



A Typical Rural Sports Event

## Aldbourne Rural Sports

“Aldbourne Revel,” as it used to be termed, was kept up on Sunday and Monday last. On Sunday there were family re-unions, and on Monday the village bore the aspect of a large fancy fair. There were two large steam roundabouts, swingboats, coconut alleys and stalls, and shooting galleries in abundance. The place was thronged with visitors, especially at night, when the Hungerford Town Band, under Bandmaster Vincent, played some good dance music for an hour or two. The rural sports were held this year (as last) at Liddington Warren, an open and healthy spot about three miles from Aldbourne. The weather was beautifully fine, and there were about 3,000 people present, a large number having come from Swindon, Hungerford, Marlborough, and Ramsbury. The course was lined with carriages of all descriptions. The course is a good one, and was kindly placed at the disposal of the committee by Mr. J. Shaw Helyer.

The stewards were Messrs. Hallick, Phelps, Woolcott, Chandler, Oakes, Wentworth, and Mouldry. The other officials were Mr. N. K. Wentworth (judge), Mr. J. F. Hallick (starter), Mr. Chas. Smith and Mr. B. J. Urch (secretaries), Mr. Urch and Mr. Chudleigh (clerks of the scales), Mr. C. Wentworth (treasurer), Mr. W. H. Smith (veterinary surgeon), Mr. W. Aldridge (handicapper), and Mr. J. Aldridge (clerk of the course). The chief results were as follows:-

- Foot Race, for boys under 14, 120 yards, confined to Aldbourne parish - A. Palmer
- Foot Race, 420 yards (open) handicap - W. Berry
- Foot Race, in heats, 120 yards (open) handicap - Final heat - G. Robinson
- Galloway Race, for ponies and galloways 14.2 and under (open) - Visitor
- Foot Race, half mile (open) handicap - H. Wilson
- Savernake Stag Hunt Plate, value 25 sovs., presented by Mr. N. Baring, of Littlecote, M.S.H., added to a sweepstake of one sov. each: for horses that have been regularly hunted with the Savernake Stag Hounds, &c. - Mrs. Wackertarth 1, Bess 2, Ladygrove 3.
- Foot Race, one mile (open) handicap - C. Procter. [It was, however, afterwards stated that a mistake had been made in the winner's name.]
- Open Galloway Race, for ponies and galloways 15 hands and under. - Mr. T. Pearce a Visitor.
- Pony Race (open), for ponies 13 hands and under. - This was well won by Mr. W. Palmer's Tommy.

- Foot Race, in heats, handicap - Final heat won by Hawkes.
- The Aldbourne Cup, value 8 guineas, for horses of any height. - Won by Mr. J. Phelps Kennett.
- Farm Labourers' Race (Aldbourne only), handicap. - R. Hawkins won.
- Consolation Race 0 Mr. A. Edward's True Blue
- Hurdle Race, 150 yards, J. Weldon

**Reading Mercury, Oxford Gazette, Newbury Herald & Berks County Paper, 3rd August 1895**