

# **Bradford on Avon Flower & Produce Show 2025**

***If you grow it, show it!***

Fruit, Flowers, Vegetables,  
Craft and Produce

Holy Trinity Church, Bradford on Avon  
Saturday 6 September, 2-4pm

Admission free

Supported by Bradford on Avon Town Council



# Welcome to the Bradford on Avon Flower Show 2025

Dear Friends

We have disturbing news to share. The Flower Show's ancestral home, St Margaret's Hall, is suffering from trench foot following the winter's brutal floods, and no one can be sure when it will recover. But the Flower Show is nothing if not resilient. It has leapt neatly across the river and settled itself calmly inside Holy Trinity Church. It seems happy. However, take note: **the show will be on a Saturday, not a Sunday.**

The Flower Show is already a sacred event filled with the mysterious earth energies of potato, dahlia and marmalade. Now that it is taking place inside an actual sacred space, anything could happen. Black cats climbing the tower, UFOs landing in the churchyard, someone entirely unexpected winning the Avonfield Cup...

Meanwhile, the scheming minds of the townsfolk turn relentlessly towards the competition itself. "Who cares where the show takes place," they mutter, "as long as we can win it?"

Well, we have one potent word for you: ONION. This year that most humble of vegetables is being elevated to a starring role, and the Robin Gould Memorial Cup will be won by the finest onions the town can produce. We are also introducing a daring innovation, one which demands foraging rather than gardening. Ladies and gentlemen, we give you A Vase of Wildflowers.

Meanwhile, the Craft section is going crazy. We have a host of new categories including appliqué, mixed media, felting and papier maché. We also welcome back the extraordinary Musical Instrument made from Fruit or Vegetable.

We recognise that all these changes are potentially trauma-inducing. A new venue, a new day, new categories, a cup for onions... it's enough to make your head rotate. So we do ask: please be gentle with yourselves. Take your time, sit down with a cup of tea and a slice of Victoria sandwich, and let the news sink slowly in. Then, when the time is right, prepare for mortal combat.

Let us all remember, as the fearless Amelia Earhart urges us, "The most effective way to do it is to do it." Quite so.

*The Bradford on Avon Flower Show Committee*

# Schedule

## Section I: Fruit and Vegetables

*Please include an indication of the variety/cultivar, if known, with your display. All exhibits should include one variety only, unless otherwise indicated.*

1. **Bradford on Avon Potato Challenge Cup:**  
Five potatoes on a plate, similar size, one variety
2. **Runner beans, 6**
3. **French beans, 6**
4. **Onions, 3** (onions should be tied or whipped with string or raffia)
5. **Shallots, pickling, 6** (under 30mm/1.2in)
6. **Shallots, large, 6** (over 30mm/1.2in; should be tied or whipped with string or raffia)
7. **Beetroot, 3**
8. **Courgettes, 3**, no longer than 200mm/8in
9. **Tomatoes, 5**, ordinary cultivar, calyx on
10. **Tomatoes, 5**, small fruited cultivar (under 35mm/1.4in), calyx on
11. **One truss of cherry tomatoes**
12. **Cucumber**, indoor
13. **Cucumber**, outdoor
14. **Carrots, 3**, trimmed
15. **Sweetcorn, 2 cobs**
16. **Squash**, edible
17. **Vegetables**, collection of 5 different kinds, 1 specimen of each
18. **Salad vegetables**, collection of 5 different kinds, 1 specimen of each
19. **Chillies, 5** (please include name of variety, if known)

**“... such gardens are not made  
By singing: “Oh, how beautiful!” and sitting  
in the shade.”**

**Rudyard Kipling: The Glory of the Garden**

20. Apples, cooking, 3
21. Apples, dessert, 3
22. Pears, 3
23. Plums, 4 (stalks on)
24. Raspberries, 12 on a plate (stalks and calyces on)
25. Tastiest apples, dessert, 3
26. Herbs, fresh, culinary, 5 in water (more than 5 types of herb will be disqualified)
27. Largest cabbage – any variety
28. Longest runner bean
29. Biggest marrow
30. Longest carrot
31. Tastiest tomatoes (please include name of variety, if known)
32. Heaviest tomato
33. Hottest chilli (please include name of variety, if known)
34. Most amusing vegetable – rude as you like!
35. Hedgerow selection – 5 foraged edible fruits/herbs/vegetables
36. Home-made compost – in container, maximum size 1 litre

