

# Winsham Annual Show

by  
Debbie Murray-Snook



Despite 2025's amazingly hot, dry Summer, which had been a challenge for even the hardiest gardener, we had slightly more entries at this year's annual show than last year. The warm dry weather thankfully stayed with us for show day, unlike the past few years when it had been very mixed to say the least. The good weather not only drew a record number of car boot sellers it also brought in a throng of visitors eager to see the show exhibits and how they'd been judged as well to do a spot of shopping at the boot fair.

Our new marquee, for which we give thanks to the band of helpers who erected it, together with the use of the Community Club's larger marquee, provided the ideal space for our exhibits. We'd also like to thank those that donated cakes and

Janice & Peter Saunders, Edith Chubb and their helpers for serving the refreshments and making sure things ran smoothly in the kitchen. As for the raffle Margaret Long, with a bit of help from Paul Anderson, did a grand job of organising it and we'd like to thank all those that bought tickets and particularly those who donated raffle prizes. We didn't use all the donated prizes this time but kept some back for our future events. If ever you find yourself in possession of any unwanted goodies that you



think would be suitable for our raffles please do contact a member of committee.

Back to matters of the show, and bar the odd glitch that you'd expect of such a sizeable event run by volunteers, I think it would be fair to say that this year's show was a humdinger of a success.



Working through the schedule our first division, Dahlias, consists of 4 classes and historically the man to beat was Vic Chubb. Well he was on form again this year, he won two of the classes and came second in the other two which meant that he, yet again, triumphantly lifted the J & A K Ewins Perpetual Silver Cup for most points in division and the WHS Glass Trophy for the best exhibit. However Neil Croton with a 1st, two 2nds and a 3rd was hot on his tail. Also worthy of mention



for coming 1st, having entered only one class, was Sarah Gleadell. On a more unfortunate note there were a couple of exhibits that the judge was very impressed with but that were sadly eliminated because, according to the rules of showing, buds count as blooms, meaning they had more than the required 3 blooms. Should they enter next year, but with the correct number of blooms we could see some different results.



Division 2, Cut Flowers has 17 classes, 8 of which Neil Croton had entered. He won four, was 2nd in one, and 3rd in three, giving him ample points to win the Mrs J Ewins Perpetual Silver Cup. However the best exhibit winner of the WHS Flower Cup was Margaret Long for her fuchsias. The rose classes were very popular this year with 13 entries forward and Sally Cunliffe did remarkably well with a 1st, two 2nds & a 3rd but when it came to the rose with the best fragrance Stuart Bramley-Ball's was deemed the best. I was very pleased to win the vase of mixed flowers class but I also learnt an important lesson when I came 3rd out of two because I had entered annuals in a class that stated herbaceous perennials!



Division 3 consists of 9 classes for Pot Plants, and Janet Smart, with two wins and a second, won the WHS perpetual Cup for the most points in division, while the Bill Scott Memorial Cup for best geranium or pelargonium went to Anne Rose. There were only 13 entries forward in this division so if you have any interesting pot plants start pampering them ready to enter next year. There were no entries in the two fuchsias classes which meant the lovely cut crystal trophy will spend yet another year in my attic. Having said there weren't many entries, this division did produce the BEST BLOOM IN SHOW winner in Anne Rose's geranium, so she'll also have her name on the Norman A Phelps Cup.





Division 4, Vegetables, is a whopper with no less than 30 classes. Sadly 6 of these had no entries forward and a further 5 had only one each but that was probably due to the testing growing weather this year. Having said that, the other classes were well supported with 6 forward in the unusual shaped vegetable class, again probably a result of the hot weather, it was won by Tim Beer with Saffie Adams running a close second. Tim Beer came into his own in this division winning ten



classes, coming 2nd in two and 3rd in one. All of which made him a clear winner of the Jack Turner Memorial Shield for most points in division. His impressive trug of "4 distinct kinds of vegetable" not only won the Messers Baker Cup for best exhibition in section, it also saw him lift the J Hammett Cup for BEST



FRUIT or VEG in SHOW. He didn't have it all his own way though as Neil Croton had three 1sts & 2nds plus a 3rd and the fruit clearly doesn't fall far from the tree (so to speak) as his two sons Ethan and Nathaniel between them amassed a very respectable three 1sts, four 2nds and three 3rds. Jim Everard took two 1sts, one in coloured potatoes and the other in tomatoes, Janet Smart also had a 1st in tomatoes, while Di Thomas had a 1st in the herb class and a 2nd in tomatoes. Sally Cunliffe took two 1sts, with both her runner & french beans, while Sue Fielding was obviously happy with the hot Summer as she took first in the chilli class and 2nd in capsicum, and she also won with two lovely aubergines in the any other veg class.

