

EAST READING HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY

President: Mr Jeff Gardner

SCHEDULE

for the

**15TH AUTUMN SHOW
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 5th, 2026**

to be held at

**ST. PETER'S CHURCH HALL
CHURCH ROAD, EARLEY**

Open to the public: 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm.

PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES AT 4:00 PM

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE



ALL CORRESPONDENCE AND ENQUIRIES FOR THE SHOW SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO

**THE SHOW SECRETARY, 9 WYCHWOOD CLOSE, EARLEY, RG6 5RB
TELEPHONE: (0118) 986 7303**

AUTUMN SHOW 2026

Where possible, exhibitors are encouraged to name the variety of their exhibits, to enhance the general interest in the Show.

SECTION A: FLOWER CLASSES

The **JOHN T. BRIDGES PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP** will be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the highest number of points in classes 1 - 12.

- 1 A specimen Sunflower stem
- 2 Vase of mixed Dahlias, at least 2 varieties, greater than 52 mm diameter, 5.
- 3 Any other Dahlias, not cactus or decorative, 3.
- 4 Specimen Chrysanthemum, single bloom, either reflex or incurved.
- 5 Vase of Chrysanthemums, spray type, single or mixed varieties, 3 sprays.
- 6 Vase of mixed Annual Flowers – minimum 2 kinds (1 stem each).
- 7 Vase of mixed Perennial Flowers – minimum 3 kinds.
- 8 Flowering shrub, 1 stem.
- 9 Fuchsia, any variety, up to 10" pot.
- 10 Cactus and/or Succulent plant in a container not to exceed 10" diameter or length.
- 11 One Flowering Plant in a pot not to exceed 10" diameter.
- 12 One Foliage Plant in maximum 10" pot.

Note: All pot and container dimensions are internal.

SECTION B: VEGETABLE CLASSES

The **BULMERSHE PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP** will be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the highest number of points in classes 13 - 29.

- 13 Carrots, one variety, 5.
- 14 Beetroot, globe, one variety, 3.
- 15 Runner Beans, one variety, 6.
- 16 Tomatoes, with stalks, medium size fruit 35 – 60 mm diameter, 1 variety, 5.
- 17 Tomatoes, with stalks, small (less than 35 mm diameter), 1 variety, 5.
- 18 A truss of tomatoes, single stem, any variety, may include unripe fruits.
- 19 Tomatoes with stalks, beefsteak (larger than 60mm diameter), 1 variety, 3.
- 20 Potatoes, Round or Kidney, any colour, one variety, 5.
- 21 Onions, to pass through a 75 mm diameter ring, one variety, 3.
- 22 Courgettes, one variety (any colour, approx. length 150mm), 2.
- 23 French Beans, one variety, 6
- 24 Shallots, one variety, 9
- 25 Herbs, 3 kinds, each staged in a separate vase of 2.5" diameter.
- 26 Any other Vegetable – number optional.
- 27 Collection of 3 kinds of vegetable, not more than 2 from classes 19 – 26, one specimen of each, 3.
- 28 Chillies, any colour, 5.
- 29 Garlic bulbs, 1 variety, 2

SECTION C: FRUIT CLASSES

The **C. J. HARMAN PERPETUAL CHALLENGE CUP** will be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the highest number of points in classes 30 - 35. Apples and Pears may be exhibited ripe or unripe.

- 30 Dessert apples, 3.
- 31 Cooking apples, 3.
- 32 Pears, 3.
- 33 Plums, Gages or Damsons, dish of 7.
- 34 Raspberries, with stalks, dish of 20.
- 35 Collection of mixed fruit, to consist of at least 3 separate fruit varieties, number optional.

Note: Each entry in classes 30 - 35 must consist of one cultivar (variety) only. Decoration with leaves of the fruit shown is permitted.

SECTION D: FLORAL ART CLASSES

The **“MAURICE ILES” PERPETUAL CHALLENGE BOWL** will be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the highest number of points in classes 36 - 39.

Only natural plant material to be used in all classes.

- 36 A petite arrangement, not exceeding 10 cm in any direction.
- 37 An arrangement, consisting of foliage, fruits, berries and seed heads (flowers not permitted). Max size 45 cm in any direction.
- 38 “Autumn is coming”. An arrangement featuring red and/or orange flowers. Front facing. Max size 45 cm.
- 39 An arrangement of flowers and foliage in a wine glass.

Judging in these classes will be based on creativity, originality and visual attractiveness, and will not be based on N.A.F.A.S. rules.

SECTION E: COOKERY CLASSES

The **“MISS NAOMI BOURTON” PERPETUAL CHALLENGE BOWL** will be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the highest number of points in classes 40 - 49.

- 40 One jar of marmalade.
- 41 One jar of jam.
- 42 One jar of pickled onions.
- 43 4 Florentines.
- 44 6 Cheese scones.
- 45 6 handmade wholemeal bread rolls.
- 46 An apple cake (see recipe).
- 47 A custard tart in a 20cm (8") round tart tin (own recipe).
- 48 A fruit loaf (see recipe).
- 49 6 sausage rolls (shortcrust pastry).

SECTION F: HOME CRAFT CLASSES

The **MOCKBEGGAR PERPETUAL CHALLENGE BOWL** will be awarded to the exhibitor gaining the highest number of points in classes 50 - 58. All entries must be made by the exhibitor and not previously shown at any show organised by the society.

In classes 50 - 53, digital photography is permitted. Prints must not exceed 7" x 8" unless otherwise stated. All photographs must be mounted, borderless, on white card to produce a 1" border surrounding the photograph.