*The Avonfield Cup will be presented to the exhibitor gaining most points in the fruit and vegetable classes.*

*The Bradford on Avon Preservation Trust Compost Cup will be presented for the best compost entry.*

*The Robin Gould Memorial Cup, sponsored by the town council, will be presented for the best collection of 3 onions.*

## **Section 2: Children** (12 and under)

37. Animal made from fruit and/or vegetables
38. Mayoral chain made from recycled materials (must be wearable)
39. Miniature garden in a recycled container (max 300mm/12in diameter/width)
40. Miniature flower arrangement in an eggcup
41. Constructed fruit or vegetable (made from Lego, Plasticine, wood, fabric – whatever you like)

*Please include child's age on entry form*

### Section 3: Craft (all ages)

42. Fashion accessory made of recycled materials
43. Greetings card made from recycled materials
44. Any item of woodwork
45. Any appliquéd item
46. Mixed media picture showing 3 or more crafting techniques
47. Any wet-felted item
48. Any needle-felted item
49. Papier maché bowl
50. Musical instrument made from fruit or vegetable
51. Any item of hand-made patchwork
52. Fruit, flower or vegetable made from salt dough
53. Mayoral chain made from recycled materials (must be wearable)
54. Soft toy – knitted, crocheted or sewn, any material

*The Ms B Avon WI Craft Cup will be presented to the exhibitor gaining most points in the craft classes.*

*The Climate Friendly Bradford on Avon trophy will be presented for the best entry made from recycled materials, in the Children's and Craft classes.*

### Section 4: Flowers and Ornamentals

*Please include an indication of the variety/cultivar, if known, with your display.*

55. Cut flowers – 1 vase of 5 stems, different varieties
56. Cut flowers, single colour theme – 1 vase of yellow flowers, 5 stems, 2 or more varieties
57. Wildflowers – 1 vase, 7 stems, 3 or more varieties
58. Roses – 1 vase of 5 stems, 1 or more varieties
59. Rose – 1 vase of 1 specimen bloom
60. Hydrangeas – 1 vase of 3 blooms, any variety
61. Shrubs, flowering – 1 vase of 3 different kinds (overall width not to exceed 450mm/18in)
62. Shrubs, non-flowering – 1 vase of 3 different kinds (overall width not to exceed 450mm/18in)
63. Pot plant – specimen in flower (pot not to exceed 200mm/8in diameter)

64. Pot plant – foliage specimen (pot not to exceed 200mm/8in diameter)

65. Succulent (pot not to exceed 200mm/8in diameter)

66. Ornamental grasses – 3 stems of one or more varieties

## Dahlias

**If you are unsure about the classification of your dahlia exhibits, please refer to the *RHS Horticultural Show Handbook*.**

67. 1 vase of 1 specimen, medium, large or giant blooms (over 170mm/6.6in diameter)

68. 1 vase of 3 single-flowered blooms

69. 1 vase of 3 blooms, any kind, excluding giant

70. 1 vase of 3 blooms, ball or pompon

71. 'The best dahlia in my garden this morning' (1 vase of 1 bloom, any kind)

## Novelty flower classes

72. Sweetest smelling rose

73. Most artificial-looking flower

74. Largest sunflower head (measured by diameter)

*A trophy will be presented to the exhibitor gaining most points in the flower classes.*

## Section 6: Cookery

75. Seville orange marmalade – 1 jar, fresh fruit

76. Jam – 1 jar, any variety

77. Jelly – 1 jar, any variety

78. Lemon curd – 1 jar

79. Chutney (smooth) – 1 jar

80. Ginger cake – own recipe

81. Traditional Victoria sandwich – 3 eggs, 20cm/8in tin, raspberry jam

82. Cake containing vegetable – any recipe (must be labelled to indicate type of vegetable used, eg, courgette, carrot, beetroot)

