

QUORN CROSS-COUNTRY

THE Coakham Bloodhounds had a great day at the Quorn Cross-country team event on Easter Sunday, carrying off the major trophies in both classes. Bright sunshine brought a good crowd to Muxlow Hill for the contests over a 2½-mile course with 24 fences.

The inviting course for the Vale of Belvoir Cup attracted a field of 27 teams, and David Robinson and his Coakham Bloodhounds team from Sussex took the lead established by the Westminster Wanderers by a margin 12.1sec. The Meynell Farmers did well to finish third with a time of 5min 1.5sec.

Course-builder Mr. Barrie Coleman set some problems considerably stiffer than normally encountered when crossing the Muxlow Hill grass and fences, in the Quorn Trophy.

None of the first teams to go completed the course, but the Tory Party blazed the way in a time of 5min 59sec., which seemed hard to beat. All credit therefore to David Robinson and a second Coakham Bloodhounds team, which bettered it by just .6 of a second.

Mr. Robert Barber for the sponsors,

Wytrac Elevators, presented the Vale of Belvoir Cup, trophy and prizes worth £500; and Mr. Victor Lownes, chairman and managing director of Playboy, presented the Quorn Midland Championship and £1,600 prizes.

Despite a fractured lower leg encased in plaster, due to a previous cross-country accident, Mr. Lownes gallantly rode with his Bunny Hoppers team to finish in 5min 53.2sec.

Capt. Fred Barker, Quorn Joint-Master, presented prints of Neil Cawthorne's painting of the Prince of Wales to our hosts at Muxlow Hill, Dr. Tom Connors, Mr. R. Chaplain and Mr. F. Marriott.

Part of the proceeds of the event are going to the Vale of Belvoir defence campaign.

Results: Vale of Belvoir Cup. — 1, Coakham Bloodhounds "B" (David Robinson, George Goring, John Wales, Ann Todd), 4min 41sec; 2, Westminster Wanderers (Stephen Hastings, Noel Carding, Christopher Sporborg, Steve Taylor), 4-53.1; 3, Meynell Farmers (Robert Hilderly, Philip Powell, Kevin Gilnour, Grianes Barlow), 5-01.5; Heavyweight prize, John Wales.

Quorn Midland Championship. — 1, Coakham Bloodhounds "A" (David Robinson, George Goring, Bob Baskerville, Mike Roberts), 5-58.4; 2, Tory Party (Lord and Lady Oaksey, Ernie Fenwick, Michael Bell), 5-59; 3, Whitwick Warriors (Derry Connors, Derek Blore, Robert Morley, Rachel Fowler) 5-59.7; Heavyweight, David Robinson. FOXFORD



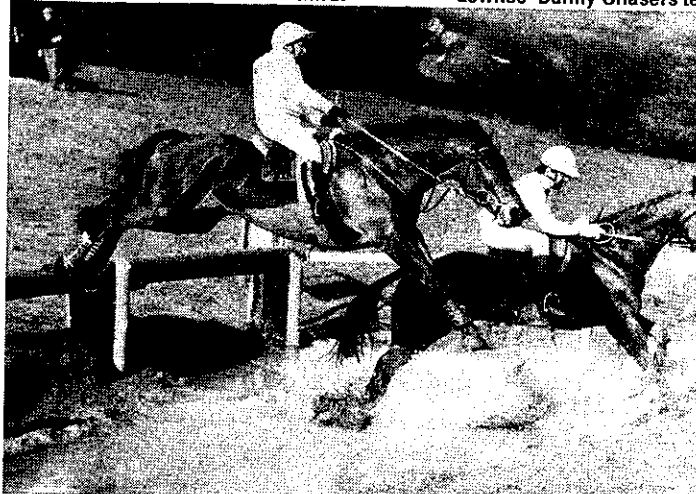
Above: the two winning Coakham Bloodhounds teams with their trophy supporters. On left: Karen Sarson, riding with the Warwickshire Fillies team, crossing a hedge-with-drop fence that caused so many of the day's falls.



Derry Connors, one of the Whitwick Warriors team that finished third.



Alicia Strangman riding with Mr. Lownes' Bunny Chasers team.



Cairi Dyson and Mark Lucy in company: two of the Bright Sparks team.

