

Monkton Horticultural Show and Village Fayre 2009

This year's organising committees deserve a big 'thanks' for getting the event off the ground, which has seen local groups and residents get together once again on Saturday August 15th.

The drizzle faded away to allow Malcom (Macker) Hayes to open the event alongside the Mayor, Councillor Pearl Llewellyn, and both were presented with gifts by local young people.

June Hearn, organiser of the Horticultural Show, said "This year's Monkton Horticultural Show was, again, a resounding success. As a precaution, we decided to move the show inside the Community Hall because of the experience of last year's bad weather and I'm glad we did. We had lots of visitors from far and wide, including quite a few holiday-makers. I saw many different faces this year too and I thank them for coming and supporting us. Many people enjoyed the large amount of entries on show, saying they think the show will keep growing with time.

Thanks to all the competitors, judges, sponsors and the public for the support they've show and long may it continue. Also, thank you to Chris and Ann at Monkton Friary for 'advertising space' in their window! By the way, I've already started on next year's programme, with lots more classes in mind and I hope to have the 2010 previews ready by next February. So if anyone wishes to grab a copy (when they're finished, of course) please call either 01646 621249 or 01646 680373 and we'll gladly send you one."

Out on the field, children competed in the mini assault course for prizes, and had a go on the bouncy castle, got their faces painted and came away with animal shaped balloons courtesy of the Balloon Man. Meanwhile there was plenty of browsing to be done at the many craft stalls, including Wanton Wax and Wicked Wicks, bead-making and homemade cards, Monkton's very own Crafty Ladies and the Pembroke Dock Encompass Group. Local groups including Monkton Priory Church held raffles and the MY Voice gang (Monkton Youth) raised money for their group through games including 'Guess the Name of the Bear' and asking locals to guess the number of sweets in the jar.

Lunch was a selection of hot dogs, burgers and pork rolls on the barbecue, run by Maggie and Shelly of the M&M Community Club. The volunteers with the Carew Control Tower gave up their time to set up their magnificent tent with images, memorabilia and artefacts of the restored WW2 Control Tower. The Sunderland Trust teamed up to occupy the tent and were on hand to chat to locals about their dedication to the recovery and restoration of the RAF Sunderland military flying boat which sank off Pembroke Dock. Further along the field was the spectacular Merlin Engine, which is a spitfire fuselage based at Witybush, which is being restored to flying condition.

Popular samba band 'Samba Doc' from Pembroke Dock put on a series of performances and workshops throughout the afternoon, allowing children to have a go playing the drums. There were car boots, and PACTO (Pembrokeshire Association of Community Transport Organisation) were present to promote the

availability of minibuses to the community. Information stalls included The Co-operative, Want to Work and Monkton Communities First.

The Raffles were drawn by Mayor Pearl Llewellyn and we would like to thank everyone who kindly donated a prize. We would also like to thank everyone who put in hard work to ensure the event went ahead.

Prize and cup winners can be obtained from June Hearn on 01646 621249 or visit www.monkton.info