




 **TOOT HILL COUNTRY SHOW**
 **73rd Annual Show - Saturday 1st August 2026**

Competition Categories

 *Bridge Farm, Stanford Rivers, CM5 9PW*

 *12:00 PM - 5:00 PM*

 Follow us on Facebook: **@TootHillCountryShow**

 Website: www.toothillshow.co.uk

Welcome to the Show!

Join us for a fantastic family day out celebrating local talent, tradition, and community spirit. Whether you're a returning exhibitor or this is your first time, we've got something for everyone—veggies, crafts, cupcakes, and creativity galore!

-  **Cash prizes, trophies, and certificates**
-  **Over 100 competition classes for all ages**
-  **BBQ, refreshments, stalls, and live displays**


CAN YOU HELP?

For the Show itself, 1st August this year, we would really appreciate lots of people popping along to lend a hand.

You are not required to join the organising Committee unless you really want to, in which case you would be made very welcome - but we do need help during Show week each year, jobs for all ages and abilities.

We're always looking for friendly faces to lend a hand!

 **Pre Show Days:** Friday 31st July - from 12 PM

 **Show Day Help:** BBQs, gazebo building, judging support & more!

 Contact us at Info@toothillshow.co.uk to get involved.

So what if this is your first year? What do you do?

If this is your first year at entering an horticultural competition then we suggest you enter as many classes as you can. It is all about sharing with friends and neighbours your family's achievements in growing, making and baking, and about being part of a long tradition of horticultural shows held up and down the country for over a hundred years. Although competing and winning is rewarding the greatest fun is taking part.

- Choose the classes that appeal to you. There's no limit on the number of classes that you can enter, but only 1 entry per class.
- The classes are open to anyone. So spread the word and encourage friends and family to have ago.
- Children can enter adult classes, but their age will not be taken into consideration when judging.
- Vegetables, fruits, flowers and plants must have been grown by the entrant for at least 6 weeks prior to the show.
- Your completed entry form must be submitted, by the Wednesday before the Show.

Check out our website <https://www.toothillshow.co.uk/> for Hints and Tips, a list of Cups and Trophies to be won and an online version of the entry forms.

ON THE DAY

Gather your entries and bring them along to the Marquee **before 10:15am** remembering to allow time to set your entries out. There will be stewards in the Marquee to help and show you what's what and where's where. The Marquee is closed for judging at 10:15am.

Then the best bit is coming in to find out how you have done so come back during the show. The marquee normally reopens at 2pm. Cash prizes are awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place and can be collected during the afternoon with every child also receiving a certificate for taking part.

Those who have collected a couple of firsts there is a chance that your name will be called at the trophy presentation which closes the Show (normally just before 5pm) – the Oscars it may not be but still just as important and a well-deserved recognition of your achievement.

Before you leave, please collect your entries from the marquee.

Any questions do not hesitate to contact us through the Show website or ring Phillipa on 07554 439 457.

HERE'S TO ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SHOW!

The Society's committee would like to extend their grateful thanks & appreciation to Gill & Mary Hinman for the use of the field for this year's Show; to Senners News Agents in Ongar High Street for stocking the competition categories & the collection of Show Entry Forms.

The Show Committee

Contact No: 07554 439 457

Contact Email: Info@toothillshow.co.uk

Tim Arnold
Maurice Harvey
Ross Philpot
Michaela Philpot

Phillipa Giles
Linda Clark
Richard Sharp
Julia Woodward

Claire Seagers
Jacqueline Eggleston
Amèlie Ashton

RULES FOR COMPETITORS

ALL PERSONS WHO WISH TO EXHIBIT IN THE SHOW ARE ADVISED TO READ THE RULES BELOW:

