



**COBTAIL HACKNEY PONIES** line up for the judge at Saturday's Fair. Winner of the second was Matt McDougal of Erin.

## Tractor pull draws crowd

The tractor pull Sunday afternoon drew a large crowd, filling bleachers on both sides of the track. The event was organized by the Acton Junior Farmers with prize money of \$40 for first, \$30 for second, \$20 third and \$15 fourth donated by the Acton fair board.

Winners are:

5,000 to 7,000 lb. class: 1. Earl McLean, Erin, driving a John Deere; 2. Manfred Pietsch, Rockwood, driving a John Deere; 3. Jim Larose; 4. Jerry Buchanan, Acton, driving a Massey.

7,000 to 9,000 lb. class: 1. John Reid, Milton, driving an Allis-Chalmers; 2. Jim Coles, Acton, driving an Allis-

Chalmers; 3. Manfred Pietsch, Rockwood, driving a John Deere; 4. Steve Spitzer, Acton, driving Frank Anthony's Allis-Chalmers.

9,000 to 12,000 lb. class: 1. Bill Frazer, Erin, driving Ed Stewart's Case; 2. Steve Saunders, Erin, driving Earl McLean's Case; 3. Bill Nellis, Acton, driving a John Deere; 4. John Reid, Milton, driving an Allis-Chalmers.

Over 12,000 lb. class, Bart Gibson driving the Acton Flour Mills Massey Ferguson; Fred Anthony, Limehouse, driving an Allis-Chalmers; Bill Stewart, Erin, driving Ed Stewart's Case; Earl McLean, Erin, driving a Case.

## Osprige

### Toad trouble is hampering cutting

By Doris Flies

The Osprige Cubs have begun this season's schedule, having had their first meeting last Wednesday. The Brownies registration meeting is Thursday of this week. Both groups meet in the school auditorium.

Our toad friends, I see, are increasing, having sighted a variety of sizes and shapes around the yard. They are welcome to hop around, considering they consume a number of flies in their diet. Flies are one thing I can do without.

Our huge warty amphibian greets me at the garage door whenever I come home after dark. I shudder to think of the consequences if he got in the way of the car wheels.

There is a black fellow lives under a board behind the house. When I lift the board to mow the lawn he flattens himself into the ground while I mow around him. Is he such a trusting soul, or just scared to death.

Toad children, I find, are like human children in one respect. They can be good or they can be ornery, as the mood hits them. While mowing the lawn I run over two half grown ones, but being of small stature, they come out unscathed. I carried them to the flower bed, well out of harm's way. One stayed put.

but the other as soon as my back was turned, came hopping after me. Twice more I returned him to the flower bed, and in desperation shook my finger in front of his face. "Now you stay there or I'll run over you and chop you to pieces." He nary blinked an eye, but could it be some ominous message penetrated his horny brain, for there he sat, his nose sticking out from behind a leaf, which he hastily withdrew whenever I approached to check on his whereabouts.

I finally succeeded in moving the lawn without mangling some poor innocent creature.

## Friends-In-Deed

By Mrs. Emily Price

Another Fall Fair weekend is over and despite the inclement weather on Friday and Saturday morning, we did get a float in the parade. It was so nice to see the rain stop and sun shine to make it a beautiful afternoon and an enjoyable one for everyone attending. It was also nice to see old friends and acquaintances.

"We would like to thank each and everyone who came out and did so much work and arranging for flowers etc. for our float. All of you did a great job and our thanks go to Blue Springs Nurseries, Caroline Nurseries, Eramosa Flower Mart and Robertson's Flowers for their donations. We appreciated them very much.

Our next outing will be to the McMichael Gallery in Kleinburg on September 28. Let's hope the weatherman will co-operate and we have a good day for it.

The next monthly meeting, our first for the winter season, will be on Tuesday, September 28 at the firehall. We would be very happy to see new members and volunteer helpers come out and join us to help us to help others. We will be having a barbecue to start off our busy season.



**Sideroad 5**  
with Jennifer Barr

What a Fair! What a glorious Fair! Another smashing success for the Acton Fall Fair committee.

I haven't seen any of the official records for attendance, exhibitors, or money taken in, all I'm going on are the happy faces in the crowd and the horse shows (my stomping grounds for two days).

Somebody upstairs spoke to the weather man who suddenly realized about 10 a.m. Saturday morning that the Acton Fall Fair was on and he'd better turn off all this rain. Could we have had two more beautiful days?

Pony classes success

The horse shows were as good as usual. The word had gone around in the last couple of years and competitors come from long distances for the Acton horse events. The hunter pony classes were lighter than expected on Saturday morning, maybe due to the forbidding skies early in the morning. However, after all the work the show committee went to last year to inaugurate this English pony section, it's hoped the competition will be heavier next year.

