

The Kingston St Mary Annual Flower Show
What it's all about

The show is an annual event which is held in Kingston St Mary Village Hall, usually on the first or second Saturday in August.

Here are a few helpful tips if you are considering entering the show for the first time and don't know the procedure. It's very easy but if, after reading this, you are still not sure, please contact us for more information. (Contact details below)

Firstly, don't be fooled into thinking that it is only a show for flowers. It certainly isn't! There is much, much more to it than that.



There are seven sections covering all sorts of activities – something for everyone.

Section A - Vegetables and Fruit.
Section B - Flowers and Plants.
Section C - Decorative Arrangements (i.e. flowers, foliage and accessories).
Section D - Homecraft (i.e baking, cooking).
Section E - Children's Entries (ie. painting, writing, modelling, growing plants, etc.).
Section F - Arts & Crafts.
Section G - Miscellaneous.

Remember, all entries must be made, grown, produced etc. by the person entering.



A schedule giving details of all the classes you can enter is available from March onwards. These schedules are available from KSM Village Hall porch, KSM website or contact Annie Trolley – details below. The classes only change very slightly from year to year, but we do also add some new ones now and again.

Within the schedule is an entry form which must be completed and delivered with the correct amount of fees by the date specified. This is strictly adhered to, so please don't miss the deadline date. This is usually the Thursday evening before the actual show. The date will be clearly shown on the entry form as will where the entry forms must be delivered to.

You will see that the show is open to residents in the villages of Kingston St Mary (including Nailsbourne, Cushuish, Fennington), Broomfield**,** members of Kingston W.I. and KSM & District Gardening Club. Sadly due to limited space within the hall we are not able to open up the show to the wider community. However, Section F is also open to Cheddon Fitzpaine residents.

When you obtain your schedule please do read it very carefully. The judges are very strict when it comes to adhering to each class's requirements. *(If it says maximum 14cms then it <u>means</u> 14cm, not 14.5cms!)*

Children



We encourage as many children as possible to enter. It can be great fun. Children who don't live in the village, but have relatives here or are pupils at the village school are all welcome to take park. The only restriction is that those living outside the village are unable to win the trophy, but they can still win the prize money! There is no charge for children entering the show.

Do remember that it must be the child's own work that is entered.



The Day of the Show

On the day of the show the hall opens bright and early at about 7.30am. (*Times vary so check schedule.)* People who have entered come along with their 'goodies'.

Please make sure you know the times for bringing your entries along. If you arrive too late you won't be allowed in once judging has started. Times will clearly be shown on the schedule.

There is a table set up at the end of the hall so that you can unpack your items. From here you will also collect your entry cards. These correspond with each class entry you have made. They will have your entry number, class number and section details but will not have your name. This is so the judges do not know the identity of those who have entered.

Each entrant then places their own exhibit in the required location on the designated tables (clearly labelled) along with the entry card.



Please remember not to touch any other entrant's exhibits. This is a big "No, No".

Once you have placed all your exhibits it is time to go home and take a rest before the afternoon show.

During this time the judges arrive and do the judging. It can be a long process as everyone's work is examined.

When everyone returns in the afternoon along with friends and family the results will be clearly visible for each of the classes by the 1st, 2nd and 3rd placement cards. Sometimes 'Highly Commended' cards are presented too.

None of the exhibits are removed until the end of the afternoon. This gives plenty of time for everyone to look at all the hard work that has been going on over the months leading up to the show.

The afternoon is a time for catching up with friends and neighbours and having a delicious afternoon tea.

A bell will ring when everyone is asked to get ready for the prize giving. The President and an assistant take to the stage and make the presentations.

The raffle is then drawn, competition winners announced and exhibitors thanked by the President for entering and visitors for attending. 'Winnings' are then available for collection from the Treasurer. Any money not collected is gratefully returned to show funds for next year. Everyone is then asked to take away their exhibits.

So that all prize winners can be duly congratulated by friends and family etc. please do not remove your entries until after the presentations, raffle, etc. have been concluded.



Hopefully at the end of the day when you are at home with your feet up, you will be glad you entered and be eager for next year's show!



For more information contact:

President - Bill Hayes
01823 451426
bill.hayes0648@gmail.com

or

Annie Trolley
01823 451312
annietrolley@gmail.com

3rd Amendment May 2026