

Beckley Horticultural Society



(affiliated to the Royal Horticultural Society)
www.beckleyhorticulturalsociety.org

Show Schedules & Events for 2026

Winter Horticultural Lecture

February (date tbc) @ 7.30pm. Talk by Graham Blunt of Plantbase Nursery
"Gardening in a Changing Climate".

Spring Horticultural Lecture

March (date tbc)

Spring Show

Saturday 18th April @2pm

Plant Stall, Beckley Church coffee am

Tuesday 5th May 2026 . Plant stall & raffle

Society Outing

RHS Wisley, in June, details tbc

Autumn Show

Saturday 19th September @ 2pm

Autumn Horticultural Lecture

October (date tbc) @7.30pm. Talk by Edward Flint, tutor at Great Dixter,
"What makes a good garden."

Quiz & AGM

Monday 23rd November @ 7.30pm

All events to be held at Beckley Village Centre (unless stated otherwise)

Certificates presented at the AGM

From Your Committee

Dear Members,

It seems like no time at all since I last sat down to write the preface to the schedules. It has been another busy gardening year with many failures but also successes. All the fruit trees have been unbelievably productive, even the chestnut trees in the woods have been laden with the bounty of autumn. Other crops have been badly hit by the drought. Some you win, some you lose!

Firstly, I'd like to draw your attention to our new 'Information and Advice for Exhibitors' page in this 2026 schedule. The new page features useful guidance from the RHS about how to display your horticultural exhibits, and home produce. The RHS sets the criteria for all judges whether you enter classes in Beckley, Northiam or any other horticultural group's show. I have tried to give you some brief helpful tips because the more entries we have for each class the more fabulous the show. It's a shame when we see beautiful produce marked down because they are not displayed correctly and we don't want people discouraged from entering because they are unsure of what to put in, or how to display it. Hopefully you will all find this useful. Please let me know.

Secondly I'd like to take this opportunity to show my appreciation for our committee. They all work very hard for Beckley Horticultural Society and are committed to its success.

The amount of effort it takes to put on our shows is quite incredible. We arrange all the tables the night before, laying out all the dividers and class labels etc, then arrive at the hall early on the morning of the show to accept all the exhibits. Once the judges have gone all the certificates are written out, recorded and counted for the prize giving. This can take quite a while especially if we have lots of classes. After the prize giving and raffle, it's then a massive clear up to leave the hall totally clean. No wonder we all go home exhausted after show days!! Committee members are also asked to provide cakes, canapés, plants and raffle prizes for shows and events like the AGM. And they do that generously and repeatedly. And for all this, as Chair, I want to publicly express my thanks to them all.

As always I hope 2026 is a good year for you all.

Angie Lewis

- Exhibitor with the highest total of points in both shows
- Highest total points in both shows for vegetable classes
- Highest total points in both shows for all flower classes & decorative arrangement classes
- Highest total points in both shows for Home Produce
- Highest total points for both shows in Arts and Craft classes
- Best in Show (spring)
- Best in Show (autumn)
- Chairmans Choice

Unless otherwise shown prizes for all shows are:

1st prize:	£1.00 and Presentation certificate
2nd prize:	Presentation certificate
3rd prize:	Presentation certificate
Highly Commended:	Presentation certificate
Best in Show:	Rosette

Membership of the Beckley Horticultural Society (BHS)
Individual £6 Family £10

Show Rules

1. No change to the position of exhibits on the tables to be made other than with the permission of a committee member.
2. Exhibits must not be removed until after prize giving.
3. Only one entry per class allowed
4. To avoid disqualification, exhibitors must adhere to the specified sizes of exhibits.
5. All produce and flowers must be home grown by exhibitors except as in 6. below.
6. In the decorative flower arranging classes plant material may be purchased. **The exhibit must be contained in the space specified in the show schedule.** Exhibits may include any fresh, dried, preserved or painted natural plant material. Accessories (see definition in 7 below) may also be used unless otherwise stated. All measurements metric.
7. Accessory: anything other than natural plant material in an exhibit, such as feathers, shells, stones, wax candles, figurines of animals, insects or humans.
8. All exhibits should be original and not previously shown.
9. In the interests of hygiene and freshness please ensure all displayed food is covered with cling film or similar.
10. Classes with an asterix* will have a bikini vase provided