Division 5, Fruit, may only have 6 classes but it attracted 31 entries, and Neil Croton with a 1st, 2nd & 3rd just pipped Simon Gates who had a 1st and a 2nd, to win the F W D Withers Perpetual Cup for most points in division. The star of the division, from the dessert apple class that had 11 entries forward, was our very own chairman Sandy Crole who presented himself with the Mr & Mrs Roy Smart Fruit Cup for the best exhibit in the section. Other winners included Stephen Miller for his culinary apples, Annie Dent for her soft fruit, and show secretary (how she found time to enter anything with her busy & hefty workload) Liz Copas in the any other fruit class.



Division 6, Flower Arranging, consists of 4 classes one especially for those who have not won in this division before. These can be costly classes to enter as exhibits can be made up of bought blooms and like any art form people have varying abilities so this class enables all to have a fair shot at it. This year the class was won by Chloe Evans who will hopefully enter one of the other classes next year. Margaret Long had notched up two 2nds but my two 1sts (in miniature & foliage) meant that I took the



Mr & Mrs G D Smith Cup for most points, and although Neil Croton was the only entry in the "showcase three blooms" class his arrangement caught the judge's eye immediately and he was awarded the Mary Burgess Judge's Choice Cup for best exhibit in division.



Division 7 is for people that live locally and with 15 classes that neither Neil Croton, who lives in Thorncombe, or Tim Beer who is from Stony Knaps, can enter, we were all hopeful. However with five 1sts, a 2nd and two 3rds the spoils went to our local hero Vic Chubb. He won the Mr & Mrs A Long Cup for most points, which came with a very generous £20 voucher from the village shop, and also won the Rosetta L Phelps cup for his onions which were deemed the best exhibit in division. However Sally Cunliffe again held her own winning both bean classes & coming 2nd in two of the rose classes, one of which was won by Terri Goodman whose husband Bryan also won the courgette class. Di Thomas & Janet Smart won with tomatoes with Janet also taking the sweet pea class. Jim Everard's potatoes were again in 1st place and Keith Fowler was victorious with his globe beets. Suffering with a bit of seconditis was Stuart Bramley-Ball, being pipped to the post by different people on three occasions. A couple of the local classes are judged in situ earlier in the year, those being the hanging baskets plus the tubs & containers. We had much better entries this year particularly in the hanging baskets class. This was most likely due to the hanging basket workshop held in the Jubilee Hall organised at the end of April, an event that we will



probably do next year so keep an eye out for it. Anyway our worthy winners were Terry Goodman who took the Chloe Besley Cup for best hanging basket and Edith Chubb who took the WHS Cup for best tub or container.

Moving on from growing to creating, Division 8 is Homecraft with 8a being for Preserves.



There were 8 classes with 36 entries forward making this a hotly contested section. With three 1sts, two 2nds and two 3rds, Harriet Dougherty was the worthy winner, for the third year running, of the Major & Mrs K Cameron Cup for the most points in division. Alison Llewellyn had two wins, one in fruit curd and another in stone fruit jam. The winner of the biggest class, any other Jam with eight entries, was Edith Chubb. The marmalade class, with just one less entry, was won by Alison Maitland, with Stephen Corrick close on her heels and our best dahlia winner, Sarah Gleadell stood 1st in the chutney class.



Division 8b, Baking, is where things hot up. There were 41 entries across 10 classes and Helen Fowler with two 1sts a 2nd and a 3rd, walked off with the Jill Coleman Cookery Cup for most points in division. Edith Chubb's savoury tart got a 1st, as did Kate Gates' vegan chocolate cake. Two classes had five entries each the savoury loaf, won by Stephen Corrick, and oatmeal biscuits won by Di Thomas. The two biggest classes were the set recipe for a light fruit cake each with seven entries per class. The gentlemen's class was won by Richard



Moss with Janet Smart winning the ladies, and the judge deemed the overall winner to be - a drum roll please - Janet's. The winner of the best overall exhibit from 8a & 8b was Alison Llewellyn who took home the WHS Rose Bowl for her decorated meringue which impressed the judge on both looks and taste.



Division 9a with its eight classes covers Handicraft and there truly were some incredible creations in this section. Young Ethan Croton took a well deserved first with his aptly shaped bee hotel. Helen Fowler won the handmade garment class with a pretty pink dress, and was also 1st with her item made from a crafting kit. Di Lester's crocheted Manny the Manatee took 1st in class 106, while Jeanette Pezare

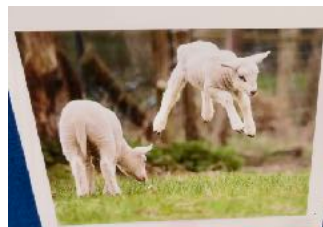


was 1st with an up-cycled item and came a worthy second in a big class of any other craft with her blue lion. This class was actually won by an amazingly complex Christmas hamper created by Alison Maitland who is clearly a dab hand with a needle and thread. However the stand-out winner for our judge in this section was



Jaqueline Fuller's cleverly made maracas in the child's toy class and she was awarded the WHS Rose Bowl presented by Lt Cdr P R Anderson for her efforts.

