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RESULTS OF CHORLEY'S SALE THURSDAY 6TH OCTOBER 2011

Chorley's sale on Thursday 6th October was dominated by three collections all of which were sourced from the local Gloucestershire area and which drew a number of new buyers to the Prinknash salerooms.

Property from the collection of the late **Melville Watts OBE JP** drew strong interest from the Forest of Dean where he was well known not only for his tireless fundraising but also for his keen interest in forest affairs including mining and commoning. He was an active buyer at auction having attended many of Bruton Knowles sales in the latter half of the 20th Century. Some of his old purchases, still bearing their original lot numbers, were offered again with notable successes. Lot 125 a copy of Atkyn's Gloucestershire, that perennial auction room favourite, knocked down at £2,000 while a rather battered copy of Camden's Britannia, Lot 149 realised £1,000. His collection of pistols and revolvers also saw strong interest with good prices for Lot 564, a pair of percussion cap pistols the side plates engraved 'Holland, Cirencester' reaching £580 and a flintlock pistol by H W Mortimer & Co, Lot 568, leading the section at £1,400. Melville Watts' diverse interests meant that many categories of object were included in the sale. A group of early bottles including one of onion shape caught the eye of some keen collectors and realised £750 blowing away its pre-sale estimate of £180-220. Lot 476, a wool wedding dress of the 1880s also left its estimate behind knocking down for £350.

The collection of **Alan Underwood** was almost entirely centred on his vast collection of the works of Rudyard Kipling, with whom he had a lifelong obsession. Not only was he a life member of the Kipling Society as well as a respected contributor to the Kipling Journal over many years. Entirely modest about his collection he once said '*When I die the American universities will not be competing for*



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Lot 125 sold for £2,000



Lot 568 sold for £1,400



Lot 564, one of a pair
sold for £580
Side plates are engraved
"Holland, Cirencester"

my Kipling Collection'. He might have been gratified to know that one telephone bidder was based in the US and that his collection exceeded pre-sale estimates by some margin. Highlights included £950 for the '*Burwash Edition*' of Kipling's works (Lot 3) while a collection of speeches and articles in pamphlet form, Lot 90, reached £1,000.

The third major collection comprised musical instruments, mainly brass, which had been used by the now disbanded Royal Gloucestershire Hussars band. The saleroom was alive with the sound of music as an array of timpanists, trumpeters and flautists tried out the lots during the pre-sale view. Many viewers commented that the instruments were of good quality but more importantly they had been well maintained. The resulting prices were certainly pleasing with Lot 433, a 'Sovereign' trombone by Besson for Boosey & Hawkes reaching £480, a 'Sovereign' tuba by the same maker (Lot 439) reaching £1,200 and a pair of timpani hitting £850.

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For press information or jpeg images please contact Iona Sale, IONA PR, on 01451 832 268, 07721 030 825 or iona@ionapr.com

Chorley's next sale is a two-day sale on Thursday 10th and Friday 11th November 2011.