OFFICERS & COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY

President	Anne Bowler
Chairman	Angie Lewis
Club Secretary	Alice Bolton
Treasurer	Zoe Gleisner
Membership Secretary	Kate Joyner- katejmjoyner@gmail.com
Show Secretaries	Fiona <u>Doran</u> , (plus vacant post), fjdoran@live.co.uk
Ordinary members	Laura Andrew, Sarah Bateup, Sue Tapsall, Tina Brown, Tracey Champion

SOCIETY DISCOUNTS with local nurseries

Please show your membership card to get a discount on plants with:

Ed's Nursery, Staplecross 10%
Great Dixter Nursery 10%
Laurels Nursery, Benenden 10%
Planters (A21) 10%
Ripley's Garden Centre 10%
Rotherview Nurseries 10%
The Old Rose Nursery (Northiam) 10%

OTHER 2026 INFORMATION

Refreshments and a plant and produce sale table will be available at the shows.

Completed show entry forms and fees can be delivered to Show Secretary (Fiona Doran, Escheatlands Farm, Furnace Lane) up to 3 days in advance of each show or can be brought to the Village Centre on the day of the show. Exhibits must be delivered to the Village Centre between 10.00 am and 11.00 am for judging, and the shows open at 2.00 pm after judging has been completed.

Plant sale at the Friends of Beckley Church coffee morning: come and stock up your garden at a fraction of the cost of a nursery! Bring your friends and meet other members.

AGM: Presentation of certificates will be made at the AGM. The AGM is when you can have your say about your horticultural society as well as a social event.

Further information, see our website: www.beckleyhorticulturalsociety.org and Facebook page (Beckley Horticultural Society)

Schedule of classes Spring Show – 18th April 2026

FLOWERS

Class 101	* Vase of 3 Daffodils (we supply a bikini vase)
Class 102	* Single Daffodill (we supply a bikini vase)
Class 103	* A Vase of 3 Tulips, of one colour (we supply a bikini vase)
Class 104	* Vase of 3 Tulips- mixed colours (we supply a bikini vase)
Class 105	Any single Tulip
Class 106	Dish of 5 Pansies
Class 107	Vase of 3 stems of Primulas- single or mixed colours
Class 108	A single Aricula in a pot
Class 109	Floating Hellebores (max 25cm container)
Class 110	Vase of 3 Azalia stems, mixed or single
Class 111	A vase mixed spring flowers (can inc bulbs or bedding)
Class 112	A flowering pot plant, not bulbs
Class 113	A foliage house plant
Class 114	3 stems of any shrub or tree, mixed or single variety
Class 115	3 stems of spring blossom

VEGETABLES

Class 116	3 Sticks of Rhubarb
Class 117	3 leaves of any leafy brassica
Class 118	3 Leeks
Class 119	A display of herbs
Class 120	Any other vegetable

DECORATIVE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Class 121	'Pastel Perfection' max 25 x 25cms (height optional)
Class 122	Seasonal wreath not larger than 40 by 40cms
Class 123	'Posy in a wine glass'

Information and Advice for Exhibitors

Horticulture

- Beet, carrots, parsnips and turnips should have the leaves removed, leaving not more than 3"/8cm of leaf stalk.
- Leeks should be shown with untrimmed roots and with about 3"/8cm of green foliage.
- Rhubarb is shown as a vegetable, not a fruit. Forced and unforced, show with not more than 3"/8cm of leaf.
- Other fruits should be shown on the stalk including Tomatoes.
- All fruit and vegetables should be shown in perfect natural condition with the bloom left on. Do not polish your apples, pears etc.
- Leave fruit strings (bunches of berries) and stalks intact e.g., raspberries, strawberries, tomatoes. Currants should be shown in strings.
- Avoid over skinning your onions and choose those of a uniform size. Tie or whip tops neatly and trim back roots, small onions can be presented on a plate of sand.
- Only exhibit the amount/number stated in the schedule, don't put in extra as this will not be judged.
- Make sure flowers and foliage are in tiptop condition and fill any vases with water.
- You must use a Bikini vase where * is used against a Class in the schedule – these are provided by the Society.
- In a class of 3 blooms, all 3 blooms need to face the same way.
- To protect the tables, exhibits of vegetables, fruit and pot plants should be displayed on exhibitors' own plates/dishes.

Home Produce

- All jams, marmalades and jellies should be named, dated and presented in plain jars. The label should include the type of fruit. Twist top jars should be used. Fill the jars almost to the brim. Jam should be set, spreadable and the fruit well cooked with no hard pieces. Marmalade should be set and spreadable with evenly sliced tender peel.
- Chutneys should be more than 3 months old. The consistency should be firm with a smooth texture – no large pieces of onion, fruit skins, cores or stones.
- Use a plain cutter for savoury scones and a fluted cutter for sweet.
- Savoury pies are decorated with pastry leaves, fruit pies are not.
- Pastry should be homemade unless otherwise indicated.

