

## Clitheroe Advertiser Feature Article

Hodder Valley Show - Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> September – Dunsop Bridge

The team or organisers who worked tirelessly in the coming months, weeks and days to stage the 67<sup>th</sup> Hodder Valley Show in Dunsop Bridge have once again put on an excellent day out for all the visitors.

The weather especially the relentless rainfall in the past week made conditions difficult for the organisers. The decision was taken on Tuesday to continue with the show and not to cancel the event and from Tuesday until lunchtime on Friday the rain fell. Luckily the rain did ease up and conditions on the field improved in a short time. With the exception of two short and very heavy showers during the afternoon the atmosphere on the show ground was upbeat with a real sense of community spirit with many visitors from not only the Hodder Valley but the Ribblesdale valley and far beyond visiting our show set in such an idyllic setting.

All sections saw a good turnout of exhibitors young, old, new and supporters for many years and all judges commented on the high standard of exhibits. The Agriculture Section a show case for both the cattle and sheep sections, Heavy Horse, Children's Section and horticultural sections showed off the talents of our exhibitors.

The Craft Stalls offered a huge variety of beautiful jewellery, handmade soaps and cards as well as knitted garments and artwork, alongside our food hall bursting with delicious local produce and many trade stands in attendance with a wide variety of equipment, services and produce.

Supported by Bowland Fell Runners Club we hosted a very successful Fell Race with runners coming from all over the North West to test their skills up and down our very rugged, beautiful but extremely boggy route.

Sheep also featured in both the Sheep Shearing Display, with all the local young shearers showing off their skills and making shearing look easy, with competitions and explanations of how it is all done. The Sheep Dogs Trials also prove very popular with the Sheep Dogs and Handlers never failing to impress with their incredible skills.

Throughout the day the main ring had plenty of entertainment to keep the crowds entertained including local lad Matthew Alpe and friend Ben Butterworth in the Inch Perfect Trials Display Team. The team launched their display at last year's show wowing the crowds but this year was just much improved including their skill, control, incredible jumps and leaps providing exhilarating action and quality. The team even had our very own Committee member Tom Well lying on the floor and they jumped over him. A display of Cueden Birds of Prey run by Richard and his wife Carley showed off the ultimate in bird handling experiences and demonstrations along with a Rottweiler Dog Display, vintage tractors and the Tug O War.

President of the 2011 show Mr Turner Robinson said he had thoroughly enjoyed the day, talking to his guests, exhibitors and visitors

Julie Bennett on behalf of the Directors and Committee members expressed a huge thank you to all those who have helped in any way to make Hodder Valley Show one of the best yet without the support of our sponsors, exhibitors, organisations with tradestands and team of volunteers the show would not exist.