

A Rough guide to showing Roses

It has become clear that entrants are missing out on potential winning entries in the rose classes in our Village Show simply because their blooms have been entered into the wrong class. The Show Stewards will, wherever possible, try and move the exhibit to its correct class but this is not always possible particularly if that entrant already has an exhibit there already. Many can be forgiven for getting confused as there are now a whole host of roses that have become available in recent years that no longer fall clearly into clearly defined categories.

The rose classes in our village show are self explanatory and quite clear so where is the problem? The problem arises when the entrant has to correctly identify what type of rose it actually is and which rose he or she should enter into each class. A cultivar is the name a specific rose (e.g. Fragrant Cloud or Iceberg)

The types of Rose.

Hybrid Tea:

These types of a rose usually have a vase-like shape and are known for having perfect blooms and buds. Most varieties, but not all, are fragrant and are reliable repeatbloomers, if deadheaded.

Cluster

There are 3 types of rose which fit into this class

- **Grandiflora**
These rose types are the largest of the cluster roses. They are big upright plants with large headed blossoms. The flowers appear mostly in clusters, similar to floribundas,
- **Floribunda**
The blooms are smaller than hybrid teas but have floriferous trusses or clusters of blooms.
- **Polyantha**
These are similar to floribundas. They bloom nonstop all season long but usually, have a low-growing shrubby growth habit and a profusion of small sized flowers.
These types of roses are excellent for growing in containers.

Shrub or Old Fashioned

Shrub rose is a common term for a great many roses with a wide variety of shapes and sizes. They often have old-fashioned type blooms. They lack the traditional, perfect buds found in Hybrid Teas and some varieties do not make particularly good examples for cutting.

Most David Austin roses are shrub or old fashioned type roses.

Patio Roses

These are fairly recent introductions and tend to be miniature or smaller versions in looks of either a hybrid tea or floribunda rose.