Flower Arranging

- The dimensions given indicate the maximum amount of table space which your exhibit may occupy.
- Accessories and/or artificial plant material may only be used as part of an exhibit where their use is specified in the class description

Spring Show continued

HOME PRODUCE – please cover all produce, see point 9 page 14

Class 124 Jar of marmalade - any flavour
Class 125 A jar of chutney- at least 3 months matured
Class 126 Focaccia
Class 127 Flapjack
Class 128 An upside down cake
Class 129 Children's only decorated cupcakes

PHOTOGRAPHY Max A4 including mount

Class 130 'Easter Surprise'
Class 131 'Light and Dark'
Class 132 'April Showers'

ARTS & CRAFTS

Class 133 A painted spoon
Class 134 A handmade greeting card
Class 135 A sewn item including embroidery

CHILDREN'S CLASSES (FREE ENTRY)

A wooden spoon puppet

Class 136 Infants (Reception, years 1 & 2)
Class 137 Juniors (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)
Class 138 Preschool

Schedule of classes Autumn Show – 19th September 2026

VEGETABLES

Class 101 3 potatoes – red or white
Class 102 3 leeks
Class 103 3 onions
Class 104 3 garlic bulbs
Class 105 1 cabbage
Class 106 3 beetroot
Class 107 3 carrots
Class 108 5 runner beans
Class 109 5 French beans (dwarf or climbing)
Class 110 3 courgettes
Class 111 2 sweetcorn
Class 112 1 pumpkin/squash
Class 113 1 marrow
Class 114 2 sweet peppers – any colour
Class 115 3 chilli peppers – single or mixed variety
Class 116 5 small/cherry tomatoes – any variety
Class 117 5 tomatoes – any variant not inc above
Class 118 Any big vegetable
Class 119 Any misshapen vegetable
Class 120 Any other vegetable not listed above
Class 121 A collection of vegetables on a tray max 60x50cm

FRUIT

Class 122 5 cooking apples
Class 123 5 eating apples
Class 124 3 pears
Class 125 5 of any other top/tree fruit
Class 126 5 of any soft fruit on a plate

AUTUMN SHOW 19TH SEPTEMBER 2026**ENTRY FORM**

All classes are open to all ages, except where otherwise indicated.

Please tick the classes for which you wish to enter, sign and enclose fees.

All exhibits must be delivered to the Village Centre on the day of the show between 10.00am and 11.00am and must not be removed until after prize giving. Entrance to the show will be from 2pm after the judging has been completed.

101	<input type="checkbox"/>	102	<input type="checkbox"/>	103	<input type="checkbox"/>	104	<input type="checkbox"/>	105	<input type="checkbox"/>	106	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	<input type="checkbox"/>	108	<input type="checkbox"/>	109	<input type="checkbox"/>	110	<input type="checkbox"/>	111	<input type="checkbox"/>	112	<input type="checkbox"/>
113	<input type="checkbox"/>	114	<input type="checkbox"/>	115	<input type="checkbox"/>	116	<input type="checkbox"/>	117	<input type="checkbox"/>	118	<input type="checkbox"/>
119	<input type="checkbox"/>	120	<input type="checkbox"/>	121	<input type="checkbox"/>	122	<input type="checkbox"/>	123	<input type="checkbox"/>	124	<input type="checkbox"/>
125	<input type="checkbox"/>	126	<input type="checkbox"/>	127	<input type="checkbox"/>	128	<input type="checkbox"/>	129	<input type="checkbox"/>	130	<input type="checkbox"/>
131	<input type="checkbox"/>	132	<input type="checkbox"/>	133	<input type="checkbox"/>	134	<input type="checkbox"/>	135	<input type="checkbox"/>	136	<input type="checkbox"/>
137	<input type="checkbox"/>	138	<input type="checkbox"/>	139	<input type="checkbox"/>	140	<input type="checkbox"/>	141	<input type="checkbox"/>	142	<input type="checkbox"/>
143	<input type="checkbox"/>	144	<input type="checkbox"/>	145	<input type="checkbox"/>	146	<input type="checkbox"/>	147	<input type="checkbox"/>	148	<input type="checkbox"/>
149	<input type="checkbox"/>	150	<input type="checkbox"/>	151	<input type="checkbox"/>	152	<input type="checkbox"/>	153	<input type="checkbox"/>	154	<input type="checkbox"/>
155	<input type="checkbox"/>	156	<input type="checkbox"/>	157	<input type="checkbox"/>	158	<input type="checkbox"/>	159	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>								

NAME: _____

Entry Fee for each exhibit: Members 25p Non-members 40p

Total number of entries Entry fees enclosed £

With the exception of classes listed under the heading 'Decorative Flower Arrangements' all fruit, vegetable and flower exhibits at the Society's shows must have been grown by exhibitors. Arts and crafts exhibits should be original and not previously exhibited. See rules.

