

# Thimbleby & Shorland

## THE CARRIAGE & EQUESTRIAN SALES – REVIEW OF 2008

### NEW RECORD PRICE AT AUCTION FOR A CARRIAGE £69,000 for a Reading Gypsy Wagon by Dunton of Reading

#### GYPSY WAGONS



Dunton Wagon - £69,000

After weeks of anticipation and speculation, the sale of the wonderful Dunton Reading Wagon was memorable. The hammer price of £69,000 just broke the previous T & S record for the Travelling Barouche from the George Shaw Collection which has sold for £68,000 in June 2004. The Wagon was purchased by an overseas collector having previously been owned by the late Tony Harvey of Suffolk, whose dispersal sale T & S conducted in June 2007.



Showman's Wagon - £11,500

The popularity of Gypsy Wagons prevailed and in November, a good quality Showman's Wagon by Vincents of Arbofield, Reading, sold for £11,500.

#### TWO-WHEELERS



Mills Spider Gig - £11,000

The March sale witnessed the top price for a two-wheeled carriage, in keeping with the trend that show vehicles traditionally sell well at this time of year. The delightful Spider Gig to suit 12 to 13 hh by the renowned Mills of Paddington, had been fully restored by father & son team, Barry & Richard Wheelwright and finished to their usual high standards. Sold for £11,000 the screw stem lamps stayed with the Gig for £1,500. At the same sale, a pretty Stick Back Gig by Sanders of Hitchin sold for £5,300 and in September, a Dennett Gig, used with success in the show ring with the perennial winner Major Joseph, and now in need of refurbishment, sold for £2,900.

#### FOUR-WHEELERS



Arnold Body Brake - £5,000

While the selection of fine quality two-wheeled carriages on offer during the year was relatively sparse, a wonderful array of four-wheeled carriage for all purposes was available. From the collection of the late, great Bill Vine, a Roof Seat Brake he had built made £4,000 in May. At the successful September sale, two carriages in need of refurbishment from a superb collection sold well – a Spider Phaeton by Lawton made £6,000 and a traditional type Wagonette by Hooper which had originated from a Scottish estate, returned to north of the border for £4,750. At the same sale, there were three lovely quality carriages from a stately home on the south coast, all in need of complete renovation. All were purchased by the same coaching enthusiast and the Brougham by Aldebert of London made £1,500, the Victoria by Laurie & Marnier made £3,300 and an elegant Body Brake by Arnold of Lyminton sold for £5,000.



Laurie & Marnier Victoria - £3,300



Roof Seat Brake - £4,000

One of the prettiest vehicles of the year was the small Four-wheeled Dog Cart by Gold of Windsor which sold for £5,100 and a similarly attractive Four-wheeled Ralli Car by Moor & Son of South Molton made £4,100, both in September.



Moor & Sons Ralli Car - £4,100

## TRADE & COMMERCIAL VEHICLES



Hauliers Trolley - £2,950

2008 was a bumper year for both show ring trade vehicles and those which can be used commercially for weddings or funerals. In March, a large and modern Polish Five Glass Landau sold for £8,600, a modern Butcher's Cart made £2,500, a smart Delivery Van sold for £4,400 and a Private Omnibus for renovation made £3,500. Top price in May was a recently built Continental Hearse which made £6,600, another Delivery Van, for a butcher sold for £4,800 and an unusual Continental Fire Engine sold for £4,100. In September, a Bow Fronted Brougham by Pink of Fareham sold for £2,900



Continental Fire Engine - £4,100

and a Landaulette, consigned by a Dutch client, also made £2,900. At the final sale of the year, an unusual and attractive Hauliers Trolley went to a collector of trade vehicles for £2,950.

## HARNESS, SUNDRIES & COLLECTABLES

Trade for good quality and preferably British harness continues to be good as it becomes increasingly hard to find skilled harness makers without long waiting lists. Sets of harness by Huskissons are always popular, and pair sets made £2,000, £1,400, £800 and £700. The Geoffs Dudley & Dean were also popular makers with their show harness fetching £1,600 and £1,000. A set of Zilco cob pair harness made £1,000 and an Anthony Green show harness sold for £820.



