



NEWSLETTER

September 2025

Dear Members,

Last year numbers of entries at our Show were down, at least partly because of the cold and wet weather for much of the growing season; this year we were concerned that entries would be hit by the warm and dry conditions. However the numbers were much better than we had feared, and you should be proud of yourselves for producing so many fine exhibits! In particular we had a good showing in the Children's section after some very lean years. Well done to all the exhibitors, especially the prizewinners, recipients of the Awards of Merit and the trophy winners. The trophies went to:

The Ray Smith Memorial Trophy (best exhibit in Section A, Fruit/Veg):	Tim Jewitt
The Jubilee Trophy (most points in Section A, Fruit/Veg):	Tim Jewitt
The President's Prize (best rose exhibit):	Frances Ellery
The Hartpury Bowl (best pot plant):	Louise Turner
The Peter Standing Trophy (best exhibit in Section B, Flowers):	Frances Ellery
The Gladys Le Gros Hobbs Memorial Cup (best flower arrangement):	Jane Smith
The Chairman's Prize (most points in Section D, Cakes & Preserves):	Mary James
The Marie Ann Ellery Prize (best baking exhibit)	Judith Cheyney
The Mike Freeman Cup (best exhibit in the Children's section):	Poppy Whitehead
The Craft Trophy:	Catherine Morris
The Needlework Trophy:	Judith Cheyney
The Mike Young Prize for Photography:	Oliver Hale

Awards of Merit were made to Tim Jewitt, for his tray of vegetables and French beans; Fiona Wheeler, for her salad box – the first entry we've had for some years in this class!; Frances Ellery, for cherry tomatoes and woody shrubs; and to Roger Lock and Oliver Hale (twice) for photographs. You can find some **photographs of the Show** on our webpage at www.brimpsfieldvillage.org/brimpsfield-garden-soc.

As always, the Show would not be possible without the help of many people. We're grateful to everyone who helped in any way: the whole Committee; Angela Lerwill, Jane Parsons, Judith Lonsdale and Iris Phillips who prepared, served and cleared up after the excellent judges' lunch; Larry Wallace, Richard Linenthal and George for so ably running the teas; all those who contributed cakes for the teas; and to the stewards and all those who helped to set the hall up and clear everything away again afterwards. We're also grateful to Ruby's bar, who generously donated a number of bottles to the raffle. Thank you

everyone! Next year's Show will be on **Saturday 5th September 2026**, so make a note in your calendar now!

Our autumn programme of coffee mornings resumes on **Saturday 4th October** in Brimpsfield Village Hall, when Duncan Coombs will speak on '**The Shaded Garden**'. We all have a shady area somewhere in our gardens and it can be tricky to plant it effectively; come along to get some ideas. On **1st November** our speaker will be Philip Aubury on '**House and Conservatory Plants**'; I'm not good with houseplants so am looking forward to some advice! And on **6th December** we have Will Scott, who will speak on – and demonstrate – '**Tool Sharpening for the Terrified**'; you are invited to bring one (just one!) tool that needs sharpening, as this will be a hands-on event! As usual, coffee and home-made cakes will be available, for a modest sum, from 10.30, with the talks starting at 11am. Further talks will be trailed in the next newsletter, early next year.

On the subject of home-made cakes, we have a few willing cake-makers lined up, but there's plenty room for more; if you can help (we can pay expenses), let us know.

Going back to the Show: we are considering classes for the 2026 Show. Suggestions have been replacing the 'longest runner bean' with a 'wonky veg' class; a 'My signature bake' class; and a sugarcraft class. Another suggestion was to have a 'Showstopper' class, which might be for a cake, or perhaps for any sort of entry across all sections; do you long to produce an entry that would make us all go 'wow'? or would it prevent you from entering any other classes as well? We're interested to know; do speak to us if you have any views on these! (or any other suggestions, for that matter.)

Long autumn and winter evenings are a good time for taking up a new skill; we could do with a few more craft and flower arranging entries in next year's Show! You might like to know that there is a flower arranging school in Twyning, near Tewkesbury, run by a highly skilled Dutch florist; see his website www.hansflowers.co.uk and the attached flyer for recent and forthcoming workshops.

We're told that the autumn colours should be particularly spectacular this year; it will be a good time to take a trip to Westonbirt or Batsford Arboretum, or to get out into the woods or a park – make the most of any sunny days that autumn brings us, breathe in fresh air and enjoy the show!

Happy gardening!

Frances Ellery