1. Entries for all classes close on **Wednesday 29th July**.
2. Only one exhibitor from the same household may show in any one class in the Classes 1-24 and 27-37 inclusive.
3. All exhibits shown for competition must have been grown in the exhibitor's garden or allotment or have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least 6 weeks prior to the Show with the exception of Classes 38 - 40 inclusive
NOTE - Classes 38, 39 and 40 MUST BE MADE BY THE EXHIBITOR.
4. No exhibitor may enter more than one exhibit in each class.
5. Any prize may at the discretion of the judges be withheld or modified if the number or quality of the exhibits is unworthy of the prize offered.
6. Exhibits must be staged between 7.15 and 10.15 am on the day of the Show.
Exhibitors MUST leave the marquee by 10.15am.
7. All persons other than the authorized officials must retire from the marquee during the judging of exhibits.
8. Any person wishing to make an objection or protest must inform the Secretary of their intention before the end of the Show. Full written protest must be made available to the Secretary as soon as possible thereafter, except in the case of an objection based on alleged fraud.
9. The Committee hold the right to refuse any entry.
10. All judges' decisions in all classes to be final.
11. Any entry fee of 50p up to a maximum of £5 (any entries after that being free) must be sent with the entry form or paid on the day when delivering your exhibits.
12. Entrance to children's classes 92 - 136 inclusive are free.
13. No exhibitor or visitor may tamper with or move exhibits.
14. PRIZES - Subject to Rule 5 the following prizes will be awarded:
 - Vegetable Collection Box:
1st * £2.50 - 2nd * £2.00 - 3rd * £1.50
 - Salad Collection Box:
1st * £2.50 - 2nd * £2.00 - 3rd * £1.50
 - Open, Domestic, Floral Art and Handicraft:
1st £1.00 - 2nd 70p - 3rd 50p
 - Children up to age 15
1st £1:00 - 2nd 70p - 3rd 50p
15. In the case of a tie in money prizes in this section the Judge will decide on the Trophy Winner.
16. A Cup Holder moving away from the District must surrender the cup immediately to the Treasurer. Cups are to be returned to the Society **TWO WEEKS BEFORE** the Show.
17. Exhibits and other property of the exhibitors are at all times held at the risk of the Exhibitors.

CLASSES FOR 2026



VEGETABLE AND FRUIT CATEGORY (ARMITAGE CUP)

1. Vegetable Collection Box, not exceeding 92cms x 61 cms. Five different kinds of vegetables, quantities as below. All items to be named. Parsley decoration.
2. Salad Collection Box, Five different kinds, eg mustard and cress (as one) tomatoes, cucumber, lettuce, radish, spring onions, beetroot, celery, pepper, water cress, all items to be named.
3. Wonky Vegetable Box, at least four different kinds of wonky vegetables.
4. 4 Potatoes, 1 variety.
5. 3 Onions
6. 3 Carrots, trimmed
7. 6 Runner Beans
8. 9 French Beans
9. 9 Pea Pods
10. 2 Table Marrow
11. 6 Shallots, separately tied.
12. 2 Lettuce, as grown
13. 2 Courgettes
14. Plate of Soft Fruit, one variety. If Gooseberries, Raspberries etc. 20 items, If Currants, 10 strings.
15. 4 Rhubarb Sticks
16. 3 Peppers/Chillies. Any Variety - all 3 of same kind
17. 2 Cos Lettuce as grown
18. 2 Round Lettuce as grown
19. 3 Parsnips trimmed
20. 3 Leeks
21. 3 Beetroots, round, trimmed
22. 6 Tomatoes, ripe
23. Giant Vegetable or Fruit (compared to type)
24. Any Other Vegetable, not included in the competition categories.



FLOWERS AND PLANTS CATEGORY (SOCIETY CUP)

NOTE – Plants and flowers for the exhibits below must have been grown in the exhibitor's garden or allotment or have been in the exhibitor's possession for at least 6 weeks prior to the Show.