The special pony classes in the afternoon attracted masses of kids and ponies. There was some confusion about eligibility for these classes. The program was less than clear to say the least, and even my own understanding after conversation with organizers was confused. However, apparently, only those youngsters who had not entered the early pony hunter classes could go in the afternoon classes and games. Hope this is better explained for next year.

The poor judge! The first class of the afternoon was an open walk and trot class for under thirteens. The judge walked into that ring to face nearly 30 enthusiastic children on every conceivable shape of pony. There was every kind of equestrian from the well turned out English riders on polite braided ponies, to neat attractive western riders on schooled ponies; wee miles riding saddle pads on plump Shetlands; to untidy kids with flowing hair, jeans and running shoes; saddle suited kids riding high-stepping unmanageable snorting show ponies. The judge seemed very diplomatic in his selections and gave ribbons to every type.

Draft horses went elsewhere

Spending much of the afternoon galloping from ring to track and back again (it was worse on Sunday with TWO rings going and the track), I managed to spend considerable time at the classic fair events. Harness, Welsh and Shetland ponies seemed in good evidence with many high quality animals showing. Harness and Roadster classes were quite well-filled, mostly with old standbys who exhibit every year.

The roadster classes are very exciting. It's a pity the tracks weren't wider, though I understand it's a project for the future. The trotting horses don't have room to execute a proper turn and so never get up to a good fast road gait.

Draft horses were a terrible disappointment, especially to this fancier. Only one exhibitor showed up, faithful Russel Teple from Paisley, bringing his six horse hitch of beautifully matched roan Clydes. With so many fairs on this past weekend they probably went where there was more money—what a shame.

Horse pull

However, spectators got their fill of the gentle giants on Sunday when a record of 12 teams showed for the horse pull. Gone were the scabby galled bush teams of most fall fair



**COSTUMED WEDDING COUPLE**, Bill Wilcox of Hornby and Christine Chadwick of Sutton enjoy a buggy ride.

pulls. In their place were fine heavy teams of well-turned out horses in shiny show harness with drivers who really knew their business.

Apparently, these teams were on the road travelling the fall fair circuit and Acton seemed to fit into the schedule this year, to the delight of organizers and spectators.

Most of the teams were gorgeous Belgians and quite half of them I'd met at the international pull. So we had some really good horses on the track.

Western, English

The Sunday horse classes in both the Western and English ring, were as full and as good as ever. The English jumper and hunter classes attract some of the best in Ontario. The quality of horse and rider for these events is consistent and it even gets boring watching the same beautiful rounds all afternoon.

One break in the monotony was provided by a little girl from Galt who competed on a lovely large Thoroughbred amongst some of the most professional adult riders in the area, even though she was only eight years old!

What a surprise to see this tiny girl perched on her big friend wearing a coat with the shoulders down to her elbows and boots up to her thighs, riding with all the poise and aplomb of a cavalry sergeant. Even when her big horse decided to race the other 20 or so hunters round the ring at a very fast canter, throwing a few light hearted bucks, she never turned a hair, but sat him like a soldier quietly bringing him back.

The Western ring was better than TV with pickup races, trail classes, and barrel racing. The western pleasure had a great lineup of 27 horses, all looking good.

Trail obstacles weren't as exciting as last year but the horses appreciated them better.

Congratulations are due the organizers who labour under the most frustrating conditions and get nothing but hassles out of it. With another terrific horse show under its belt, the Acton Fall Fair committee can collapse in a heap safe in the knowledge of a job well done.

I can't wait for next year!

## \$4,000 damage

About \$4,000 damage occurred in an accident between a Milton man and an Acton woman on Highway 25 just south of the 15 Sideroad Friday, Sept. 10 according to the Milton OPP.

David Roberts, 30, of 318 Laurier Ave., Milton was driving his 1975 Ford north on Highway 25 at 8:45 a.m. while Jane Gillies, 25, of 62 Kingham Rd., Acton, was approaching from the north in her 1970 Ford.

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## Baptism at St. Alban's

At a service of Holy Baptism at St. Alban's Church on Sunday, September 19, five new brothers and sisters were welcomed into the parish family.

Melanie Dorothy, daughter of John and Heather Ackers; Deanna Lynn, daughter of Claude and Linda Guignard; Marie Elizabeth, daughter of Robert and Bente Price; Ryan Richard, son of Richard and Jayne Telford; and Paul Antony, son of David and Yvonne Hines.

The service was conducted by the Rev. L. Ewing.

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