

East Anglian Card Collectors Club

Newsletter No. 599

Saturday 16th July 2022

With a 'heatwave' in the offering, luckily we were a couple of days ahead of it and so the weather was absolutely perfect today for card collectors. As usual we knew we were in for an interesting and challenging day with Covid the biggest threat and still rampant in the area. The wretched bug caught out Alan midweek and it meant adjustment to jobs to cover his absence (he hasn't missed a meeting since he took on the job of auctioneer 17 years ago).

The first issue was how to get the auction lots from Ipswich to Roydon, step in Chairman Les and official auctioneers assistant Ann, who picked them up for us. We rapidly set them up and the were soon being looked at by enthusiastic collectors.

There were two dealers waiting when I pulled into the village hall at just before 8.00am, Barry (and his Mum) were just behind and very soon the hall was set up as we needed it. Mum was going on to Norwich for some retail therapy I hope Barry enjoyed that. No Ken this week I think he was on one of his holiday breaks. Over the next hour dealers and members drifted in, Mike and Peter with their regular customers, Geoff selling steadily throughout the day (he tells me he can't be with us again until the New Year) and making one of his very rare appearances John Taylor from Melton Mowbray ably assisted by Colin Weston. At one time members completely blocked the gap by his stall, so he must have had a very good day. He bought me some lovely cards which have been put into their respective albums to get me closer to completing more sets.

The smell of coffee wafted into the hall from the kitchen and after such an early start it was more than welcome. I think sometimes it must be the caffeine that keeps me going all day, I did miss my early morning 'chin wag' with Alan over a bacon butty. There seemed a lot to do today so it was 'on the go' coffee all day. I spent most of the morning chatting to members, putting the world to right about all things cartophilic. The dreaded bug has also struck in Stowmarket because Graham Convey bought it back from holiday and had to miss the meeting, his first for many many years. He has sorted out the issues we have been experiencing with the website so thankfully that is running well again. We have renewed the website license and I believe that is one of the best £70 we ever spend as a club.

There were quite a few regular members missing this month and as a result only 38 checked in the book (I would have thought there were a few more than that but the ticks don't lie). Nice to see Garry Daynes with us after a few month's break but there was plenty of football in the auction for him to check over, welcome back also to the Cleaver brothers who have now paid their subscriptions for the year.

I have been doing some work for the Cartophilic Society of Great Britain for the 2023 annual convention and can now confirm that it will take place at Lynn sport on Saturday 22nd and Sunday 23rd April 2023. If anyone needs advice on where to stay or what

to do please don't hesitate to ask. Under no circumstances miss it. This is the biggest Card Fest in the country. It is not far to travel and with so many cards available you are sure to find those elusive odds. As we are the hosts there will be plenty to do on the two days, we are 'teasing out' ideas for the many ways our club can benefit from the experience and opportunity. One thing is certain we are going to need plenty of voluntary help on both days. Watch this space.

Another decision we had to make today was how we were going to conduct the auction, we were very grateful when Dave Turnbull offered to wield the gavel (he even brought his own) so that was one issue sorted but how could we manage the listings without the machine. We were creative and went back to basics of pen and paper, so with Les and me doing the scribbling and Dave conducting the sale we got through but in a much slower time, who cares being retired we have all day and the hall until 5.00pm. Having said that though it was significant that at the start of the auction there were 24 members in the hall and at the end only 6. A very big thank you to Dave for helping us out.

We knew before hand it was a relatively poor auction with many common lots but we can only sell what we are given. The final details are , total sales £2366, with 29 unsold from 7 vendors. There were 14 successful postal bidders who spent £1109 and 17 successful in-house bidders who spent slightly more at £1257. Top spot went to a nice set of 1974 A&BC Footballers (red back) who scored a great 180 goals. Next month's auction (August) has been sent to all 550 Cartophilic members so expect many more postal bidders. Some great lots and I'm expecting to break the club record or get very near to it, so save your money, get your bidding card ready and let's go for it.

I had an email the other day from a ex member and retired dealer who wants to stand again at EACCC despite retiring a couple of years ago. He has a very large well organised stock of cards to dispose of so we can look forward to welcoming him on the 20th, some members will remember Peter Russell who lives near the Welsh border.

Next month we meet on the 20th August at Roydon Village hall from 8.30 to about 3.00pm with the auction at 1.00pm. Dealers booked in are Mike Heard, Peter Beer, Robert Butterworth, Brian Pentalow, Darren Moyse (we hope), Gary Challis and 'of course' Peter Russell.

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