East Anglia Card Collecting Club

Newsletter No. 651 Saturday 17th OCTOBER 2026

It was dark and cold, a typical autumnal morning when I drove the 55 miles to experience our 651st meeting and our 142nd at Roydon Hall. When I got there Peter and Barry had most of the tables out and within a few minutes Mike Heard and Paul Lynch arrived ready for a good days trading. These early morning starts are something I do once a month nowadays but they do provide a great atmospheric time of day. Everyone is so laid back and relaxed looking forward with anticipation to a good day of meeting like minded collectors and finding that elusive card.

As well as Mike, Peter and Paul dealing today we also had John Taylor from Melton Mowbray making his first visit of the year and all were well supported by local dealers Daryn and Brian. Richard has had a eye operation and had to call off but he will be back next month. John Taylor stated his intention to come more often next year as I understand Mike Heard intends to as well. An excellent turn out of members this month, I made it 62, and we were missing a few regulars like Sean and Ian to name but two. It was great to welcome Tony Debenham to his first club meeting in over 2 years. His son in law brought him over to continue his search for the very rare Cricket cards. It was nice to welcome a new member Robin Hanworthy from just up the road Rickinghall, welcome to our happy band of collectors.

News from out and about .... The Cartophilic Society have finally confirmed next year's convention will be held in Salisbury on Saturday 24th and Sunday 25th April 2027. We have been there before and it is a very good venue. More details as they become available.

.... Enclosed with this newsletter is our dates for next year, so members can arrange their holidays around our club meet (I know many do !).

.... I have been given to understand that Loddon auctions in Newbury are not accepting 'common cigarette cards' any more. They are probably the biggest 'professional' auction house that specialises in Cigarette cards so it is a major decision for them to make. For many years they have been bundling the common cards together to make up a lot. As much as we like selling top cards we also understand that collectors are all coming from different collecting fields and areas, someone has to sell the full range at affordable prices, that's how we all improve our collections. We have no plans to change our selling strategy - you bring it we try and sell it.

... We are coming up to catalogue renewal time and first out of the blocks will be LCCC with their 2027 edition - although not used by everyone it is packed with useful information. This yearly catalogue retails at £12.95 but they offer a bulk buy discount which will reduce it to £10.36(50) for up to 17 copies. I will order some for the club (as I have 4 members asking for a copy) anyone else who would like one at the discount price must let me know by phone or email by the 10th

November, so I can get them for our next meeting. This will be followed in mid November by the bi annual Murrays catalogue, the one most of us use. I will order a box (24) and they will be with us for the December meeting. These retail this year at £15.00 but again bulk buying will reduce it to £13.50 for members.

... I have some interesting items to sell next month -- many boxes of mixed unsorted Cigarette cards (500/100 to a box), a great quantity of Match Attack Football cards, another quantity of Top Trumps, plus some lovely old tobacco tins, as well as two type books, and another box of packets of cards for just a £1.00.

.... the committee had a short meeting this month to finalise the details for the Christmas extravaganza -- it will be the same as past years. The selective charity this year is the Benjamin Foundation, that helps families and children in Norfolk and Suffolk. Raffle tickets will be on sale at the November meeting when you can also bring in any prizes you would like to include in raffle. There will be a free Christmas buffet for members who can bring along any guests they wish. (£10.00 for non members). I hope everyone will donate at least 1 prize for the raffle. Full details next month with timetable, auction lists are enclosed today.

Everyone was busy all morning and 12.30 soon came around and auction time was upon us, an interesting mix of all things old and new ephemera. With a few star lots the pick of which was a lovely set of Wills 1914 Metal Miniatures which eventually were knocked down for £550. We have plenty of stock at the moment and Alan is putting the final touches to June 2027,so if you want any items to be included you need to bring them in now. As I have said before we would very much like to reduce this time scale, and although the postal auction helped it requires a lot of work so for the time being we will just have to persevere and be patient. This month the final figures look like this, a final total of £4258, which is very acceptable. There were 26 successful postal bidders who spent £3128 on 116 lots, where as the 15 successful in house bidders spent £1130 on just 74 lots. Only 60 remained unsold for the 9 vendors

Next month we meet on Saturday 21st November - usual time 8.00 to about 3.00pm - auction at 12.30 at Roydon Village Hall. Dealers booked in are Peter Beer, Steve/Paula Lewis, Daryn Moyse, John Shaw, Richard Buckle Brian Pentalow, and Robert Butterworth -- a full house once again, we might have to put someone in the back room (whoever turns up last !!)

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