East Anglian Card Collectors Club

Newsletter No. 533 **Saturday 21st January 2017**

After a six week break, I expected a good turnout this meeting after all withdrawal symptoms does set in for all collectors. We were all keen to get stuck in and looking for those elusive odds. This meeting marked the start of our 9th year at Roydon Village Hall.

It was a careful drive after a very frosty night but it passed smoothly. The main topic of discussion in the car was of Mr. Trump and his success, how will he effect the world after all his promises. I don't think he will influence the world of card collecting so we should be safe for another year.

We had a full house of dealers with Messrs Shaw and Heard in their usual positions, Peter Beer was on his lonesome, his 'partner in crime' not feeling too well. We will have to bow our heads in supplication soon to Peter, I hear he is line to become Chairman of Suffolk County Council (rather him than me!!). I hope he will still be with us most month's and not get caught up in political shenanigans. Martin Toms was in his usual place and had members queueing up to do wheeling and dealing with him. He loves a good haggle. I was surprised to see Roger Mann and his lovely wife in the centre of the hall (it was fleamarket day in Kings Lynn Corn Exchange) and he regularly deals there. Everyone was very welcome. I have a full house of dealers for most months this year including the return of three past regulars, Mike Prior, Mike Towersley and Peter Russell.

Amongst the members it was nice to see Graham Convey back with us after his operation and eagerly seeking out those elusive Gum cards. There seems to be lots to report this month on members: I have been to see Ted and Margaret Wareham over the Christmas period, he has sent us some lovely cards for a future auction, He is making steady and slow progress and is about to venture out to Sheringham for the first time since his operation early last year, hope he dresses up warm, it's bitter cold outside at the moment. Tony and Beryl Page showed me a Christmas card they had from John Knowles, first news of him since he left EACCC over 10 years ago. He still remembers his time at Diss.

Sorry to report to members the death of our good friend Derrick Lugo, a regular attendee, who missed very few meetings. He has been travelling in with Alan for the past year or two. He was 92 years young and lived near Woodbridge, his favourite cards were 'bird' themed and I understand he has an extensive collection. He died of a heart attack after a fall at his home a couple of days before Christmas. Chairman Les, Alan, Tony and Beryl Page attended his funeral on behalf of the club. I liked Derrick, a quiet unassuming man who loved the club and once told me, it was the highlight of each month for him.

We welcomed a new member this month, Mark Riches from Lowestoft, I hope he enjoys many years with us. I have also heard from Lloyd Woolner who is about to go into hospital to undergo surgery and will be missing for about three months. I hope everything goes well for you Lloyd and for every other member who is under the weather. I had a

Christmas card from Vera Summers who wished to be remembered to all the members, she has been poorly a lot this past year but is well recovered now. I know she reads the newsletter every month to keep in touch and I hope she will pop in to see us sometime this year. I'm sure the winter weather effect's who attends the club these cold days and a few regulars were missing. The Sussex boys had car problems but rang in some telephone bids but 49 members, 6 dealers and 4 visitors kept Doreen busy all morning. The visitors were from Burton on Trent, Lincoln and London. I had a chat with the London guy, his name was Steve England, he told me he has been looking to visit us for several months, he is a member of the London branch and was very impressed with our set up and the welcome he has received.

Other news ….. the Christmas Raffle raised over £300 for the Elizabeth Hospice and Alan and Les will be presenting the cheque to them some time in the future. I hope they will take a photo for me to include in the newsletter …….. those members of ours who also enjoy Cartophilic Society membership will have seen the latest edition of Card World and the lovely write up they have done on our club. I always send Nick Oldham (the editor) a copy of our newsletter so he can use it as a space filler but he did better than that in the January/February edition and wrote a lovely report on our December meeting….. don't forget this year's convention is at Stratford upon Avon on the last weekend in April, more details in the next few newsletters….. Dave Scuffham and I had a day out just before Christmas to our nearest neighbouring club, Lea Valley. A nice day out it was as well, several of our members also go there ….. as our April meeting falls this year on Easter Saturday, we plan to have a Easter Egg raffle for club funds, watch this space for more news.

The morning passed quickly as it always does, and Alan, Anne, Albert and I were ready to begin the auction slightly early for once. We were soon in the swing and with 32 eager buyers, we soon found new homes for the majority of the 250 lots. It is sometimes very difficult to keep your concentration for the duration of the auction and Alan does a great job keeping it moving. There is often a lot of peripheral noise in the hall which echoes all sounds and we would appreciate it if members could bear that in mind during the auction. I know one or two members are hard of hearing and often miss lots because of the noise. It was one of our better auctions this month with the 250 lots making a total of £2981 for the 4 vendors. The breakdown was 15 postal bidders spent £1138, whilst 20 in house bidders spent £1843, only 34 remained unsold. Top spot went early to Lot 36 a lovely set of Copes Dickens Gallery (back listed) for £180.

It is only four weeks before we do it again **-- Saturday 18th February 2017 --**
same time – same place.

Dealers booked in are Mike Heard, Roger Mann, Peter Beer, Martin Toms, Peter Workman, John Haddon Silver Ken Courtney and Mike Prior (making a very welcome return)

Subscriptions are due in April so we will start collecting them in February, great value at only £6.00 a year.

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