851532

[elizabeth\\_kirton@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:elizabeth_kirton@yahoo.co.uk)

**Trading Secretary**

Mr Mike Speed  
17 Tweseldown Road  
Church Crookham  
Tel: 07551606948

[tweseldonia@gmail.com](mailto:tweseldonia@gmail.com)

**Treasurer**

Mr Roger Greenhalgh  
15 Kent Road  
Fleet  
Tel: 07747897725

[exfencer@virginmedia.com](mailto:exfencer@virginmedia.com)

**Show Secretary**

Mr Peter Edwards  
18 Newton Drive  
Church Crookham  
01252 939729

[margiandpeter@gmail.com](mailto:margiandpeter@gmail.com)

**Other Committee members**

Mrs Sue Meek, Mrs Jan Parker

**New Volunteers sought to help with:**  
**COMMITTEE – SALES TEAMS – EVENTS – MAINTENANCE**

Please contact an appropriate member of the committee if you can help.

## CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE 2020

Below are my thoughts for the year past and present, so welcome to the 2020 CCGS handbook and enjoy your gardening year.

Well another year is upon us with the last one washing away the end of season following an extended dry spell during the summer. We seem to be experiencing more frequent extremes of weather that are disrupting the established norms. However, the summer show was fantastic with more entries and entrants than we have had for many years. Sadly, the spring show suffered from a lack of entries and is under threat again. This year we have brought it forward a week as last year the mild spring weather meant the daffodils were almost over. I actually had daffodils in flower at the end of June but I must confess to having forgotten to plant them, only finding them in February.

Sue and myself hosted a BBQ at the end of June for our committee and volunteers with the feedback indicating that it was a great success. I will be proposing this as a regular feature in our calendar as it is important that we recognise the great voluntary work in support of the society and I would like to personally thank everyone. Another event was Jan & Will Parker's hosting of a showing of 'This Beautiful Fantastic' about the creation of a garden.

Our garden continued to evolve as we push for all-year-round colour. This year we introduced bedding plants to fill the summer gap but also planted more penstemons. We are currently agonising about removing the Wisteria from the front of the house. The wisteria has been there for about 15 years but the few flowers it produces are after the leaves come out and largely just provides uncontrollable greenery throughout the rest of the season. If we do, we will be replacing it with a climbing rose so any ideas on variety please let me know.

This is an important year for the society as we look to grow our membership, improve our spring show and introduce new social events. We will be leafleting the whole of Church Crookham in January encouraging new members to come along and join in the social events and enter into the shows. Please encourage friends and neighbours to join in and enjoy the society and make it a fellowship of which we can all be proud.

Alec Grant, Chairman

### ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS

As a Not for Profit Society these are deliberately kept low to encourage membership and participation and are currently **£5.00pa**. Do please **enrol early in the season at the sales shed** and collect your new 2020 membership card, as your receipted membership card must be shown before purchases can be made. Do we have your Email address? Please check we have it right when renewing membership.

### 2019

At the end of 2019 we had 142 members. The Trading Shed was open between February and September, with healthy sales of various types of compost and other gardening items. Members were on hand most weekends with plant sales and advice. The Spring Show attracted 60 entries and also provided a good early-season opportunity for members to get together. The Annual Show attracted 183 entries, which was the highest number for many years. The judges commented that the entries were of a markedly higher standard than the previous year. The AGM and Harvest supper were well supported and enjoyable.

### RHS WISLEY MEMBERSHIP

The society has affiliated membership of the RHS and holds a card that entitles members to discounted entry to the RHS Gardens (30% for up to two adults). This card can be borrowed from Gillian Dukes. A free group visit will be organised in the summer holidays – child friendly. Transport can be available for a small fare.

### SALES SHED

Probably the most useful part of your society, the shed is staffed by volunteers who can offer advice and help to load your supplies, which are available at near wholesale prices. The shed is open on Saturday mornings during the season from 10 – 11.30am

### DOBIES SEEDS

Members are entitled to a discount on orders from Dobies' catalogue if they use the code GD1368F when they order.

