

Advice on showing at the Hardwick Gardening Club Annual Village Show

Vegetables

- **Root Vegetables**
Should be washed, not scrubbed, of uniform size and where required the greenery should be cut back and the remainder tied with raffia.
e.g. Beetroot and Carrots
- **Runner Beans**
Should be as straight as possible and the same size and length. They can be presented on a piece of black cloth.
- **Courgettes**
Same size and complete with flowers if possible.
- **Marrow**
Reasonable size (12 inches long).
- **Onions**
Remove loose skins and bind tops with raffia.
Tops should be no longer than 3 inches.
- **Shallots**
Same as onions but presented on a saucer of dry sand.
- **Leeks**
Wash thoroughly but do not cut the leaves off. If possible should have about 12" of blanched stem, but don't worry if they are slightly shorter. Trim roots.
- **Tomatoes**
Truss – can be green or red but should have as many tomatoes as possible any size.
Single – should be of same size if possible and should have part of stalk left on.
- **Cucumbers**
Same size and flowers left on if possible.
- **Potatoes**
All the same size, cleaned under running water with sponge. They can be dug up a week before the show and stored in dry peat until needed to be cleaned.

Fruit

All exhibits should be free from blemishes and disease.

- **Blackberries**
They should be shown arranged on leaves on a plate and their stalks must be left on.
- **Apples**
Shown on a plate, usually in a pyramid shape.
- **Pears**
Shown on a plate, arranged in a circle with stalks left on and pointing to the centre.

Advice on showing at the Hardwick Gardening Club Annual Village Show contd.

Flowers

- **Pot Plants**

Even shaped, free from dead leaves and petals. Check size of pots with schedule rules.

- **Cut Flowers**

Roses – remember they will open in the heat of the hall so best to bring them $\frac{3}{4}$ open. Also make sure that the exhibits will not flop about in their container.

Soft Stemmed Flowers – unless otherwise stated they can be put in a vase containing oasis. Make the hole in the oasis with a nail or tooth pick.

Chrysanthemums

Sprays should have as many flowers as possible, pack the vase so the flowers do not flop (you can use oasis) and the heads are all together.

Dahlias

Pack the vase as above and display the flowers so that all the bloom can be seen.

Flower Arranging

Always check the size with the schedule and use the appropriate sized dish or container. Use a ruler to measure arrangements rather than a tape.

- **Buttonholes**

Use rose leaf and bud, cover stem with floral tape which will stick to stem and itself (do not use silver paper). Show on a velvet covered board.

- **Arrangements**

Take into consideration what the arrangement is to be used for. Check that the size of container conforms to the schedule.

Cookery

- **Jams**

Plain jars and white lids. No need for waxed discs. But once the lid is put on do not remove, as judges check to see if the seal is broken. Labels should be in the centre of the jar and clearly marked.

- **Lemon Curd**

Use a cellophane cover but no wax top nor lid.

Advice on showing at the Hardwick Gardening Club Annual Village Show contd.

Cookery contd.

- **Victoria Sponge**
Filling must be Raspberry jam. Sprinkle with castor sugar on the top.
Best made the night before or on the morning of the show.
- **Small Cakes and Scones**
They should all be of the same size.
- **Fruit Cakes**
Best made about 2 months before the show.
- **Chutney**
Must be made at least 3 months before the show.
- **Bread**
Show on a white doily placed on a breadboard.
- **Cheese Straws**
Show on a long dish or in a basket. They should all be the same size,
about ¼ " wide and individually displayed not tied together in a bunch

Remember

Fill up jars and check when cooled – top up if required.
Labels should show type of contents and full date when made.
Use doilies – different type for sweet and savouries.
Presentation is very important in judging.

Adult Craft

All exhibits **MUST** be “all your own work” and not more than 2 years old. They must not have been exhibited at a previous Hardwick Gardening Club Annual Village Show.
Read the schedule carefully and ensure you comply with the instructions given, if any, particularly with regard to size.

Children’s Crafts

All exhibits **MUST** be of the child’s own making, parents should only advise not give hands-on assistance.
Read the schedule carefully and ensure you comply with the instructions given, if any, particularly with regard to size.

General

Hopefully this information will encourage anyone who has felt discouraged about entering exhibits in the annual show. If you need help or further information please ask the show secretary who, if he does not know the answer, will point you in the right direction to someone who does.