Coach Poster - £1,200

In November, a superb pair of large Landau lamps by Brewster of New York went to Holland for £2,200. These had been consigned with a large Landau body, also thought to be by Brewster, which went to the film industry for £1,250. At the March sale, a pair of screw stem lamps by Mills of Paddington sold for £980.

The September sale included a collection of artifacts and coaching memorabilia from John Mauger, father and founder of the Reading Carriage Sales. Having relocated to a smaller property in Dorset, John and Susan decided the time had come to disperse the majority of their much loved collection. An original advertising poster for the 'Old Times' Coach sold for £1,200, a large photogravure of the 1882 Meet of the Coaching Club sold for £900, two superb models by Eric Homewood of a C-Spring Brougham and a C-Spring Victoria each made £1,100 and a rare key bugle by Arnold sold for £780.



C-spring Victoria Model - £1,100

Beswick models were popular and a pair of models of the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh sold for £1,200. A Royal Worcester model of a Hackney after Doris Linder sold for £2,250 and a model of Marion Coakes and Stroller sold for £750. Two limited edition models by Border Fine Arts sold well in May – a Bill Wright Bow Top model made £1,350 and a Welsh Cob sold for £750. A Standing watercolour of a Shire dated 1907 made £500.

## THE MIDLANDS & CORNISH SALES



London Trolley - £2,500

It was a busy week in early July as the annual Midlands carriage sale in Solihull, West Midlands was followed two days later by a collective sale in Cornwall near Bude. Top priced carriage at the ever popular Solihull sale was a well presented London Trolley which sold for £2,500. An original Drop Front Phaeton sold for £2,000 and a set of trade harness by Huskissons which had been used with the Trolley sold for £1,250. The auction team then went down to Bude and battled against some of the worst summer weather the area has ever seen. Nevertheless, the warmth of the Cornish welcome made it worthwhile and a scale Gypsy Wagon for repair made £1,600 and a Canadian Wagonette sold for £1,750.

## THE JO & CATH CARR COLLECTION



Ice Cream Cart - £8,700

July continued to be a busy month for the carriage sales with the dispersal of the collection of carriages and accoutrements for the Carr family which took place on top of a picturesque moor in North Yorkshire. This was a much anticipated sale as the Carrs are well known for their appreciation of quality artifacts and something just a little different. A glossy and well illustrated catalogue showed the most talked about lot of the day on the front cover – the pair of cut glass angel lamps with additional table lamp, from a gypsy wagon. It is extremely rare to find such a set and after much speculation and good bidding, they sold for £7,400, purchased by an enthusiast who will display them in his living wagon. The top price of the day belonged to the beautifully



Angel lamps - £7,400

decorated Yorkshire Ice Cream Cart which showed among other things castles and abbeys from Yorkshire. It was purchased by a buyer involved in the Ice Cream trade for £8,700.



Booby Hut - £3,300

A fine Musgrave folding top harness horse made £2,300, a circa 1900 mahogany whip rack sold for £1,200 and a wicker dolls pram made £700. There was a superb selection of specialist books available and a rare 'New York Coach Makers Magazine' dated June 1865-May 1866 sold to the USA for £2,200.

Of the ten sets of harness available, a Yorkshire van set made £900 and a mahogany coloured set to fit a Shetland sold for £820. A Park Phaeton by Bell of Lambourne sold for £1,900, a C-spring Cabriolet sold for £2,600 and an unusual Boston Booby Hut Sleigh made £3,300.

## THE HACKNEY SALES

T & S were delighted to be asked to conduct two sales of pure bred Hackneys on behalf of longstanding clients. The first was a dispersal sale on behalf of the Peters family of the Brookfield Stud at Fair Oak, Southampton in June. The horses and ponies were all beautifully presented and a huge crowd turned out on a summer's day to support this popular family. Top priced animal of the day was Brookfield Joe's Legacy, a four year old stallion with lots of presence, who made 9,600 guineas (£10,080). The pretty pony mare Brookfield Classic Lady sold for 4,000 guineas (£4,200), Brookfield First Edition, a four year old black mare, sold for 2,600 guineas (£2,730), Brookfield Golden Jubilee, a six year old black mare, made 2,500 guineas (£2,625) and Brookfield Pretty Woman, a two year old bay filly made 2,150 guineas (£2,275.50).



