

### **Report from the North Somerset 2017 Show**

It was Michelle's and my first show and we were very grateful for the brilliant way Wendy organised everything for us prior to the handover. Many thanks Wendy.

Thanks also to Hans Wilson for his generosity again this year. It makes such a difference when we do not have to pay for the hire of the marquees. And a huge thanks to everyone who helped either before or on the big day. From the enquiries we received, I am sure that your enthusiasm has helped to persuade many would-be beekeepers to take the plunge and join a course or a taster day in the coming year.

As usual, outside the marquee we had the demonstration and virtual hives which were a big draw, and inside there was honey tasting, honey sales, candle rolling and badge making which were also very popular. The honey show was judged by David Capon with his usual skill and thoroughness (although this lapsed when he decided my honey cake was outside the top three!) Well done Belinda for winning the overall show and the cup. Honey sales by members were brisk, earning them a contribution to their costs and a healthy commission for the North Somerset Beekeepers. Sales by members amounted to £654 with £65.40 going to the North Somerset Beekeepers and candles sales and badge making made £118.

A man – who people say was my husband – was seen to be walking up and down outside the marquee for a while in his bee suite carrying a lit smoker asking passers-by if they would like to “have a squeeze”.

The weather was good for most of the time and the place was buzzing with people. A short but violent thunderstorm saw an amazingly large number of people crammed in with us for a while, all of whom departed on extremely friendly terms when the storm abated.

**Sandra Slater**

Co-coordinator