

## **Show Report AGM 2017**

We had 2 very different shows this year but they did have one thing in common – it wasn't a good year for the roses. But the summer show was awash with sweet peas and the autumn show with dahlias.

It is never a good year for everything which makes each show unique. The autumn show in 2017 was one of those that you just feel so proud of arranging; along with my co-chair Mariangela who has helped with the organisation. It was a successful show because it was busy from beginning to the end and the tables heaved with harvest. Obviously the society makes money from the sale of refreshments, tombolas, entry money, plants and the auction but the purpose of the shows are to be a community event for both the allotment members and the wider public – there are always new faces of people who have seen the poster and popped in to see what it is all about.

At every show we encourage novices to enter for the first time and hope they will keep coming back. We also like to keep children entertained. Georgina put together a work sheet for the little ones this year and it was well received by children and parents alike.

Our friend and former plot holder George Scandrett was too unwell to judge for us this year and so Sheila Konig stepped in to judge the flowers while Charles Gillbe also gave us his precious time to judge the vegetables and fruits. Both of them did an excellent job and we hope they will be able to take up the honour again next year. Once again our cookery judge was local cookery writer Helen Sabieri.

All of the judges have come up with comments which the show committee have reviewed and some of the suggestions have been taken on board – these will be incorporated into new categories on the schedule for next year.

We rely very heavily on volunteers for the shows and our thanks go out to everyone who judged, ran the auction, transported tables, set up and run the tombolas, made cakes, donated plants and helped to sell them, cracked the whip in the kitchen, washed up, took the door money and swept up afterwards.

Show Co-Chairs

Carol Martinez & Mariangela Renshaw