## REGULATIONS FOR THE SHOWS

1. Exhibits **other than Floral Art Section classes** must have been grown by the Exhibitor for at least two months prior to the Show. The Committee must be given the right to inspect gardens in any case of dispute or protest.
2. Exhibits for both shows must be staged between 9.00 and 10.30 am on the day of the show.
3. There is NO FEE to enter either show.
4. Entries:
  - 4.1. **Vegetable, Fruit, Flower, Domestic and Junior Classes**
    - 4.1.1. SPRING SHOW one entry per exhibitor in each class
    - 4.1.2. ANNUAL SHOW one entry only in each class except Novice and Junior classes.
  - 4.2. **Floral Art** One entry only in each class at both Shows including Novice and Juniors.
5. Points awarded as follows: 1<sup>st</sup> 5pts; 2<sup>nd</sup> 3pts; 3<sup>rd</sup> 2pts; H.C. 1pt.  
Double points for Class 1 in ANNUAL SHOW only.
6. No unauthorised person will be allowed in the Hall during judging, other than when "Open Judging" is declared.
7. No exhibits may be removed until after the close of the Show. All Exhibits should then be removed promptly so that the Society may clear the Hall for the next users.
8. The Committee does not hold itself responsible for the loss or damage to any Exhibit although every care will be taken.
9. Judging will be conducted under Royal Horticultural Society Rules. Prizes awarded at the discretion of the Judges/Committee.
10. A novice is one who has not won a 1<sup>st</sup> prize in the relevant section of the Church Crookham Garden Society Show in either of the previous two years.
11. ENTRIES to Secretary:
  - 11.1. SPRING SHOW – all entries accepted on the morning of the Show.
  - 11.2. ANNUAL SHOW – members should notify the show organisers of their likely entries by noon on the Friday before the show. We appreciate that the final selection of entries in some cases can only be made on the morning of the show, but advance notice is very helpful. Entries on the morning of the show are still welcome
  - 11.3. Entries accepted by phone, post or email.
12. Children's entries must be their own unaided efforts.
13. Society vases and containers must be used (except Floral Art and where otherwise stated)
14. Any protest must be made in writing to a Committee Member within half an hour of the show opening to the public.
15. Multiple entries from the same household are permitted.
16. Trophies and cups should be returned to the secretary or trading shed 2 weeks prior to the show, in good condition and engraved (optional).
17. For the photographic classes:
  - 17.1. No dates on the photographs
  - 17.2. Photographs to be mounted on white card

## HINTS TO EXHIBITORS

Please ensure that entries are as per schedule. More details can be found at the end of the handbook pp13-14

### SPRING SHOW

Daffodils Classes 1 - 4	Trumpet as long as or longer than the petals
Narcissi Classes 5 - 8	Cup more than one-third, but less than equal to the length of the petals.
Classes 9 -12	Cup not more than one third of petal length
Classes 13 - 14	Double Flowers

### ANNUAL SHOW

The RHS system of pointing in Collection Classes etc. gives the following maximum points. The figures in brackets denote number of each kind to be shown in Classes 1, 19 and 43 and fruit classes 21 to 25.

### VEGETABLE COLLECTIONS

no	pts	no	pts	no	pts
(6) Beans: French	15	(2) Leeks	20	(5) Radishes	10
(7) Beans: Runner	18	(2) Lettuce	15	(3) Rhubarb	15
(3) Beetroot	15	(2) Marrows	15	(6) Shallots <30mm	12
(2) Cabbages	15	(4) Onions>250gm	20	(6) Shallots >30mm	18
(3) Carrots	20	(4) Onions <250 gm	15	(2) Sweetcorn	15
(2) Cauliflower	20	(2) Parsnips	20	(5) Tomatoes	20
(2) Celery	18	(9) Peas	20	(6) Tomatoes (cherry - <35mm)	20
(3) Courgettes	10	(3) Peppers	15		
(2) Cucumber	20	(5) Potatoes	20		

### FRUIT CLASSES

no	points	no	points
(4) Apples: dessert	20	(2) Melons	20
(4) Apples: cooking	16	(3) Pears	14
(20) Blackberries	8	(5) Plums	16
(12) Bunches Currants	15	(12) Raspberries	12
(1) Bunch Grapes	20	(4) Strawberries	16

