

A simple guide to the annual show

5 September 2026

Oakwood Horticultural Society holds an annual show for members to enter every year. This guide is intended to introduce the event and answer any questions.

What the event is:

- ✓ A fun event to bring members together
- ✓ A chance to see what other members have achieved
- ✓ An event to get ideas and inspiration

What the event isn't:

- ✗ A serious competition
- ✗ Only for serious growers
- ✗ Only open to those with perfect fruit and vegetables

Please note that although this is not a serious competition, the judge tends to be strict about application of the rules. When entering, please consult the detailed rules to be sure that your entry complies.

Entering the event:

All you have to do in advance of date of the show is to fill in a show form. The form can be downloaded from the website, collected from the trading shed when open on Sunday (10:00-12:00) or collected from the holder outside the shed when it is closed. Completed forms need to be returned to the shed or scanned and emailed to oakwoodhsc@gmail.com. Forms can be filled in on the day but we ask competitors to complete forms in advance. A list of all of the categories that can be entered is later on in this document. The exhibits need to be displayed on paper plates. Do not worry if you don't have any, these are available on the day. There is a small cost to enter the show (50p per class to a maximum of £5 - this is to cover the cost of the event).

How the day works:

The show is running at the Scout Hall, Green Road N14 4AP. The timings are:

- 9:00 to 10:00 - time to drop off entries at the Scout Hut
- Until 10:15 - Set up exhibits on the paper plates
- 10:15 to 12:00 - judging, exhibitors need to leave the hall
- 12:00 to 12:45 - public viewing of entries and prizes
- 12:45 to 13:00 - time to remove exhibits - anything left after this time will be disposed of

From 13:30 people will be gathering at the allotment site for a social gathering. All are welcome to drop by. The event is open to all members and it would be good to see as many of us as possible, you don't have to enter the show to attend. Family and friends are welcome to attend the social event.

If you are not around on the day but still wish to enter the competition get in touch using the details below and we will see what we can do.

We do hope you are able to get involved, the event is great fun and a good way to meet fellow society members!

If you have any questions please speak to any Committee member or contact us on oakwoodhsc@gmail.com

Categories:

There are a large number of categories that growers can enter into. A list is below, if a certain number of the fruit or vegetable is required that number is given. Further details can be found in the show rules document.

1. Beans, French (seven pods)
2. Beans, runner (five with stems)
3. Beetroot (three) with tops trimmed to 7.5cm.
4. Cabbage (one)
5. Carrots (three) - Leaves should be removed, with no more than 7.5cm of leaf stalk remaining
6. Courgettes (three) 10-15cm in length
7. Cucumbers (two)
8. Onions (three)
9. Potatoes (five) should be medium size (ie no more than 10cm long)
10. Shallots (seven)
11. Tomatoes, large (three) with the stalk (calyces) attached.
12. Tomatoes, medium (five) with the stalk (calyces) attached.
13. Tomatoes, small-fruited and cherry (five) with the stalk (calyces) attached.
14. Platter of 5 different vegetables
15. Any other vegetable, for numbers to be submitted please see the table at the end of the rules document.
16. The funniest looking vegetable
17. Heaviest Potato
18. Heaviest Marrow
19. Heaviest Pumpkin or Squash
20. Dahlias or any other flower (three blooms)
21. Cake/tart/pie made using own produce (please include a sign saying what the self-grown ingredient is)
22. Preserve made using own produce (please include a sign saying what the self-grown ingredient is)
22. Pickles or chutney made using own produce (please include a sign saying what the self-grown ingredient is)
23. Any fruits (three different ones)
24. Any herb (three sprigs)
26. Young person's vegetable arrangement age 6 and under
27. Young person's vegetable arrangement age 7-12

More details on how to enter each category are available in the rules document.