

East Anglian Card Collectors Club

Newsletter No. 595

Saturday 19th March 2022

It was a lovely Spring morning, the sun was shining and yet on the drive to Roydon I really wasn't sure what sort of meeting we were going to have ! There were few positive signs of a good meet, two key dealers away this moth, a couple of members catching Covid but I knew I could rely on the regulars to create our usual good friendly atmosphere.

Being two dealers down, it gave the four who were booked in a lot more space and they were able to spread their wares out well. Thank you to Gary Challis for coming in again at short notice, unfortunately I had three drop outs – Darren (no vehicle),Ken Sandeman (wrong date) and Mick Plant (personal reasons). It was nice to see Geoff McMillan again, I think he had a very good day, although it took him much longer to get to us as the A1 was closed and the alternative A47 also undergoing serious repairs so closed in places. I hope he had a better journey home. I also advised our two Lincolnshire members that there were serious long term delays on the A17 at Sutton bridge. I think that put them off coming !!

There was still the usual suspects of early birds and the buying and selling was soon in eager progress. The numbers were down on normal but several significant members were unable to be with us. Particular mention and best wishes to Gus who in his mid 90's has Covid. I'm sure he will be back with us next month and he did win the 1 lot he bid on in the auction. We have been to see Albert Watson since last month and he is in very good spirits but missing his collections (over 60 different) he told us. There were 41 members who checked in today and 2 visitors from Norwich, one told me he came to the club years ago when we were at the Park Hotel, that's at least 15 years past. They intend to come again next month maybe they will join.

Many members paid there subscriptions today most very willingly and without being asked. Les will be around again next month, then it will be 'the dreaded red spot' for those unpaid. If you can't come in April. Then send me £10 to avoid the visual reminder. It was nice to see Charley Stringer with us again (he has rejoined) and will be dealing in May.

Next month the meeting is on Easter Saturday (16th) and we are having a raffle for club funds, any donations for prizes will be gratefully accepted. Tickets will be on sale all day. I have spoken to our caterer and she will have 'Hot Cross Buns', available for us all morning – as well 'of course' all her usual lovely food.

We had a short committee meeting to discuss different aspects of the club. Les has received a lovely letter from Air Ambulance thanking us for our donation. We also discussed some possible future developments for instance, a fourth series of club members cards, it is 15 years since we did a set and a lot of new faces have now become established members. Robert Butterworth has offered to do the pictures, we will do this in the summer, the first job is to prepare a list of prime suspects, sorry members!. The other debatable suggestion was to invite a couple of postcard dealers to stand at the club, with a little luck they might bring some local postcard collectors to increase our membership. Any offers of help or ideas on either of these topics would be appreciated.

Full details are now available for the Cartophilic Society Annual Convention. It will be on Saturday 30th April/ Sunday 1st May at Hemel Hempstead Leisure Centre HP1 1JS. So not so far for us to travel. It is open on Saturday 10.00am to 6.00pm for Cartophilic members and from 12.00 noon to 6.00pm for non members. On the Sunday it is open 10.00am to 4.00pm for everyone. Admission is free for CSGB members and £2 (?) for non members. The London club is hosting the event this year. I usually get some flyers about the event but as yet they have not arrived, I will post out as soon as they do. I know a lot of members will be going looking for that elusive rare card from the 25 plus national dealers present. Ann/Les/Alan and I will be there on the Saturday.

A pair of glasses was left in the hall when we cleared up, they are in the club cupboard and can be collected next month by whoever left them.

Thank you to all the members who bought in cards for future auctions, we do seem to be living on a month by month existence as Alan now has enough for June and even a few for July. The May listing is enclosed with this newsletter. We have bought Alan a new club computer as the old one had reached its sell by date, it was very slow and getting unreliable. The club has ample funds and these have all come about because of the auction so a new one was well overdue. This one is superfast and has plenty of memory for the club auction work.

This month's auction had nothing spectacular in it and to be honest I thought the end result would be very low but it turned out to be alright. The top sale was Lot 68, a nice set of John Player Old England Defenders selling for £420, matched equally by the 35 lots that sold for £2 or less. We can only sell what we are given.

There were 250 lots selling for a total of £3202. Only 22 members sat in the hall this month although they did spend £1920. There were a further successful postal bidders who spent £1282. A total of 30 remained unsold (majority silks, the silk collectors were just not buying). The sales were enjoyed by 10 vendors. Next month we only have 200 lots but some interesting items, the pick of which has to be Lot 62 a part set of FJ Smith A tour round the World. I also like the look of Lot 126 a very rare part set Eversheds Sports and Pastimes.

Next month we meet on Easter Saturday, the 16th April at Roydon Village Hall 8.30 to 3.00pm. Dealers booked in are Peter Beer, Robert Butterworth, Darren Moyse, Brian Pentalow and perhaps Gary Challis. We could really do with at least one more, please ring me to book your place.

Please remember Raffle (about 12.30) prizes and subscriptions.

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