83. Gluten-free cake

84. Lemon drizzle cake (men only)

85. Bakewell tart

86. Chocolate brownies, 3

87. Flapjacks – 3, plain
88. Swiss roll
89. Cheese scones, 3
90. Fruit scones, 3
91. Sausage rolls, 3
92. Traditional Cornish pasty – max 20cm/8in long
93. Cheese straws, 6
94. Vegan pasty – max 20cm/8in long
95. Bread – hand-made, brown or white
96. Sourdough loaf – hand-made, brown or white
97. Bread rolls, 3 – hand-made, brown or white

*Please note: a slice will be cut from each cake – and eaten by the judges!*

*A trophy will be presented to the exhibitor gaining most points in the cookery classes, the Town Council Jam Cup will be presented for the best jar of jam or jelly, and the Bloomfield's Marmalade Cup will be presented for the best jar of marmalade.*

## Section 7: Drinks

98. Sloe gin – 1 bottle
99. Any other liqueur, fruit or forest, eg plum brandy, blackberry vodka – 1 bottle
100. Elderflower cordial – 1 bottle

*The Dog & Fox Trophy will be presented to the exhibitor gaining most points in the drinks classes.*

**“Mirth, Spring, to linger in a garden fair,  
What more has earth to give?”**

**From the Teachings of Hafiz**

# Top tips for tip-top exhibits

## General hints

- Read the show schedule carefully – use the information provided and, if in doubt, contact the show secretary for clarification: email [nicola.jr@icloud.com](mailto:nicola.jr@icloud.com) or leave a message on 07903 533550.
- Give yourself enough time to stage exhibits and check that you have entered the right number of specimens. Write any labels – naming varieties/cultivars etc – at home to save time on show day – it always takes more time than you expect to set up.
- Arrange your exhibits as attractively as possible – in a close competition, good presentation can make the difference between a first prize and a highly commended.
- Please use the designated areas to fill flower vases and carry out any other preparation of your exhibits.
- Use plain white plates to exhibit your entries – paper or china.
- Take spares along in case of last-minute disasters.
- Don't apply polish of any kind to vegetables or fruit – the natural bloom should be preserved as much as possible.
- Definitions of fruit and vegetables are according to RHS guidelines.
- **If in doubt, ask a person in a brown coat!**

## Cookery

- Jams and jellies must be sealed with either a twist top lid, or waxed disc and clear film top.
- Entries must be labelled with plain white labels showing contents and date made.
- Chutneys must be at least three months old, and presented in jars with either a vinegar-proof plain plastic-lined twist top or a plastic top. Ingredients must be finely chopped or minced, although sultanas may be left whole.
- No cloth 'mob caps' please – they slow the judge down too much.
- Victoria sandwich cakes should be dusted with caster sugar, not icing sugar.
- To avoid rack marks on your Victoria sandwich, cover the cake rack with a folded tea towel before turning out your cake.
- Make sure you stick to the specifications in the schedule, eg, raspberry jam (and no cream) in your Victoria sandwich, correct number of fruits or vegetables – these things matter!

## Flowers

- Think about which plants may be ready to exhibit about two months ahead of time. Removing side shoots on roses and dahlias will help the development of the central flower. Keep the soil moist at all times in the period leading up to the show.
- Make sure there are no blemishes on your exhibits.
- If several specimens are required for an entry, try to make sure they are as uniform as possible.
- Make sure you include the correct number of blooms or stems in your entry.
- Label specimens accurately – if the plants have been grown from seed or bought from a garden centre the cultivar should be known and indicated on a label alongside the exhibit.
- Please use the preparation area to arrange flower exhibits.
- If you are unsure about the classification of your flower exhibits, please refer to the *RHS Horticultural Show Handbook*.

## Vegetables

- The judges will be looking for vegetables which are similar in size and length.
- All vegetables should be properly prepared – roots should be washed with a soft sponge and plenty of water to prevent skin damage. Scrubbing with a brush will damage the skin.
- Potatoes should be medium-sized, shapely, clean, clear-skinned tubers with few and shallow eyes.
- Tomatoes should be fresh, ripe but firm, well-developed fruits, blemish-free and with calyces attached.
- Onions and shallots should have skins on.
- A black base cloth may be used to display collections of fruit or vegetables.

