

# THE READING SPRING CARRIAGE SALE

*The first Thimbleby & Shorland carriage sale of the year was combined with the heavy horse sale and this joint event proved very popular with buyers and sellers alike. The large crowd of buyers travelled from Europe, the USA and all over the UK to Reading Auction Centre on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> March. The carriage section had 19 heavy horse wagons and drays, four farm implements, 10 exercise carts, 56 six private driving carriages and two horsebox lorries in the sale. Over 85 per cent were sold on the day, which is an excellent clearance.*

## Carriages

Exercise vehicles were again in demand with a Hillam two-wheeler making £1,300; a Super Bantam Deluxe marathon vehicle made £460; a Hartland hdt vehicle went for £1,000; a Bennington Buccaneer sold for £620; a Polish competition vehicle to suit 13-14hh went for £2,000 and a Hartland pleasure/competition vehicle made £1,650.

There was a good demand for all types of gigs, with a spinner gig making £900; a basket weave gig by Lawrence of Dereham went for £1,450; a round back gig by William Kinross of Sterling sold for £2,500; a well-bottom gig by F Richards of Wednesbury made £900. An American well-bottom gig went for £800; a two-wheel dog cart by Lynn of Londonderry sold for £1,700 and governess cars went up to £500.

There was plenty of bidding for the good selection of four-wheelers on offer. Of particular interest was the semi-state postillion landau consigned by the late Bob Arnold. This carriage, built in Australia by Jim Frecklington, had previously been sold at the Reading Carriage sale in May 1989 and purchased by Mr Arnold. Having never been used, this carriage had been stored for the last 25 years in Dorset. At auction it was finally purchased for £8,000.

A brougham built by Derynter Gand in around 1890 attracted spirited bidding finally changing hands for £3,200 (32). The only hearse on offer made £1,800. Wagonettes sold to a top of £1,950 and a London trolley in primer made £1,100.

The Fewster family sold three miniature carts with a London trolley making £1,050 and a donkey cart £900. Their three-wheel hand milk cart made £1,180 and one from the Arnold family made £550.

## Sets of harness

A set of trade harness by Top Mark for a 14.2hh (156) went for £580; a set of harness to fit 13hh (208) sold for £510 and a set of miniature harness (211) with 14" collar sold for £700.

## Sundries

A pair of blank shafts (277) sold for £220 and a seat rail for a coach fetched £100 (389). Leather hat boxes fetched between £100 and £150. A carriage umbrella (741) made £160 and another (975) fetched £190. A tandem brass horn (774) in a wicker case fetched



Lot 67, a brougham, which went for £3,200.



The well-bottom gig by F Richards of Wednesbury, lot 82, sold for £900.



An American well-bottom gig fetched £800 (Lot 89).



The Lawrence of Dereham basket weave gig went for £1,450 (lot 49).

£140; another by Callow (792) for £480 and an original Butler coach horn by Haymarket (1350) fetched £400. A pair of brass hames (568) sold for £200; a brollar for £100; and a pair of 6" Liverpool bits by Abbey (1059) sold for £110.

**Collars:** A 26" leather collar fetched (617) £100; a red/black 22" trade collar with hames and tugs (637) made £300; a 24" working collar (669) fetched £120 and a 22" brown collar with hames made £200.

**Whips:** A holly whip (646) for £125; a whip by Swaine with an ivory handle (810) sold for £170; a tandem whip by Woodcock Hill by the late G Clothier (987) for £220 and another by the same maker for £320. A bow top whip went for £160 and two Holland whips (1272) fetched £950.

**Lamps:** a pair of gig lamps (715) fetched £140; a pair of nickel trimmed square lamps (716) fetched £360; a pair of lamps by Rippon Bros (717) made £450; a pair by J Hutton & Sons, Dublin (1201) fetched £300. A pair with engraved glazing (719) made £120; an interior lamp (747) made £110; a pair of hexagonal lamps (769) in excellent condition made £270; a pair with square fronts (1014) for £140 and a pair with oval fronts (1061) went for £130. A pair with pagoda tops (1221) made £290; two small pairs (1253/4) each fetched £150; and a larger pair by Holland and Holland (1227) sold for £820.

## Pictures, Models & Books

A couple of Cecil Aldin prints (1627/8) each made £90; a print by John Sturgess (1644) made £90; a pair of Cash's limited edition silk pictures (1651) made £80 and the highest price fetched was a print depicting a tandem and pair (1660) making £180.

A model of a furniture van, 'Steven's' (1753) reached £115. A larger than normal entry of model gypsy wagons reached prices between £38 - £90. Books were a bit slow, the highest achieved was £45 for *Coaching Days of England*.

*The next Reading Carriage Sale will be held on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> May; entries are now being accepted, deadline is the 31<sup>st</sup> March.*

*Please contact the auctioneers for an entry form, or download one from the website. For further information on the above sale or any future sales, please call 0118 950 8611 or email [info@tsauction.co.uk](mailto:info@tsauction.co.uk).*