**Exhibitors should, if possible, name all varieties of their exhibits**

#### Banksian medal points

Class 1	1 <sup>st</sup> 200	2 <sup>nd</sup> 150	3 <sup>rd</sup> 100
Class 43	1 <sup>st</sup> 150	2 <sup>nd</sup> 100	3 <sup>rd</sup> 50
Class 20	1 <sup>st</sup> 150	2 <sup>nd</sup> 100	3 <sup>rd</sup> 50
Class 42	1 <sup>st</sup> 125	2 <sup>nd</sup> 70	3 <sup>rd</sup> 40
All other classes*	1 <sup>st</sup> 60	2 <sup>nd</sup> 40	3 <sup>rd</sup> 30

\*Sections I, II, III, IV

# SPRING SHOW SATURDAY 28<sup>th</sup> March FOR MEMBERS ONLY

**THE IAN WATSON SPRING CUP** – Highest aggregate points in Show

**RICHARD CONSTANTINE CUP** – Best Pot Plant

**ROSETTES** – Best exhibit daffodil, narcissus, tulip, floral, novice and photography

**PLEASE READ REGULATIONS AND HINTS TO EXHIBITORS ON PAGES 4 AND 5**

## CLASS        **SECTION 1**

1. Daffodils, trumpet, yellow petal, one vase, three stems
2. Daffodils, trumpet, white petal, one vase, three stems
3. Daffodils, trumpet, yellow petal, one stem
4. Daffodils, trumpet, white petal, one stem
5. Narcissi, large cupped, yellow petal, one vase, three stems
6. Narcissi, large cupped, white petal, one vase, three stems
7. Narcissi, large cupped, yellow petal, one stem
8. Narcissi, large cupped, white petal, one stem
9. Narcissi, small cupped, yellow petal, one vase, three stems
10. Narcissi, small cupped, white petal, one vase, three stems
11. Narcissi, small cupped, yellow petal, one stem
12. Narcissi, small cupped, white petal, one stem
13. Narcissi, double flowers, one vase, three stems
14. Narcissi, double, one stem
15. Narcissi, multi-headed, one vase, one stem
16. Any other type, one vase, three stems, one or more varieties
17. Any other type, one vase, one stem
18. Novices only, Daffodils or Narcissi, one vase, 3 stems
19. Novices only, Daffodils or Narcissi, one stem
20. Novices only, Tulips one vase 3 stems
21. Tulips, one vase, three stems, any varieties
22. Vase of any other Spring Flowers
23. Pot plant bulb, other than classes 1 –15
24. Mystery bulb competition – bulbs obtained at the Summer show or shed Aug/Sept 2019
25. Any container of growing Spring Flowers
26. Pot Plant, fern or foliage
27. Orchid in bloom in pot
28. Cactus or Succulent
29. Bonsai, one container
30. An exhibit of Spring flowers and any fresh plant material in a basket with a handle
31. An exhibit: Flowering shrubs to predominate. Accessories may be used. Space allowed 24”.

## **SECTION 2 – Children 11 years and under**

32. A miniature Spring Garden in a seed tray or plate
33. Pot, bowl or vase of Spring Flowers
34. A painting, drawing or craft work: Theme – mini-beasts in the garden.

## **SECTION 3 – Photography and art – all ages**

35. A photograph: Theme - Blossom. Mounted on thin white card max 12”x9”
36. Painting or drawing: Theme – Spring flower(s). A4 size

# ANNUAL SHOW – SATURDAY 22nd August

ENTRIES to Show Secretary by FRIDAY noon PRIOR TO SHOW Late entries accepted on morning of the show

**RHS BANKSIAN MEDAL** – Highest number of Banksian points (see page 5). Winners of the two previous years are not eligible to win this medal.

