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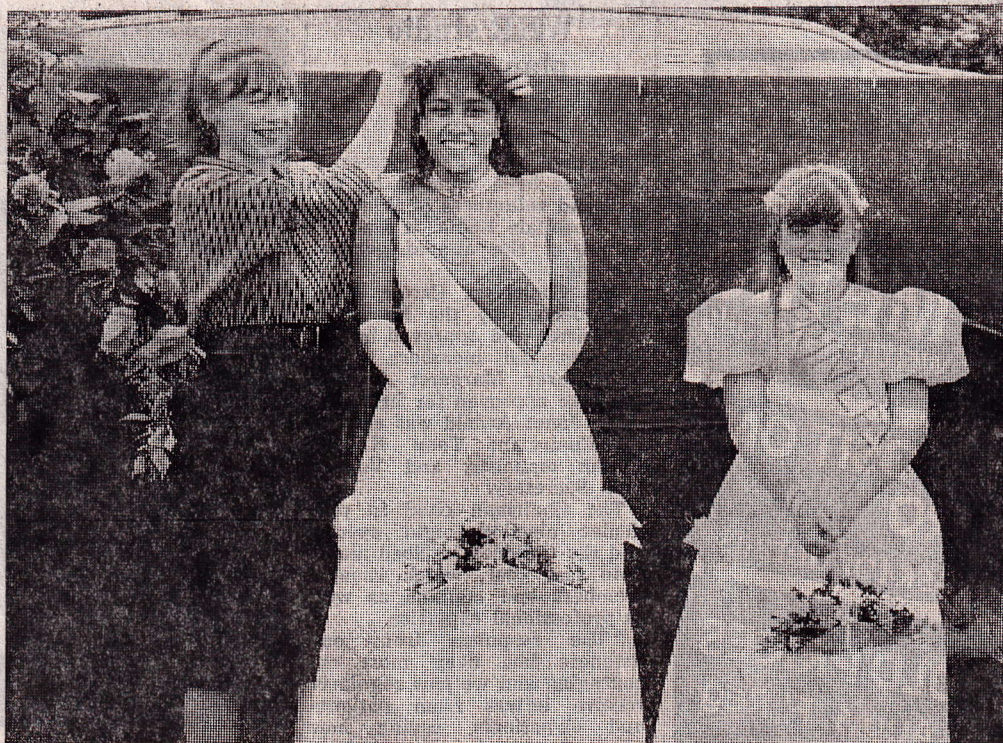
BROUGHTON FAIR A WINNER WITH VILLAGERS

A cold grey Spring Bank Holiday was turned into a blaze of colour for Broughton's May Fair.

The procession to the sports field was led by the 1st Wessex Band of the Hampshire and Dorset Territorial Army, followed by the Broughton Peacock Baton Twirlers. Behind them danced the Broughton Maypole Dancers, while a white limousin decked with flowers carried the village Queen and Princess, 19-year-old Maria Barnes and 10-year-old Karen Jayne, while bringing up the rear were the contestants in the Fancy Dress competition.

Also in the procession was 11-year-old Shaun Beale, holding a broom and carried on a hurdle by four strong young men. This was a revival of an old village custom, in which a boy must sweep the doorsteps of newcomers to Broughton to bring them good luck. The new landlord of "The Greyhound" is assured of plenty of that, as his doorstep was well brushed by young Shaun.

Another old custom was re-enacted at the church, as the procession stopped for a short ceremony to renew the right to hold the fair—a privilege forfeited in the 19th century because of rowdy behaviour by the villagers.



As pretty as a picture. Last year's Broughton Fair Carnival Queen, Kim Everett, crowns this year's Queen, Maria Barnes, with Karen Payne as Princess

At the sports field, Maria was crowned by last year's Queen, Kim Everitt, and after opening the fair, a traditional garland dance was performed in her honour. There was then a lively display by the Baton Twirlers, and even an unkind shower did not dampen their spirits.

Later in the arena, there was Maypole dancing by the children of Broughton Primary School dressed in Victorian costumes. They were followed by the older girls of the Broughton Maypole Dancers, who performed two of the many dances they will be displaying in August at the Sidmouth Inter-

national Folk Festival. Music was provided by the Complete Tanglers band.

The events were completed by a demonstration from the Broughton branch of the Riding for the Disabled Association. Pupils from the Greenacres School in Winchester and their ponies showed an appreciative audience the kind of fun the youngsters have in their weekly sessions in the village.

There were many stalls, side-shows and games, and the Queen and Princess awarded the prize for the best of these to the Drama Group's Fishing Grotto. Also creating a lot of attention was the Craft Tent. Inside, local craftspeople demonstrated their arts.

The sports events aroused the usual keen competition, and the Broughton Mile was won for the second year running by local sportsman, Keith Edwards. The Gingerbread Cook of the Fair was Mrs. Gwen Hatcher and the Home Brew prize was won by Mr. Michael Brown. The best Gingerbread Men were baked by Isobel Gammer and Darren Hewlett. In the Fancy Dress Competition, under fives Katy Waller (Mary Mary) was first; five to sevens' winner was Nicholas Gammer (Robot B3E3) and first prize in the eight-11's went to Amy Gleadow (Usherette).

The Fair was organised by the Broughton General Fund and profits will go towards providing new equipment for the children's playground.



Give us a whirl! Majorettes and the pom pom troop march through Broughton during the village's annual fair