

Thimbleby & Shorland

SALE REPORT

THE 34th ANNUAL SPRING HEAVY HORSE SALE - READING

In spite of a great deal of pessimism surrounding the popularity of heavy horses and all things related at the moment, Thimbleby and Shorland enjoyed a highly successful annual spring sale. The success was due in the main to two consignments – the Crum family collection of horse brasses and the dispersal of harness and accoutrements from a longstanding client who is retiring from driving.

The prospect of the Crum collection generated a massive pre sale buzz with avid brasses collectors thrilled to be able to see some of the finest examples ever made, and in nearly all areas of brass collecting. The collection was built up in the 1970s with the basis being part of the Malahar collection which appears in some of the famous brass publications. It was impossible to predict how well the brasses would sell but the final total was more than three times the pre sale valuation.

The top price of £620 went to a single award brass engraved *Much Hadham Horse Parade, 1904, Second Prize* (866). It was closely followed at £610 by the photographic royalty swinger showing George V which had appeared on the front cover of the catalogue (847). Other noteworthy results were £260 for a lead rein with studs of Queen Victoria's head (709), £240 for a breast strap with royalty brasses (727), £300 for a Edward VII diamond shaped royalty brass (755), £200 and £220 for two similar solid brasses marked *Ford Saddler Modbury* (780 & 780A), £400 for an Edward VII swinger (821), £270 for another photographic George V swinger (828), £360 for a nickel Victoria swinger (830), £410 for an early crescent brass marked *Wm. Peerless 1815* (862), £350 for a makers brass marked *A Smale, Merstham Surrey Est. 1831* (865), £210 for a flower centre brass marked *C G* (868), £210 for a triple crown hame plate marked *God Save The King* (873) and £230 for a 1911 royalty hame plate (878). From another consignor, an unusual brass marked *Cox Maker Aberkenfig* made £260 (916).

In the harness section, two sets which formed part of the dispersal sold particularly well. A very fine set of black/brass show harness sold for £3,300 (512) and a set of black/brass agricultural show harness made £3,000 (513). A late entered set of show harness made £1,500 (518). Two Ransomes match ploughs used by Jim Elliott made £600 (552) and £520 (553), a well painted Hauliers Dray sold for £1,950 (557), a horse-drawn disc harrow sold for £800 (564), an enclosed carriage trailer on Ifor Williams axles made £2,200 (567) and a new four-wheeled people carrying vehicle made £1,800 (568).

Trade in the sundry & accoutrements section was brisk all day. Steel back chains made £105 (15 & 339), £100 (130, 223-4) and £125 (340), a saddle sold for £160 (121), collars sold for £190 (132), £330 (241), £145 (283), £180 (296), £120 (309) and £310 (368) and a bridle sold for £155 (236). From the dispersal a pair of nosebags made £190 (1107), a pair of show bridles £320 (1129) and an agricultural show bridle £100 (1137). In the models section, a Beswick Shire made £60 (406).

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

The above prices do NOT include the 6% plus VAT Buyer's Premium. Full price lists for the sale are available from the Auctioneers.