**RYELAW BLUE RIBAND** – Best Exhibit in Show

**CHARLES MURRELL CUP** – Best Pot Plant in Show – Classes 36 to 40

**RICHARD LEAVEY CUP** – Chairman's choice

## SECTIONS I – V – MEMBERS ONLY

### SECTION I – VEGETABLES

**RYELAW VEGETABLE CHALLENGE CUP** – Highest number of Points  
**Rosette** – Runner up

#### Class

- 1 Collection of vegetables, four kinds (potatoes not essential). Staging 2'3" x 2'6"
- 2 4 potatoes, white, any one variety
- 3 4 potatoes, coloured, any one variety
- 4 3 courgettes
- 5 3 carrots, any one variety
- 6 7 runner beans
- 7 3 beetroots
- 8 9 pods of peas
- 9 2 marrows, table (not more than 12")
- 10 4 onions over 250 gm
- 11 4 onions 250 gm and under
- 12 2 cucumbers
- 13 6 shallots over 30mm
- 14 6 shallots 30mm and under
- 15 6 French beans
- 16 5 tomatoes
- 17 6 tomatoes small fruited, such as Gardeners Delight – under 35mm
- 18 Herbs, three varieties, three bunches, each in a container as supplied by the Society
- 19 Any other vegetable (numbers as collection)
20. 4 vegetables (1 of each kind), and 1 Vase of Mixed Garden Flowers  
(Exhibitor to supply own container). Staging 27" x 27"

### SECTION II – FRUIT

**ROSETTE** – Highest Points

- |    |                            |                          |
|----|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 21 | Plate of 4 Culinary Apples | }                        |
| 22 | Plate of 4 Dessert Apples  | }Plates will be provided |
| 23 | Plate of 3 Pears           | }                        |
| 24 | Plate of 5 Plums or gages  | }                        |
| 25 | Plate of any other fruit   | }                        |

### SECTION III - FLOWERS

#### **RYELAW FLORAL CHALLENGE CUP–Highest number of Points:**

##### **Rosette for Runner up**

##### **LADY REID CUP – Most points in classes 32 & 33**

- 26 Dahlias, 3 decorative }
- 27 Dahlias, 3 pom-pom, type } One or more varieties
- 28 Dahlias, 3 cactus or semi cactus }
- 29 Vase of sweet peas
- 30 Pinks, 5 stems
- 31 Gladioli, 1 stem
- 32 Rose, 1 stem not more than 3 buds or blooms
- 33 Roses, 1 spray
- 34 Vase of annuals: 1 or more varieties, excl. flower classes 25-33
- 35 Vase of perennials: 1 or more varieties, excl. flower classes 25-33
- 36 Fuchsia, up to 8" pot
- 37 Pot Plant – flower other than fuchsia or orchid
- 38 Pot Plant – foliage
- 39 Orchid in a pot
- 40 Any 1 cactus or succulent
- 41 Hanging basket, 14" maximum
- 42 PRESIDENTS CUP – 3 vases of flowers, 3 different kinds, 1 kind in each vase

### SECTION IV – NOVICES

#### **KEMPSHALL CUP– Best exhibit**

- 43 Novices collection of vegetables, three kinds, numbers as page 5
- 44 Novices – any entry as classes 2-25 inclusive
- 45 Novices – any entry as classes 26-42 inclusive

### SECTION V – FLORAL ART (Members, or Members' family)

#### **RYELAW ROSE BOWL – Best exhibit**

- 46 An exhibit of fresh plant material, space 24"
- 47 An exhibit of fresh foliage, space 24"
- 48 An exhibit, 'cool and fresh', space 24"

#### **ROSETTE Best Exhibit**

- 49 Novices – an arrangement

## SECTION VI DOMESTIC CLASSES

### DOMESTIC CUP – most points section VI GLADYS MURRELL CUP – class 50

- 50 1 Victoria sponge sandwich cake. *Use the recipe on page 14.*
- 51 5 fruit scones
- 52 6 bread rolls made by hand (no bread maker)
- 53 5 ginger biscuits
- 54 Jam, one jar }
- 55 Curd, one jar } Labelled with date
- 56 Marmalade, one jar }
- 57 Jelly, one jar } Labelled with date
- 58 Chutney, one jar

Preserves must be in plain jars, without branding; pickles with lacquered metal or plastic twist top lids. Lids should be tight fitting to ensure a good seal.  
Jams, jellies, curds and marmalades should be sealed with a wax disc and cellophane.