25. Hanging Basket
26. Patio Pot - not to exceed 46cm diameter
27. Vase of 3 Roses, one or more varieties
28. Vase of Mixed Culinary Herbs
29. Vase of 6 Carnations
30. Vase of 4 Dahlias,
31. Vase of 9 Sweet Peas, mixed
32. Vase of 4 Antirrhinums
33. Vase of 3 Gladiolas Spikes, any variety
34. Vase of Mixed Flowers - 5 stems
35. Flowering Pot Plant, max 23cm pot
36. Foliage Pot Plant, max 23cm pot
37. Cactus or Succulent Plant in a Pot or Bowl
38. Miniature Floral Exhibit - **Gulliver's Travels**, not to exceed 10cms in width and height
39. Lady's Spray
40. Gentleman's Buttonhole of 1 Flower



FLORAL ART CATEGORY (GREENSTED BOWL)

NOTE - An exhibit is natural plant material (fresh or dried) with or without accessories in an area - width 61cms x height 82cms.

THEME FOR 2026

41. **1st British Grand Prix** – Novice, open only to those who have not won a 1st Prize in Floral Art.
42. **100 years of the BBC**
43. Tied Bunch, florist style in water and box - Any theme



DOMESTIC CATERGORY (MILLBANK CUP & WOODS FAMILY BOWL)

44. Tea Bread, (own Recipe) 900gms/2lb
45. Victoria Sponge, (own Recipe) 22cm/8in tins
46. Vegetable Cake, (own recipe) e.g. carrot or courgette cake,
47. Flapjack, (own recipe) 6 pieces
48. Chocolate Brownie 6 pieces

49. Fudge 6 pieces
50. Flavoured Bread
51. 6 Bread Rolls, various shapes
52. 6 Scones, sweet or savoury
53. 3 Decorated Cup Cakes, judged on appearance
54. Savoury Tart e.g. Quiche Lorraine
55. 6 Bantam Eggs, any colour, on plate supplied
56. 6 Hen Eggs, any colour, on plate supplied
57. 1 Bottle of Cordial
58. 1 Bottle of Aromatic Oil
59. 1 Jar of Pesto
60. 1 Jar of any Soft Fruit Jam
61. 1 Jar of any Stone Fruit Jam
62. 1 Jar of Marmalade
63. 1 Jar Jelly
64. 1 Jar Lemon Curd
65. 1 Jar of Honey, clear
66. 1 Jar of Pickled Onions or Shallots, must be mature*
67. 1 Jar Home-made Chutney, must be mature*

*Pickles and Chutney to be exhibited must have been made at least 6 months before hand.
PLEASE NOTE - Jars should be filled and covered. Label should include day, month and year of production. Please remove all manufacturers' labels from re-used jars.



HANDICRAFT CATEGORY (CHANDLER ROSE BOWL)

68. Pottery
69. Metalwork
70. Needlework, Hand Sewing Only
71. Needlework, Machine Sewing, can be hand finished
72. Needlework, Cross Stitch
73. Needlework, Tapestry
74. Needlework, Embroidery
75. Soft Toy
76. Upcycled Garment, repurpose items of clothing or materials to create a new garment
77. Knitted Article
78. Handmade Greetings Card for ***David Attenborough's 100th birthday***
79. Acrylic Painting, unframed size not to exceed 24 x 36cms
80. Water Colour Painting - Unframed size not to exceed 24 x 36cms
81. Black & White Sketch - Unframed size not to exceed 24 x 36cms

82. Original Story called – **“Tom said to himself that it was not such a hollow world, after all.**, not more than 600 words
83. Handwritten Letter **To the crew of Artemis II** judged on handwriting and content
84. Sculpture – **Telephone box**, using recyclable materials from recycling ‘bin/sack’. Open to All Ages

NOTE - NEEDLEWORK/KNITTING/CROCHET :
Items must not be washed unless it is part of the making process. Please indicate if made to own design.



