

Thimbleby & Shorland

SALE REPORT

THE READING CARRIAGE SALE – WEDNESDAY 5th NOVEMBER 2008

Events at the final Reading Carriage Sale of the year once again defied the most pessimistic reports of the current financial crisis. Although there was a faint air of caution around, driving enthusiasts were not going to be deterred and results in all sections of the sale were successful.

Once again, it was a wonderful gypsy wagon which claimed the top price spot in the sale. A superb quality Showman's Wagon, built by Vincents of Arbofield, Reading attracted a great deal of interest and was purchased by one of the leading authorities in this area for £11,500 (18). Although in need of repainting and some attention, the quality was there for all to see and a huge crowd gathered round to witness the bidding. Its companion wagon, from the same vendor, was a Ledge Wagon by Chapman of Tavistock which was purchased by client who had previously owned and decorated the wagon for £2,700 (19). Another ledge type wagon which was in need of full renovation sold for £1,200 (7).

Earlier in the sale, a superb and unusual Hauliers Trolley, from the South West, attracted good interest and sold to a collector of trade carriages for £2,950 (12). Sticking with the trade theme, a delightful small Bakers Hand Cart exceeded expectations and went to the US for £1,400 (20).

A pretty Stratford Cart in show condition went to a showing family for £1,250 (22), a Four-wheeled Ralli Car by Bligh & Son of Ramsgate, in need of refurbishment, was purchased by an Irish buyer for £1,350 (46), a Belgian Hearse made £1,050 (49), a Continental Phaeton of recent construction sold for £1,500 (51), a Warco Sporting Wagonette made £1,350 (58), a Wagonette for refurbishment also sold well over reserve at £1,100 (59), a Hovis Delivery Van to be painted and finished sold for £1,400 (64), a canvas hooded Landau for weddings sold for £2,400 (72), a Victoria also used for weddings made £1,400 (75), a large Wagonette by O'Neill of Dublin for refurbishment was sought after at £1,250 (82), a late entered Chair Back Gig by Woodbeer Perriton to suit a Shetland sold for £1,300 (88) and the penultimate carriage of the day, a late entered Dray went to Scotland for £1,350 (89).

One of the most spoken about lots of the day was the unusual Landau body which had been removed from a vintage car. It sold to the film industry for £1,250 (29) but the superb and large Brewster & Co. of New York lamps which had also been part of the outfit were hotly contested and finally went to a Dutch buyer for £2,200 (1075).

In the harness, demand as ever for good English made sets was strong. A set of Huskissons pair harness to fit cobs sold for £500 (143), a set of brown harness to fit a Welsh cob sold for £420 (150), a set of patent pair harness to fit horses made £910 (164), a set of good quality full size show harness sold for £1,600 (176), a set of pair harness sold for £500 (189), another Huskissons cob size pair set sold for £700 (194), as did a set of brown country type harness (196) and a set of Huskissons pony harness sold for £500 (200).

In the parts, shafts blanks were making up to £140 (271), a horse-drawn plough sold for £160 (281), a set of wheels made £140 (284), a pole and splinter bar sold for £110 (345), an adjustable hub cap spanner sold for £140 (353), a pair of well finished painted shafts made £410 (393), assorted Victorian stalls made £280 (397) and sets of spring hangers, bobbins and bolts sold for £130 (398) and £150 (405).

A side saddle pad sold for £170 (459), a coach horn by Shipley sold for £120 (480), a patent pony size pad sold for £100 (559), a crocodile skin suitcase made £270 (569), a set of painted team bars from a coach made £280 (597), a pair of small hearse lamps sold for £440 (600), an ivory handled carriage whip made £270 (602), a Malacca cane crop made £240 (612), a jointed team whip sold for £280 (616), a double top hat box made £220 (624), a black silk top hat made £280 (636), a leg o'mutton gun case sold for £200 (643), a coach horn in basket made £290 (652), another set of team bars sold for £340 (723), a coach horn by A Hayes made £210 (742), a pair of 'bolt on' brougham type lamps made £300 (783), a Swaine team whip made £220 (812), a fine gypsy angel lamp made £1,100 (854), a pair of ornate Victorian stirrups sold for £300 (866), a dealers whip by Holland made £360 (873), black silk top hats made £350 (1027), £360 (1034) and £430 (1063), and at the end of the section, a side saddle with its original safety stirrup sold for £440 (1086).

A pair of hunting prints after Cecil Aldin sold for £100 (1145) and five original colour prints after Aldin made £200 (1170). A Beswick grey Shire rocking horse sold for £380 (1222), a Beswick Dartmoor pony model made £75 (1258) and a pretty and original grey rocking horse sold for £180 (1262).

The next Reading sale is on Wednesday 4th March 2009 and entries are now being accepted. Please contact the auctioneers for an entry form, or download one from the web site.

For further information on the above sale or any future sales, please call 0118 950 8611 or email carriages@thimbleby-shorland.co.uk