Division 9b, Art, only has 4 classes but they attracted some 13 entrants. Suzy Nacrour's sow & piglets took first place in the sculpture class, Edith Chubb's mixed media tree painting won the any other media class. There were only two entries in the acrylic/oil painting class but the judge could not separate them so Sarah McEvansonenya and Ron Murray (my Dad) tied for first. Sarah was also 1st in the watercolour class with her sun-worshipping rabbit, which gained her the Les Toulmin Cup for the best exhibit in division.



Division 10, Photography, has gained more and more support over the past few years, and our judge had an amazing fifty-three entries to place over six classes. So thank-you to everyone who entered - it made for a wonderful spectacle for our visitors, not all of whom agreed with the judge, I'm sure. So keep up the good work and get working on next year's classes (Autumn, Features of Winsham, Trees, The Garden Shed, Summer, and Ponds & Lakes). Di Lester was first in the black & white contrast class but this year it was all about Vicki Long who had some fabulous photographs forward, winning all five of the other classes! She deservedly walked off with the D Murray-Snook Cup for most points in division and the WHS cup for the best exhibit, her leaping lambs.

Division 11, the children's classes was an absolute delight this year. We had extended the number of classes and ran a "craft in the park" event for the children prior to the show to help encourage more entries, and the children rose to the challenge. There were 6 classes in each of the 7 year olds and under and 8 to 14 year olds





sections, across which we had a whopping 63 entries. The 7 years and under section was a real running ding-dong between Ruby Moss, Jack Moss and Nathaniel Croton. Nathaniel won the best garden shed, beating Jack in the process, and the painted pebble, this time beating Ruby. However Ruby & Nathaniel both tied for first in the miniature garden class with Jack and Otis Berry not far behind. Nathaniel pipped Phoebe Woodrow and the other eight entrants to first with his mask made from a paper plate. However it was Ruby's head with cress hair that, in beating her brother, saw her awarded the Mr & Mrs W Pike Junior Cup for best exhibit (other than handwriting) in the seven and under classes. Oliver Clark-Kavanagh who was not present on the day won



the 7 years and under handwriting. In the 8 to 14 year old classes Ethan Croton had a 3rd, two 2nds and two 1sts, one in the face with cress hair and the other was joint with Tilly Murphy in the big class of 9 entries for the mask made from a paper plate, where they just pipped Saffie Adams. Esme Berry was first with her garden shed and Nola Davies was top in the miniature garden class. Our trophy winners were Yasmin Hill who although not present is now in receipt of the the Mr & Mrs J Parish Cup for her impeccable handwriting. It was a big class with some nine entries in and Daniel Redwood and Charlie Moss did well to come 2nd & 3rd respectively. The Mr & Mrs W Pike Senior Cup for the best non-handwriting exhibit went to Seth Hawkins for his amazing painted pebble.



Our acknowledgement and thanks must also go to our judges without whom none of these results would have happened. They worked tirelessly, for small reward, giving every entry a fair appraisal, some even leaving useful or complimentary comments. So although they may be unseen by most who attend the show they are very much the essential element without which there would be no show.

Another essential element, who also worked tirelessly without reward and without whom there would most definitely be no show, was that of our show secretary Liz Copas - Liz we are all indebted to you.

### OUR TROPHY WINNERS (pictures courtesy of Steve Weller)



**Tim Beer**  
Best Fruit or Veg in show  
Most points plus  
Best exhibit in Div 4



**Anne Rose**  
Best Bloom in show.  
Best Geranium.



**Vic Chubb**  
Most points in Div 1 & Div 7  
Best exhibit in Div 1 & Div 7



**Neil Croton**  
Most points in Div 2 & Div 5  
Best exhibit in Div 6



**Vicki Long**  
Most points and  
Best exhibit in Div 10



**Margaret Long**  
Best Exhibit  
in Div 2



**Janet Smart**  
Most points  
in Div 3



**Sandy Crole**  
Best Exhibit  
in Div 5



**Debbie Murray-Snook**  
Most points  
in Div 6

**Edith Chubb**  
Best Tub or  
Container  
in Div 7a



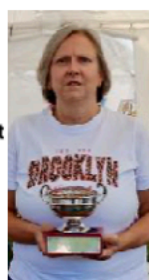
**Terry Goodman**  
Best Hanging  
Basket Div 7a

**Harriet Dougherty**  
Most Points  
in Div 8a



**Helen Fowler**  
Most Points  
in Div 8b

**Alison Llewellyn**  
Best Exhibit  
in Div 8a/b



**Jacqueline Fuller**  
Best Exhibit  
in 9a



**Sarah McEvansoneya**  
Best Exhibit  
in 9b



**Seth Hawkins** best 8-14yrs non handwriting  
**Ruby Moss** best 7 yrs & under handwriting  
**Yasmin Hill** not in pic best 8-14 yrs handwriting