Joe's Legend - £10,080



Atlowsprings Rosalie - £7,875

In September, Noddy and Maria Vyse decided to cut down on their considerable stock and prompted by the change in their stud prefix, had a reduction sale on site at Enfield, Middlesex. They also accepted additional entries by invitation and had a section for harness, sundries and wagons. The top priced horse of the day was Atlowsprings Rosalie who went to Northern Ireland for 7,500 guineas (£7,875). Also purchased by an Irish buyer, Sunbeam Fancy Ribbons made 5,300 guineas (£5,565). Of the additional entries, Heartland Powerstroke, a six year old American bred pony, sold for £4,100 (£4,305).

## THE READING SHETLAND PONY SALES

Celebrating the 40th annual autumn show and sale of registered Shetland ponies, T & S enjoyed two good sales in March and October. With an entry of 86 ponies and 73 forward, the spring sale saw a top price of 1,150 guineas (£1,207.50) for a piebald yearling, Mardlebook Maple. Sire of this pony was the champion of the show, the stallion Mardlebook Hob Nob, who sold for 1,000 guineas (£1,050). In October, 80% of the ponies entered were forward and the top price of 2,000 guineas (£2,100) was paid for the miniature stallion Balmedie Alfred. A filly foal, Snelsmore Lexi sold for 1,500 guineas (£1,575) and the junior mare, a piebald filly Halstock Sonny's Kitten, made 1,850 guineas (£1,942.50).



Mardlebook Hob Nob - £1,050

## **THE HEAVY HORSE & HORSE BRASS SALES**



George V brass - £610

The 34th spring heavy horse sale included two important consignments, one of harness and sundries upon retirement of a well known producer and the other of the Crum family collection of horse brasses. A set of good show harness sold for £3,300 and a set of agricultural show harness made £3,000. Two Ransomes ploughs used by the champion ploughman Jim Elliott made £600 and £520. The top price for a brass was £620 for a 1904 award brass marked 'Much Hadham Horse Parade, Second Prize'. A photographic royalty swinger showing George V made £610, also from the Crum collection. The October brass sale was also boosted by the inclusion of part of a collection from a longstanding client. Two individual presentation brasses from this consignment each made £500 – the first inscribed 'DUDC Best Kept Harness 1929, Awarded by R Ling, London E14' and the other, 'RAOB Worthing Nos. 1-2 Lodges, GL Sx Horse Parade 1901, 1st Prize'.

*This report covers one area of the work carried out by Thimbleby & Shorland. The firm is also known internationally as the appointed auctioneers to the Hewden Group, specialising in the sale of contractors plant and equipment. Sales of construction equipment and tools are also held regularly in Reading, plus sales of antiques and fine art, household and office furniture, grounds maintenance equipment, insolvency and receivership stock, vintage and commercial vehicles, and motor cars. There is a busy land agency department which provides valuations and handles the sale of land and property.*

### **THE 2009 READING CARRIAGE SALES**

**WEDNESDAYS 4th MARCH, 13th MAY, 2nd SEPTEMBER & 4th NOVEMBER**

### **THE READING SHETLAND PONY SALES**

**WEDNESDAYS 11th MARCH & 14th OCTOBER**

### **THE 35th ANNUAL HEAVY HORSE SALE**

*At the East of England Showground, Peterborough  
In conjunction with the National Shire Horse Show  
FRIDAY 13th MARCH*

### **DISPERSAL SALE OF THE PAULTONS PARK ROMANY MUSEUM & DISPLAY**

*On site at Paultons Park, Romsey, Hampshire  
WEDNESDAY 18th MARCH*

### **THE MIDLANDS CARRIAGE SALE**

*Solihull Riding Club, West Midlands  
WEDNESDAY 1st JULY*

### **THE READING HORSE & SADDLERY SALES**

*On the first Friday of the month*

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