FLOWERS

Class 127 Any foliage pot plant
Class 128 Any pot plant in flower
Class 129 * 3 Chrysanthemums- single/ mixed variety (we supply a bikini vase)
Class 130 3 autumn coloured flowers
Class 131 3 blooms of Penstemon
Class 132 * Any large bloom (we supply a bikini vase)
Class 133 * 3 Dahlias of a single type (we supply a bikini vase)
Class 134 Mixed Dahlias , max 8 blooms
Class 135 1 stand-out Dahlia
Class 136 5 Fuchsia blooms on a plate, single or mixed variety
Class 137 Vase of roses, single or mixed, max 5 stems
Class 138 Vase of Asters
Class 139 Vase of grasses, single or mixed
Class 140 Vase of annuals or bi-annuals
Class 141 Vase of perennial flowers
Class 142 Vase of any shrub or tree stem

DECORATIVE FLOWER ARRANGEMENTS

Class 143 'Sunset Boulevard' 40x40cms
Class 144 Foliage Green Man arrangement 30x30cms
Class 145 Miniature hedgerow arrangement 8x8cms

HOME PRODUCE – please cover all produce, see point 9 page 14

Class 146 Pickled vegetable- any kind
Class 147 A jar of jam
Class 148 Fruit tipple
Class 149 A cake using apples
Class 150 A savoury tart

ARTS AND CRAFTS

Class 151 Harvest collage, any material
Class 152 Insect house, large or small
Class 153 An example of knitting or crochet

PHOTOGRAPHY Max A4 including mount

Class 154 Harvest
Class 155 Animal magic
Class 156 Stormy skies

CHILDREN'S CLASSES, OPEN TO ALL

Bookmark

Class 157 Infants (Reception + Years 1 & 2)
Class 158 Juniors (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)
Class 159 Preschool.

SPRING SHOW 18th APRIL 2026

ENTRY FORM

All classes are open to all ages, except where otherwise indicated.

Please tick the classes for which you wish to enter, sign and enclose fees.

All exhibits must be delivered to the Village Centre on the day of the show between 10.00 am and 11.00 am and must not be removed until after prize giving. Entrance to the show will be from 2.00 pm after the judging has been completed.

101	<input type="checkbox"/>	102	<input type="checkbox"/>	103	<input type="checkbox"/>	104	<input type="checkbox"/>	105	<input type="checkbox"/>	106	<input type="checkbox"/>
107	<input type="checkbox"/>	108	<input type="checkbox"/>	109	<input type="checkbox"/>	110	<input type="checkbox"/>	111	<input type="checkbox"/>	112	<input type="checkbox"/>
113	<input type="checkbox"/>	114	<input type="checkbox"/>	115	<input type="checkbox"/>	116	<input type="checkbox"/>	117	<input type="checkbox"/>	118	<input type="checkbox"/>
119	<input type="checkbox"/>	120	<input type="checkbox"/>	121	<input type="checkbox"/>	122	<input type="checkbox"/>	123	<input type="checkbox"/>	124	<input type="checkbox"/>
125	<input type="checkbox"/>	126	<input type="checkbox"/>	127	<input type="checkbox"/>	128	<input type="checkbox"/>	129	<input type="checkbox"/>	130	<input type="checkbox"/>
131	<input type="checkbox"/>	132	<input type="checkbox"/>	133	<input type="checkbox"/>	134	<input type="checkbox"/>	135	<input type="checkbox"/>	136	<input type="checkbox"/>
137	<input type="checkbox"/>	138	<input type="checkbox"/>								

NAME: _____

Entry Fee for each exhibit: Members 25p Non-members 40p

Total number of entries Entry fees enclosed £

With the exception of classes listed under the heading 'Decorative Flower Arrangements' all fruit, vegetable and flower exhibits at the Society's shows must have been grown by exhibitors. Arts and crafts exhibits should be original and not previously exhibited. See rules.