





moved the Moorside Show to the middle of August. This means that unfortunately some Moorsiders were away, and some produce wasn't ready (for instance the Chrysanthemums. Nevertheless we had 36 exhibitors and over 300 individual exhibits... not bad! We were particularly pleased that our expanded children's section had more entries than last year and with Nicola's allotment explorer's game and Annie's face-painting, the children had a good day.

The main prize winners this year were:-

Best allotment.....George Taylor  
 Best newcomer.....Doug and Jenni Palmer  
 Best wildlife plot..... Frank Lightfoot  
 Best bee-friendly plot... Sue Brophy  
 Master Gardener.....Charleigh Brown  
 Junior Master Gardener.....James Vincent  
 Vegetable Gardener.....Charleigh Brown  
 Best exhibit.....Audrey Tortoise  
 Long Service..... Ben and Jean Rudden  
 Top Vase.....Ethnie Carter  
 Top Tray.....Charleigh Brown  
 Trevor Storey Shield.....Barbara Taylor



We made a profit of around £100 on the day and thanks to those helping with our money-earners :-

Raffle £158.00 -Sue Johnson and Sue Pownall  
 Books £54.30-- Liz Whewell  
 Barbeque, cakes and teas £97.85-- Paul and Krys Gaffney  
 Face Painting £26.25---- Annie Brotherton  
 Produce and plants £19.80-----  
 Neils Souter / Rob Germany

## The Moorside Show 2010.

The weather was kind this year for our annual show, though we had our new canopy up, just in case. Since we received a grant of almost £1,000 from Blakelaw Ward for the canopy, we invited Councillor Phil Risk of Blakelaw to present the prizes this year.

Because the City Show was moved to the first weekend in September, we

Next year we plan to go back to September for our show and we want to start preparing much sooner so the 2011 Show Committee will be formed and start work in October/November 2010.

Finally at the Show there was a special leaving present for Rob Germany who is leaving because of pressure of work and supporting a son who is already

a National Junior Fencer. Rob has made a huge contribution to Moorside in his time here. He has given us the benefit of his immense gardening knowledge at Garden Club meetings; he has edited the Moorside Newsletter for several years and has been a regular committee member. Thanks for all your input to Moorside and best wishes for the future, we will miss you!

Peter Whewell Chairman



## BTO Garden Birdwatch

Perhaps some of you have taken part in the RSPB's annual Garden Birdwatch, as I have done over the past two years, only to discover the frustration of limiting oneself to, a one hour, weekend observation. Taken a few weeks earlier my count would have included visiting Fieldfares and Redwings gorging themselves on Cotoneaster berries, in addition to the usual garden species. So my interest was aroused on discovering The British Trust for Ornithology run a similar scheme on a weekly basis throughout the year. The BTO is an independent research charity,

*'dedicated to producing unbiased scientific information about the state of Britain's wild birds.'*

The aim of the BTO Garden Birdwatch is to gather important information on how different species of birds use gardens and how this use changes over time. Currently there are about 16,000 participants throughout the U.K. who send in simple weekly records of the bird species using their garden. This information is submitted on paper count forms by post, every three months, or online.

Each participant supports the project through an annual contribution of £15. In return they receive the quarterly magazine *Bird Table* and new recruits receive a free copy of *Garden Birds and Wildlife*, a beautifully illustrated book and a useful aid for identifying garden birds and other wildlife.

So far I have been observing birds in my garden for about seven months and watch the birds for about ten minutes each day, although it is up to each participant how often and for how long they make their observations. As a result I have become better acquainted with the feeding habits of different species and have observed species I have never seen before in my garden. I was intrigued to discover that juvenile Goldfinches don't have the bright plumage of the adult birds and that the parent Goldfinches must have successfully reared at least three birds. I look forward to the winter months when I hope to see migratory birds making their brief visits to the Cotoneaster tree, which is usually stripped of all its berries within a week.

The BTO website is full of useful information and worth a visit even if you don't want to participate in their garden birdwatch, it can be found at [www.bto.org/gbw](http://www.bto.org/gbw) Liz Whewell