## SECTION VII – JUNIORS (16 years and under)

### RYELAW JUNIOR CUP – best exhibit in classes 1-42

## SECTION VIII – CHILDREN

### RYELAW CHILDREN'S ROSETTE- most points.

#### ROSETTES all classes

##### Children 7 years and under

- 59 Miniature garden in a seed tray, 1 accessory permitted
- 60 An animal made from fruit, flowers or vegetables.
- 61 Drawing or Painting of a 'garden for children', any medium,  
**AGE ON FRONT and name on the back**, not exceeding A4 size.

##### Children 11 years and under

- 62 Arrangement of flowers in an unusual container
- 63 Largest sunflower flowerhead
- 64 A pot plant
- 65 Drawing or Painting of a 'tangled garden', any medium,  
**AGE ON FRONT and name on the back**, not exceeding A4 size.

## SECTION IX – NOVELTY CLASSES

### Rosettes

- 66 Oddest shaped fruit, flower or vegetable
- 67 Longest carrot
- 68 Longest runner bean
- 69 Largest potato

## 2019 TROPHY HOLDERS and ROSETTE WINNERS

TROPHY	DESCRIPTION	SHOW	HOLDER
Ian Watson Cup	Highest Total Points	Spring	Gillian Rose
Richard Constantine Cup	Best Pot Plant	Spring	Gillian Rose
Daffodil Rosette	Highest Points Daffodils	Spring	Roger Greenhalgh
Narcissus Rosette	Highest Points Narcissi	Spring	Sue Meek
Floral Exhibit Rosette	Highest Points Class 29 +30	Spring	Liz Kirton
Novice Rosette	Highest Points 18+19+20	Spring	Gillian Rose
Junior Cup	Best entry	Spring	Jake Howard
Photography and Art Rosette	Best drawing	Spring	Carolyn Greenhalgh
Ryelaw Vegetable Cup	Highest Points Vegetables	Summer	Jan Parker
Ryelaw Rosette	Vegetable Runner-up	Summer	Liz Kirton
Ryelaw Floral Cup	Highest Points Flowers	Summer	Margaret Edwards
Ryelaw Rosette	Floral Runners-up	Summer	Margaret Edwards
Kempshall Cup	Best Novice	Summer	Not awarded
Ryelaw Blue Riband	Best Exhibit	Summer	Margaret Edwards
Lady Reid Cup	Most Points Classes 32 & 33	Summer	Margaret Edwards
Ryelaw Rose Bowl	Floral Art	Summer	Liz Kirton
President's Cup	3 Vases Flowers	Summer	Liz Kirton
Branksian Medal	Highest Points	Summer	Liz Kirton
Richard Leavey Cup	Chairman's Choice	Summer	Jake Howard
Charles Murrell Cup	Best Pot Plant	Summer	Pauline Bennetts
Gladys Murrell Cup	Class 50	Summer	Roger Greenhalgh
Domestic Cup	Highest Points Section VI	Summer	Roger Greenhalgh
Longest runner bean	Longest	Summer	Michael Kelly
Ryelaw Junior Cup	Best Exhibit	Summer	Jake Howard
Junior Rosette		Summer	James Thomas
Fruit Supremo Rosette	Highest Points Section II	Summer	Sue Grant

Trophies must be returned to Secretary or Trading Shed at least 2 Weeks before next Show  
Due to the expense, having the trophy engraved is optional.

