



## The Auction

Mike Harrison writes

On Saturday 21st March the Club held an auction of genuine historic painted ware, narrow boat equipment, boatyard tools and chandlery as advertised in the newsletter 2015/1. This large collection had been built up by the vendor over many years of running a boatyard. The Club had been asked to organise the sale and were offered a percentage of the takings.

This had involved a lot of work by members of your committee beforehand sorting and photographing the items and compiling the catalogue. Then on the day before the sale the 200 lots were collected and transported to Weston Village Hall, largely by a committee member with one of his company's trucks, which he'd brought up from Gloucester.

Protection was laid on the floor and the work of numbering the lots and arranging them in order around the hall then commenced, taking all afternoon. Much research had been undertaken to sort out the payment method and on the day this worked well. Committee member's boats were tied in the arm at Weston Wharf and all were revived by an excellent meal in *The Woolpack*. We were ready.

Viewing on the day commenced at 10.00 am, and the potential bidders arrived in good numbers and were registered and given a bidding number. Much tea and coffee was consumed. Bidding was brisk and the 200 lots were sold, except for a couple of items which didn't reach the



**The tables were ranged along both sides of the large room at Weston village hall.**

reserve. Many members went away with a lot of treasures!

Both your committee and the vendors were pleased with the outcome and it was deemed a successful day all round. Many of the committee had worked very hard on this event, but the result was very satisfying.

The percentage of the takings given by the vendor has provided a useful boost to Club funds. There is even talk of another sale sometime now that we have the experience. Once we have all recovered!



Photos: Mike Harrison

**The auctioneer and support staff**