- 50 (Photograph) "Beside the Sea".
- 51 (Photograph) "Urban Architecture".
- 52 (Photograph) "Local Wildlife".
- 53 (Photograph) "Earley in Bloom".
- 54 A Doorstop (any material).
- 55 A decorated Flowerpot.
- 56 A handmade Spectacle Case.
- 57 A pair of knitted Mittens.
- 58 A wooden Bird Box.

SECTION H: NOVELTY CLASSES

In these classes only a first prize is awarded. Exhibits do not receive any point values towards trophies.

- 59 The heaviest Butternut Squash.
- 60 The longest Runner Bean.
- 61 The heaviest Marrow.
- 62 The largest Onion (by diameter).

The "CYRIL GARDNER" PERPETUAL MEMORIAL TROPHY will be awarded to the Married Couple or Civil Partnership obtaining the highest number of points in all sections of the Show.

PRISES

Classes	Award	Prize	Points value
All classes except 36 to 39	1st	£1	4
	2nd	75p	3
	3rd	50p	2
Classes 36 to 39	1st	£2	4
	2nd	£1.50	3
	3rd	£1	2

In the event of a tie in points for a Trophy, the exhibitor gaining the most first prizes will be adjudged the winner. If still a tie, the most second, then third and commendations will be taken into consideration.

ENTRY FEES

Classes 1 to 35, 40 to 62:	20p
Floral art classes 36 to 39:	40p

APPLE CAKE RECIPE

8 oz self-raising flour	2 eggs (beaten)	8 oz chopped & peeled cooking apples
4 oz margarine	2 oz brown sugar	
2 oz caster sugar	2 oz sultanas	milk to mix

Method:

- > Heat oven to 175°C or 160°C (fan oven) or gas mark 4.
- > Rub the fruit into the flour; add sugar, sultanas & apple.
- > Mix in beaten eggs and enough milk to make a stiff dough.
- > Spoon into greased 20cm (8") cake tin.
- > Bake for 1½ hours or until skewer comes out clean.

FRUIT LOAF RECIPE

250 mls tea (no milk)	225 gr mixed dried fruit	225 gr self-raising flour
50 gr castor sugar	1 egg	2 tbs marmalade

Method:

- > Soak fruit overnight in the tea.
- > Preheat oven 180°C (160°C fan).
- > Mix flour, sugar, egg & marmalade.
- > Add fruit and tea. Mix thoroughly.
- > Bake in loaf tin for 1 hour.
- > Rest for 10 minutes before turning out.

RULES

- 1 **Entry** in all classes is confined to members of the East Reading Horticultural Society and their immediate families. Each entry must be accompanied by the Entry Fee shown above.

Entries: Entries on the form on page 7 (a photocopy is acceptable) or on plain paper, giving full details, should be received by the Show Secretary (address on front page) or any Committee member, not later than 10 p.m. on the Wednesday before the show.

Late entries may be accepted at the discretion of the Show Secretary. Because of space restraints, late entries will not be accepted for any of the Floral Art classes.

- 2 **Staging:** The hall will be open from 11 a.m. for staging, which must be completed by 1 p.m. A Show Entry Card must be obtained from the Show Secretary for each entry and placed with the exhibit after staging so as to clearly show the entry class.
- 3 No exhibit shall be removed until after the trophies have been presented.
- 4 **Exhibits:** All floral, fruit and vegetable exhibits must be grown by the exhibitor and all home cookery entries must be the work of the exhibitor. If two or more persons enter separately in the same class with produce from the same garden and/or allotment, they will be regarded as duplicate entries (see below). Floral arrangements must be the work of the exhibitor although the use of purchased plant material is permitted.
- 5 No exhibitor may be awarded more than one prize in any one class. Duplicate entries are permitted, but cards will be marked to indicate that the entries are duplicates.
- 6 Exhibitors are requested to name the variety shown, if possible, to enhance the general interest in the Show.
- 7 **Notice of objection** to any exhibit or exhibitor, must be made in writing to the Show Secretary together with a deposit of £1 by 3:30 p.m. on the day of the show. The deposit will be returned if the objection is sustained by the Committee.
- 8 The Committee reserve the right to settle any matter in dispute in such a manner as it may decide. The Committee shall not be held liable for any loss or damage that may be caused to any exhibit or equipment.
- 9 Judging will commence at 1:15 p.m. The decision of the judges will be final. Where applicable, judging will be in accordance with the RHS Handbook. Only stewards appointed by the committee shall be allowed in the exhibits area whilst judging is taking place.
- 10 The judges may award additional prizes, should the entries merit them, or may withhold prizes where they consider the exhibits do not merit awards.
- 11 **All Trophies must be returned** to the Show Secretary in good condition **no later than 4 weeks before the show.**
- 12 No artificial flowers or foliage to be used.
- 13 **Vases** will be supplied for classes 1-8 and 25. **Paper plates** will be supplied for classes 30-35, 43-49 and for any other classes if required.

AUTUMN 2026 Entry Form Photocopies accepted, or entries can be on plain paper.
(Please use one line for each entrant from the same address)

I / We wish to enter the following classes in the ERHS Autumn Show:
(PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY)

Name.....

Classes.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,

Name.....

Classes,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,

Name.....

Classes,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,

Name.....

Classes,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,.....,

Address.....

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Telephone (in case of queries).....

Email (in case of queries)

Total sum enclosed (see entry fees on page 5) £.....

TO: 9 WYCHWOOD CLOSE

BEFORE 10 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER.

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