

East Anglian Card Collectors Club

Newsletter No. 539

Saturday 15th July 2017

It was a lovely day for our monthly day out to the card capital of Norfolk (and Suffolk) and although it rained later, who cares when you're in card world. There was a lot happening this month and with much to sort out and plans to be made, there wasn't much time for card searching (the fact I forgot my odds books is totally irrelevant to the cause).

Although Roger Mann had to drop out for family reasons, we had a strong turnout of dealers, all of whom were kept busy most of the morning. Nice to welcome Geoff McMillan this month all the way from Melton Mowbray also Pete Workman and his able assistant Phil. The rumour that Pete has big albums because it gives him somewhere to hide is definitely not true, he just has a large stock. John Haddon Silver was with us (sorry I missed you off the list last month) and even Charlie and Brian were raking in the cash and even selling some with their ecerlectic mixture of cards and other collectable ephemera. I was asked several times about Martin Toms (you really are missed). I spoke to him at Reading recently and although he wants to come every month to see us, he has health problems with his feet and finds driving long distances difficult. It takes him over 2 hours to drive to Roydon. He is going to let me know when things improve and he can re-join us.

There was, once again, a good turnout of members with the final number at 62; the early birds were all busy scouring the albums for that elusive card that will complete that set. I bought about 20 albums of odds to sell and put them on the members table along with 40+ used albums. Many members were busy looking through them for the bargains that were available; I sold all the albums and well over £100 worth of cards. More will be available next month so get there early and get looking.

Les and I had a future planning meeting (as we always do at this time of year) and among the topics discussed were Christmas meeting = the last two years have been very successful and we think it is best to continue with a winning formula – so a 'Christmas themed' buffet, a small 100/150 lot auction, 2 dealers, and a bumper Charity raffle. Suggested recipients this year are Prostrate Cancer or McMillan Nurses. Which do you prefer? We also discussed our input into next year's Convention in Kings Lynn, when we will be joint hosts with the Boston club. It is a great opportunity for us as a club to raise the profile of card collecting and hopefully boost our membership. We all know there are millions of cards stored away and forgotten in people's attics waiting to be sold or developed into a collection.

I gather from a member that some telephone numbers are wrong in the Membership list that has recently been completed. Please check your number and let me know if it is incorrect. I spent a great deal of the morning sorting out our new cupboard and although I nearly completed the exercise it should be done next month. My car was so full this month I couldn't get all the stock in.

We are going to experiment with a change in the hall set up next month, the club table is coming down into the main hall – behind the welcome desk and a dealer will go on the stage.

Alan and I have picked up the 200 album collection from Coventry and are busy sorting it out. Unfortunately it lacks quality rare cards but has quantity so prepare yourselves for huge boxes of Odds that will appear in the next few auctions. Although we prefer quality and rare we have to sell what we are given. The good news in this aspect is one of our members has decided to sell his collection and there are some nice cards with in it. Alan has enough for November so will be starting on December very soon. The promise of a large number of Silks for our auction will become a reality early next year, probably March now. Unfortunately we seemed to have gained a reputation for selling cards in the auction to cheaply so some people who want to sell seem to think they will sell better elsewhere. Good Luck to them (my bet is they will probably sell for a little more but they will pay far more in commission). Remember ours is still only 10%. Quality Rare cards will sell at a good price in our auction; we all have the commoner cards particularly those produced by Players, Wills and Gallaher. If we had new collectors (members) then that might change.

Thirty six members were present at auction time and a few minutes past the scheduled time, Alan was in full swing and finding homes for the 250 lots. Final figures were rather disappointing really but nevertheless were: the 250 lots sold for £1364. There were 17 in house successful bidders spending £858, a further 14 postal bidders were successful spending £507. There were 12 vendors and only 54 lots remained unsold. The top slot this month was Lot 85 a nice set of 1958 A&BC Footballers without planet, which was knocked down for £60.

It is five weeks to our next meet and the next opportunity to look with fervour for those missing cards.

== Saturday 19th August 2017 ==

Most clubs usually close in August but for us it is usually one of our more busy months so don't be late. Dealers booked in are Peter Beer, Charlie Stringer, John Haddon Silver, Mike Heard, John Shaw, Alan Wilde and Roger Mann.

We will need some help next month, someone to show and deliver the lots to the successful bidders (Ann is away), and help putting the tables and chairs away at the end of the meeting.

Chairman Les Woolnough 01473 743794
Secretary/Treasurer Colin Fawcett 01945 583656
Auctioneer Alan Worthington 01473 714411