

BIRCHINGTON CARNIVAL – JUBILEE YEAR 1894

Prize Distribution by the “Mayor”

On Tuesday evening, at the “Powell Arms,” there was a large gathering of the Carnival supporters to witness the distribution of the prizes to the successful competitors. Among others present were Messrs. G. Basset (“Mayor”), J. Pemble (ex-“Mayor”), G. Pointer, G. Cousins, F. T. Adams, W. Foreman, T. Sayer, J. A. Johncock (secretary), T. Edwards, J. Setterfield, Victor Pemble, and J. Stone.

The prizes were distributed as follows; Best lantern-illuminated cycle and make-up, Miss Bates and Miss Keen being equal, were presented with 5s. each, given by Messrs. T. Edwards and G. Cousins. Miss May (Margate) took second (bicycle bag), and Miss E. Wood third (bicycle bell). For best make-up on horse - Master T. Wing, 10s. 6d., given by Mr. Histed; make-up on pony, Master B. Port, 5s., given by Mrs. Pemble, Shell House [Clovelly]. These were for November 5th.

The following were for November 9th: Best tableaux, Mr. J. A. Johncock, for car “Brittania,” 10s. 6d., given by the Mayor; consolation prize, 5s., Mr. Minter as “Robin Hood.” Best lantern-illuminated cycle, Mr. Jack Collard, lamp; second, Miss N. Owen, bicycle bag; third, Miss May, Margate, bell. Best make-up on horse, Mr. C. Mussared, Westgate, 10s. 6d., given by Messrs. Basset and W. Dengate; on pony, Master B. Port, 5s., given by Messrs. Knoll, Station Mews, and Mrs. Johncock. Best tableaux, Mr. J. A. Johncock, 10s. 6d., given by Messrs. T. Tapsel and J. Fright. Best trade representation, Mr. Jenkins, Margate, 10s. 6d., given by Mr. G. H. Pettman; second, Mr. H. Minter, Westgate, 5s., given by Mr. Thomas, London. Best equipped manual fire engine, Birchington Brigade, 30s, given by Messrs. Thomas, Rafferty, Morgan and Ackerman. Mr. G. Cousins supplemented the prizes to the cyclists by a capital photograph of themselves and cycles, which was greatly appreciated.

The “Mayor,” at the close of the distribution, said that, though the carnivals this year had doubled those of previous ones, he hoped that in succeeding years they would be increasingly successful.

Mr. J. Pemble said he felt somewhat out of place that evening, as he had taken so small a part in the Carnival. Still, it gave him very great pleasure to be present to see the prizes given away. The success of the show was due to the energetic committee, and he hoped that those who had won prizes would value them, and those who had not would try and secure them another year. It was no good to be disheartened, but let them throw their heart and soul into the work and try to do better (applause). It gave them all pleasure to see the “Mayor” in the chair, and he was sure he would do all in his power to carry out any duties that might devolve on him, and he proposed his health.

Mr. G. Pointer said when he was asked to make a speech on the 9th he agreed on the understanding that there should be no personalities, and he was glad to say the agreement was adhered to. He was glad to see the interest taken by the inhabitants in the carnival. It was the best show they had had **during the past 25 years**. They were indebted to the committee, and especially to the secretary, Mr. J. A. Johncock, who was very energetic in all he undertook. The carnival deserved the praise it got in Birchington and the applause of the Isle of Thanet.

The “Mayor” responded and said he thanked them for the cordial way in which his health had been drunk. He was pleased to meet them and would be glad if he could render them any service.

Mr F. T. Adams said he thought great praise was due to the police and especially the mounted men.

Mr. J. A. Johncock proposed the health of Mr. G. Cousins with thanks for the interest he had taken in the carnivals and also for the photographs he had so kindly presented to the cyclist winners.

Mr. G. Cousins thanked them for their kind recognition of his services. He thought they could congratulate themselves on a show which was a credit to the Isle of Thanet. He was induced by Mr. Johncock to get up the cycle part of the show and he was glad to say their success had been well conducted and there had been no case of drunkenness, in fact they might congratulate themselves on a perfect success. As long as they pleased he would be glad to work with them. Another year he should like to see more illumination in the Square.

Mr. J. Pemble observed that he had four gas burners full on in his shop and put them as far out into the street as possible and thought others in the Square might do something of the sort another year. He would like to say a few words about one man who was very popular among them. In all undertakings it was necessary to have a good secretary, and in the Carnival they had a most energetic one in Mr. Johncock (applause). In concerts or any undertaking Mr. Johncock was always ready to work. Both the carnivals had been a wonderful success and not only a credit to Birchington but to the Isle of Thanet.

Mr. J. A. Johncock thanked them for their kindness, but could not take the credit as it was due to the Committee, who had worked well together. His motto was "We delight to please" and when he took a thing in hand he always tried to bring it to a successful issue (applause).

Mr. G. Pointer proposed the health of Mr. J. Knell, the President, who in reply said the proceedings in Committee had been gone through without one misword, and it was a pleasure to be present at such nice meetings. He hoped to see the carnivals carried on for years to come.