## Fruit

- Choose large, shapely, solid fruits **with stalks intact** and clear unblemished skin.

For further hints and tips, refer to the *RHS Horticultural Show Handbook* for expert advice on showing vegetables, flowers and produce ... and remember: the judges' decision is final!

*Points will be awarded as follows: 1st prize – 4 points; 2nd prize – 3 points; 3rd prize – 2 points; and, at the discretion of the judge, highly commended – 1 point*

# Rules

1. All entries must be made on the form on page 11 of this schedule, or the online form available at [www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk), and handed in to the Town Council offices by 5pm on Wednesday 3 September.
2. Entries to be staged at Holy Trinity Church, Church Street, BA15 1LW on Saturday 6 September between 8.30am and 10.30am.
3. Judging will start at 10.30am. The church will be open to the public, after exhibits have been judged, from 2pm to 4pm.
4. **One entry only** per exhibitor per class.
5. Exhibits in all classes **MUST** be the work of the exhibitor.
6. The judges' decision is **FINAL** in all cases.
7. Exhibitors must provide their own vases/white plates/black fabric (see Top Tips, p8).
8. The committee will take every possible care of all exhibits but will not be liable or held responsible for any breakages or damage to said exhibits.
9. Exhibitors **MUST** live in Bradford on Avon parish, or Avoncliff, or be pupils at one of the town's schools or nurseries.
10. The trophies are the property of Bradford on Avon Town Council and are to be held for one year only, and must be returned to the Town Council offices not later than Thursday 20 August 2026 in a clean condition.
11. Exhibits are to be cleared between 4 and 4.30pm – **BUT NOT BEFORE 4pm, PLEASE**. It spoils visitors' enjoyment of the show if exhibits are taken away early.
12. Any objections should be delivered in writing to the show secretary or one of the stewards before 4pm on the day of the show. They will be considered carefully and answered within 48 hours. It is hoped, however, that in the spirit of local friendly competitiveness, this process will not be needed.

**Awards will be presented from 3.15pm**

All enquiries to the show secretary at [nicola.jr@icloud.com](mailto:nicola.jr@icloud.com)  
or leave a message on 07903 533550

Refreshments, in aid of Save the Children, will be served  
from 2 to 4pm

# Bradford on Avon Flower & Produce Show 2025

## ENTRY FORM

This form must be completed by writing each class number entered, one in each square, as in the examples shown.

**PLEASE SUBMIT A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH ENTRANT.**

**The form should be returned to the Town Council offices in Kingston Road – NOT ST MARGARET’S HALL – by 5pm on Wednesday 3 September.**

An online version of this form is available at [www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk](http://www.bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk)

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Please fill in the details below, USING BLOCK CAPITALS.

Full name: ..... Phone no: .....

Email: .....

Address including postcode: .....

.....  
 .....



The Hub@BA15  
Church Street  
Bradford on Avon  
BA15 1LS  
Tel: 01225 920748  
Email: [info@boahub.co.uk](mailto:info@boahub.co.uk)  
Website: [www.boahub.ac.uk](http://www.boahub.ac.uk)

The Hub is a registered charity and run by volunteers from the community.

It seeks to provide services which include the foodbank, debt and welfare benefit advice, access to computers, a safe place with the opportunity for a chat and a time to be listened to. We seek to support people with advice (some from recommended websites) and signpost to other organisations.

If you or anyone you know could benefit from any of the above please contact the Hub between 10am and 1pm Monday to Friday.

We would be interested to expand our services, which can only be done with your help - so any suggestions would be appreciated.



## Community Emergency Volunteers

The Bradford on Avon Community Emergency Volunteers (CEVs) are a group of volunteers drawn from our local community who wish to help others during times of severe weather, civil emergency or at large-scale events in the town; they are supported by the Town Council.

With our strong partnerships with the emergency services and other agencies, our aim is to be an important link in the chain of community resilience, and fully integrated into the emergency plan for the town.

If you would like to join the team please get in touch via the town council website: [bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk/community-emergency-volunteers/](http://bradfordonavontowncouncil.gov.uk/community-emergency-volunteers/)