

## **Rotherham Show**

What a lovely show which had its roots as a horticultural show. Now it is much wider than that with all sorts of attractions. There still remains a large marquee however as a dedicated horticultural tent.

The Rotherham Alliance once again invited me to put up an NAS stand next to theirs which I duly agreed to. Mike Farrell from the Alliance once again got me and my wife an invitation to join the Civic party as a distinguished guest.

I put up the stand on the Friday. So on the Saturday I got all dolled up in my best jacket and my Presidential bling, so as not to feel out of place at the Civic party. My and what a civic party it was, I felt extremely honoured to be there, Lord Mayor and Lady Mayor of Sheffield, Mayor and Mayoress of Rotherham, Master Cutler (head of the company of Cutlers, acting as an ambassador of industry in Sheffield) and his wife from Sheffield and many more guests all with chains of office. We had an escorted tour around this wonderful show which covers a whole park and is entirely free!! entry to the public.

Walking around the children's area I was really taken by what was called 'The Allotment' and was aimed at the younger children. It comprised of all types of fruit and veg, all with wobbly eyes added and when of appropriate size and shape dressed in nappies and with dummies and positioned in vintage prams, high chairs, cots and laid on cushions. There were feeding bottles so the children could pretend and cuddle and feed them. I was very taken with this idea as being an extremely novel way of introducing very young children to fruit and vegetables and bringing familiarisation.

The rest of the time on Saturday and Sunday was spent promoting our great organisation and answering queries.

This was yet another wonderful event, thank you Rotherham Alliance and Rotherham Council for a great time and a great show.

Phil GOMERSALL



Hartley Lane Allotment Association, Vegetable Display



The unique 'Allotment'



L-R Lady Mayoress of Sheffield, Lord Mayor of Sheffield, Mayor of Rotherham, Deputy Mayor of Rotherham, Master Cutler of Sheffield



Fun with the singing Chefs



“ The French connection”



Master Cutlerof Sheffield and President of National Allotment Society.