## **Dogmersfield, Winchfield & Crookham Village Horticultural Society**

Our members can join the DWCV Horticultural Society talks at the WI hut in Crookham Village for a small contribution

<http://www.dwcvhortsoc.org/events.html>

### **Local Allotments**

If you would like to be on a waiting list for an allotment there are two sources nearby:

Hart Allotments – Pilcot Allotments on Hitches Lane & Edenbrook

– [enquiries@hart-allotments.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@hart-allotments.org.uk)

Church Crookham Allotments Association

– [admin@churchcrookham.org.uk](mailto:admin@churchcrookham.org.uk)



Class 30 Spring show 2019

**CHURCH CROOKHAM GARDEN SOCIETY  
SHED DUTY ROTA 2020**

<b>TEAM LEADERS</b>	<b>ADDRESS</b>	<b>TEL NO</b>
Mr Roger Greenhalgh	15 Kent Road, Fleet	07747897725
Mr Alec Grant	12 The Crescent, Crookham Village	07856532477
Mr Duncan Meek	2 Perry Drive, Fleet	676514
Mrs Jan Parker	12 Perry Drive, Fleet	622491
Mr Peter Stevens	7 Carlton Cres, Church Crookham	683770
Mrs Ruth Waller	2 Medonte Close, Fleet	614846
Mr Jim Hawkett	45 Ryelaw Road, Church Crookham	623627
Miss Gillian Dukes	34 Chesilton Cres, Church Crookham	672314
Ms Margaret Smith	54 Ryelaw Road, Church Crookham	07536112386
Mr Peter Edwards	18 Newton Drive, Church Crookham	939729
Mrs Elizabeth Kirton	3 Nuthatch Close, Ewshot	851532

**DATES 2020**

Would team leaders please notify their team members of all the following dates as soon as possible. Please inform the Trading secretary as soon as possible if any assistance is required.

<b>TEAM LEADER</b>	<b>SESSION 1</b>	<b>SESSION 2</b>	<b>SESSION 3</b>
Mr Alec Grant	15 <sup>th</sup> February	2 <sup>nd</sup> May	18 <sup>th</sup> July
Mrs Jan Parker	14 <sup>th</sup> March	9 <sup>th</sup> May	25 <sup>th</sup> July
Mrs Ruth Waller	29 <sup>rd</sup> February	16 <sup>th</sup> May	1 <sup>st</sup> August
Mr Duncan Meek	7 <sup>th</sup> March	23 <sup>rd</sup> May	8 <sup>th</sup> August
Mrs Elizabeth Kirton	22 <sup>nd</sup> February	30 <sup>th</sup> May	15 <sup>th</sup> August
Mr Peter Stevens	21 <sup>st</sup> March	6 <sup>th</sup> June	22 <sup>nd</sup> August
Miss Gillian Dukes	28 <sup>th</sup> March	13 <sup>th</sup> June	12 <sup>th</sup> September
Mr Roger Greenhalgh	4 <sup>th</sup> April	20 <sup>th</sup> June	5 <sup>th</sup> September
Mr Peter Edwards	11 <sup>th</sup> April	27 <sup>th</sup> June	29 <sup>th</sup> August
Mr Jim Hawkett	13 <sup>th</sup> April	29 <sup>th</sup> June	19 <sup>th</sup> September
Mrs Margaret Smith	25 <sup>th</sup> April	11 <sup>th</sup> July	26 <sup>th</sup> September

Show days are shaded.

## Hints for Exhibitors

### Preparation and presentation of fruit

Choose fruit for ripeness, colour and uniformity.

Apples: should be staged with the eye upwards and stalk down, placing one fruit in the centre and the rest around it. Do not polish the fruit.

Pears and other pear-shaped fruit are best arranged around the perimeter of the plate, stalks pointing towards the centre.

Berries: arrange in rows (except blueberries, which should be arranged around the perimeter of the plate)

Currants: Strings must be attached and look fresh and green. Strings should be roughly parallel.

Choose long strings.

Plums, gages and cherries: must have stalks attached and be careful not to disturb the bloom on the skin. Arrange in lines.

### Preparation and presentation of vegetables

Where necessary, vegetables should be washed to remove soil. Use a soft cloth, but never scrub as this may damage the skin. Never use oils to enhance the appearance.

Beans: fresh pods of even colour cut with a portion of stalk remaining. Exhibit with the tail ends facing forward in a line.

Beetroot: select roots of even size about 60-75mm diameter. Small side roots should be removed but avoid specimens that do not have a single small tap root. Trim foliage to 75mm.

Cabbages: solid heads of equal size and a good waxy bloom. Remove only a minimum of outer leaves. Stage with approximately 75mm stalk, heads towards the front.

