

Open The History



The Flower Show

Have you ever grown a beautiful flower?

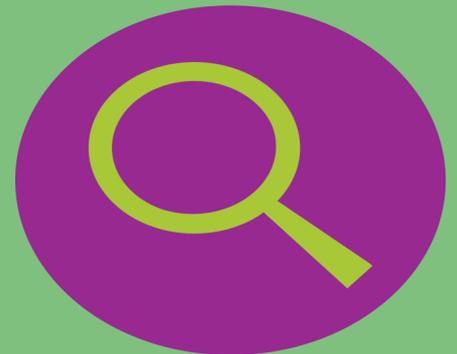
The Flower or Horticultural Show as it is sometimes called, began to appear around 1830 in many towns and villages across the country. It was a form of entertainment for the public to visit and enjoy during the summer months. Plants and vegetables of all types were displayed in huge tents to keep out the weather and people would wander around the exhibits taking in the colours and scents of the flowers. In the early days though, it was only the middle class and 'landed gentry' who were able to afford new species and to purchase rare plants for their estates.

However as the years passed by, local garden nurseries, councils, allotment societies and more recently garden centres, would compete against each other by exhibiting what they grew for the prestige of possibly winning first prize. The public were also able to admire the flowers and buy plants of the same type for their gardens at home.

By the 1960s, the growth of garden centres and DIY businesses meant that many people were able to enter competitions themselves with flowers and vegetables that they had grown at home to hopefully win a prize of their own.

Everyone who grew plants wanted top advice on how to make their patch of land look the best it could and with this, the BBC programme 'Gardeners Question Time' was created in Ashton under Lyne where questions could be asked of experts over the radio. This programme is still as popular today!

Although the Flower Show is not as popular as it used to be, they are making a come back so look about



LOCAL STUDIES AND
ARCHIVES CENTRE

Cotton Street East
Ashton under Lyne OL6 7BY
Tel: 0161 342 4242

culture
Tameside



Make a Horticultural Show Rosette and Award

Materials to use:

Thin card
Crepe or tissue paper in two colours
Stick Glue
Scissors
Sticky tape
Crayons or coloured pencils

How to make

Draw two small circles of card. You can look for an item around the home to draw around such as a small jar or tin.

Write the words that you have chosen onto one of the circles such as First Prize, Best in Show etc.

Cut two long strips of crepe paper approximately 4cm wide in one colour and 6cm wide in another colour

Using the disk of card that you haven't written on scrunch one long edge of the wider crepe paper and glue it around edge of the card using about 1cm stuck to the card itself

Repeat in the same way using the narrower strip of contrasting crepe paper, gluing it down securely onto the other colour

Apply more glue over the centre of the card and place the other circle of card on top so that the words can be clearly seen in the middle and that the crepe paper is sandwiched in between

You now have a rosette! Ask an adult to attach a safety pin if you want to wear it

