

## OMRS CONVENTION EXHIBITION – JUDGING AND AWARDS

A review has been conducted of the judging criteria and award of medals to Society members who present an exhibit at the Annual OMRS Convention. For Convention 2010, awards will be based on achieving a certain standard rather than the previous system of an individual's exhibit being judged against those of fellow exhibitors. Such a system would be in line with most international societies, for example the Royal Horticultural Society, who reward all those who deserve recognition because they have met a rigorous standard. Thus, in theory, if the standards are achieved many awards could be made. Conversely, no awards need be made if the standards are not reached.

The **Best of Show** cup and **Best First Time Exhibitor** award will be retained and presented irrespective of the number of medals awarded.

The minimum standard for each award will be:

- **Gold** – 80 points
- **Silver** – 70 points
- **Bronze** – 60 points

The Open and Single Medal classes are based on the same display criteria; the Research class has, by definition, a different aim. It sets out to demonstrate detailed research and documentation to support the details. Visual impact is less relevant and hence using the same marking schedule as the other two classes is not appropriate. The breakdown of points available will be:

### Open and Single Medal Class:

- **Research and Documentation - 50 points**
  - Supporting documentation, accurate, comprehensive, appropriate, difficulty of finding information.
- **Presentation/Visual Impact - 30 points**
  - Imaginative, innovative, layout, use of supporting material.
- **Educational Value - 20 points**
  - Importance and impact of event(s)/items(s) displayed or special nature of content.

### Research Class:

- **Research and Documentation - 70 points**
  - Accurate, comprehensive, supporting documentation, difficulty of finding information
- **Presentation - 15 points**
  - Layout and accessibility
- **Educational value - 15 points**
  - Importance and impact of event(s)/item(s) displayed or special nature of content

The aim of the Convention is to encourage as many members as possible to feel able to exhibit. Some are daunted by the scale and professionalism of other's displays. The introduction of the two new classes should be an encouragement and help allay this fear. The Research class offers those members who are less interested in preparing an artistic display an opportunity to exhibit their research skills and interests.