PHOTOGRAPHY CATEGORY (PADFIELD TROPHY)

85. Colour Photo – **Constables Essex Countryside**
86. Colour Photo – **Secret Garden**
87. Black & White Photo – **On the tracks**
88. Mobile Phone Selfie Photo – **Your local phone box**
89. Colour Photo - Any Subject
90. Black & White Photo - Any Subject
91. Mobile phone photo – Any subject

NOTE - Photographs not to exceed 19 x 13cms. Photos must be "as Taken" and not enhanced except for class 91.

NEW AWARD FOR 2026 (The Ella Hinman Trophy)

For the most adult categories entered

CHILDREN'S CATEGORIES

The Children's Classes are judged in the following Groups: Under 7 years, 7 to 11 years inclusive, 12 to 15 years inclusive.

NOTE – Ages must be stated on the Entry Form and be the age reached on date of Show

UNDER SEVEN:

92. Pencil Work, not to exceed 24 x 36cms
93. Crayon or Felt Tip Work, not to exceed 24 x 36cms
94. Painting Work – *Winnie the pooh and friends*, not to exceed 24 x 36cms
95. Decorated Hen's Egg
96. Edible Necklace
97. Vegetable Figure, not to exceed 30cms overall
98. Decorated Paper Plate, not to exceed 18cms
99. Decorated Wellington Boot, using any medium for decorating
100. Vase of Mixed Garden Flowers, 5 stems
101. Handmade Birthday Card on the theme **Thomas the tank engine**

SEVEN TO ELEVEN INCLUSIVE:

102. Mustard and Cress Creature/Person e.g. a hedgehog.
103. Pencil Work, not to exceed 24 x 36cms
104. Painting Work – *Winnie the pooh and friends*, not to exceed 24 x 36cms.
105. Computer Artwork, not to exceed 24cms x 36cms
106. Pizza, to be made by entrant, including base and not to exceed 30 cm overall. Item to be cling filmed
107. 3 Decorated Cupcakes
108. Vegetable Figure, not to exceed 30cms overall
109. Edible Face, made with eg salad, vegetables, flowers, herbs etc. and displayed on a 25cm plain paper plate. Will be judged on appearances only.
110. Hanging Basket
111. Patio Pot - not to exceed 46cms diameter
112. Miniature Garden with a theme of, in a shallow container not to exceed 30cms
113. Vase of Mixed Garden Flowers, 5 stems
114. Colour Photograph - Any Subject, not to exceed 19 x 13cms.
115. Decorated Wellington Boot, using any medium for decorating
116. Handmade Birthday Card on the theme of **Shrek**
117. Any Other Handicraft e.g. Pottery

TWELVE TO FIFTEEN INCLUSIVE:

- 118. Needlework
- 119. Pencil Work, not to exceed 24 x 36cms
- 120. Painting Work, **100 years of TV** not to exceed 24 x 36cms
- 121. Miniature Garden with a theme of, in a shallow container not to exceed 30cms
- 122. Model Kit, completed (eg Airfix, Meccano etc.)
- 123. Pizza, to be made by entrant including base, not to exceed 30cms overall - item to be cling filmed.
- 124. 3 Decorated Cupcakes
- 125. Computer Artwork, not to exceed 30 x 30cms
- 126. Patio Pot, not to exceed 46cms diameter
- 127. Hanging Basket
- 128. Vase of Mixed Garden Flowers, 5 stems
- 129. Mobile Phone Photo - Any Subject
- 130. Decorated Wellington Boot, using any medium for decorating
- 131. Handmade Birthday Card on the theme of **Harry Potter**
- 132. Any Other Handicraft e.g. Pottery

FOR AGES FIFTEEN AND UNDER

- 133. Short Story Titled – ***‘Could you keep a secret, if I told you one?’*** no more than 200 words
- 134. Handwritten letter ***A letter to the Artemis II crew*** judged on handwriting and content.
- 135. Create a **Miniature Scarecrow** less than 50cm
- 136. Any Vegetable

84. Sculpture – **Telephone Box**, using recyclable materials from recycling ‘bin/sack’

Open to All Ages