Cauliflowers and calabrese: Again, leave 75mm stalk. Just prior to staging, trim back leaves so they match the level of the outside of the curd. Cover the curd with moist cloth or clean paper until the last minute before judging to exclude light.

Courgettes: Select young, tender shapely and uniform fruits approx. 150mm in length and 25-35mm diameter. Stage flat, with or without flowers still attached.

Cucumbers: Fruit should be green and completely matched. The flower end should be completely developed. Aim for 250mm length for indoor grown (less is acceptable for outdoor varieties).

Garlic: Clean off all soil and dry completely. Remove the roots and reduce the stem to 25mm. Don't divide bulbs into cloves.

Leeks: Uniform size and solid with a uniform blanch that is not bulbous at the base. Avoid excess stripping of outside leaves. Ensure that the stem, leaves and roots are flushed clean with tap water. Bind in the leaves to an appropriate length.

Lettuce: Lift with roots intact in the evening or early morning when the leaves are turgid/crisp. Wash the roots and foliage and wrap roots in damp tissue, place in a plastic bag until staging. Remove damaged outer leaves and stage with the hearts pointing forward.

Marrows: Choose tender young uniform fruits, less than 350mm long. For round cultivars 500mm circumference. Wipe clean and stage directly on the bench.

Onions: choose well ripened bulbs of good colour. Do not over-skin. The tops should be neatly tied and the roots cut back to the basal plate. Stage on rings of card or plastic. Shallots should be staged as separate bulbs, not clusters. Cut the roots as with onions and tie the tops. Display on dry sand or similar on a plate.

Peas: Pods should be uniform in length and in good condition. The judges will open the pods to see the peas. Use scissors to cut from the vine with about 25mm stalk and avoid damaging the bloom on the pod by holding the pods with this stalk. Stage on a plate with the tail ends facing front.

Potatoes: Show medium sized specimens 200-250g. wash with a sponge, don't use a brush as it will damage the skin. Choose potatoes with shallow eyes and free from skin blemishes caused by pests. Stage on a plate with the rose end outwards; cover with a cloth to exclude light until judging commences. N.B. coloured potatoes are any variety with any colour like King Edwards with pink eyes or can be completely red skinned like Desiree.

Sweetcorn: Cobs of uniform size with fresh green husks should be displayed about one quarter of the grain exposed by pulling down sharply from the tip to the base. The best cobs are filled with straight rows of tender grains. The stalks should be trimmed.

Tomatoes: Fruit should be the right shape, colour and size for the cultivar. Show with stalks (calyces) still attached. Stage on a plate calyx uppermost. For truss tomatoes cut the truss from the plant carefully as near the main stem as possible. At least a third of the fruit should be ripe.

For other vegetables and fruit, please consult the show secretary.

### **Preparation and presentation of flowers**

Cutting: The best time is the evening or early morning. Use a sloping cut to aid water uptake.

Remove side shoots, unwanted buds and lower leaves and place upright in a deep container of clean water.

Staging: vases are provided; place stems in the appropriate vase and make sure the stems are not too long nor too short. Blooms should all face the same direction unless all round effect is specified

Pot plants: the 'all round effect' is expected for most pot plants, so keep turning the pot in the preceding days. Remove damaged leaves and faded flowers and stage in a clean container with the best side facing front.

Floral Art: No artificial flowers or foliage allowed, but flowers need not have been grown by the exhibitor for the minimum of two months prior to the show as in other classes. The exhibit should occupy most of the space stated in the schedule.

### **Class 50: Victoria Sponge Sandwich (all in one method)**

#### **Ingredients**

150g self-raising flour, sifted with 7ml baking powder

150g caster sugar

3 large eggs, lightly beaten

150g baking margarine

125g jam

caster sugar for dusting

#### **Method**

Line and grease two 18cm sandwich tins.

Set oven at 180°C.

Place all the ingredients in a bowl (not the jam!) and mix for 2 mins until the mixture is light and slightly glossy.

Divide between the tins and bake for 25-30 minutes. Cool on a wire rack, then sandwich together with jam. Sprinkle the top with caster sugar.