

Report of a meeting held on Saturday 17th July at Roydon Village Hall

--- **£6550** --- was the total figure from today's auction, we not only broke the Club record, we smashed it, well done everyone.

I know I must not get ahead of myself when doing the newsletter but such was the excitement and importance of this auction, I thought it best not to wait until the 2nd page, but more of that later.

We really weren't sure how today's meeting was going to go, we expected lower numbers with such luminaries as Alice / Ken Courtney, Barry Allen, George Smith and Ted Wareham all unable to attend, I couldn't bring Alan Neale and Colin Gamble, the Boston boys were at work (incidentally it was 4 years to the day I retired, what's work) so when Muriel and Vera reported 73 members, 5 visitors and 8 dealers it was not surprising.

I was there nice and early, as our regular table setter uppers couldn't make it (Barry chose the Open Golf at St. Andrews to card collecting, Ken's wife was poorly – hope she gets well soon Ken -) so I picked Bill up at 7.30am, it seemed strange walking in to a empty hall knowing that it would soon be throbbing with wheeling and dealing of a card variety. We hadn't got all the tables and chairs up before the first dealer arrived and started setting up from then on it was soon buzzing. Great to welcome Geoff McMillan a new dealer for us from Melton Mowbray, who had a great day (new cards always attract our enthusiastic members) and he has booked in again for November. Peter Beer was at a wedding today so Neville Proctor kindly brought his cards and ephemera along.

Among the members present, nice to see all the regulars, Ron Newstead made it still looking for those elusive Colman cards, Keith Pittman our website man was present and Bruce Tyrrell I saw looking for that one elusive card we all are seeking. Nice to chat with Gary Colman who told me all about the many varieties of Typhoo cards, made me dig my few sets out to check the backs. The visitors included Ian Penistone and Joe Clark all the way from Grimsby, Joe was after the American cards in the auction and he got the one's he wanted. He will be back. When I was doing the 'postals', I used to get a telephone call every month from a regular collector and bidder from Preston in Lancashire, we chatted for ages, well after 3 years of regular bids he made it to Roydon and it was nice to put a face to John Gregson's voice. I also saw Joanne and Alan Tyrrell who made it the club, Alan's workdays have changed so maybe they will make it more often.

As always the morning seemed to fly by, Alan and I had a lot to talk about – mainly our recent golf trip to Dublin, pity the village hall doesn't have a license to sell Guinness – also Alan had picked up another collection for us to sell and nice it is as well. We seem to have a plethora of items to sell at the moment despite us rejecting the common stuff, we have increased the number of lots in September / October and November and added 50 more to December. Alan is now lotting up January 2011. We have our good friend Herbie Nevills collection to sell in the New Year so things continue to look healthy. We don't seem to know the meaning of the word recession at EACCC, let the good times continue. Remember no 'on the day' lots needed for August or September.

A good number of members stayed for the auction this month and bidding was brisk from the start. We thought quite early on that all 200+ lots were going to sell this month and it was 139 before we had a no sale but only a few followed and our final fantastic total of £6550 (sorry I had to repeat it) was received with great applause from the members when it was announced. I wonder what awaits in August and September with more great cards on offer. Incidentally only £1600 went postal which is well down as it is usually nearer 50%. The Taddy lots were well received and were among several lots selling for between £100 - £200, Alan always puts our prices made list on the website eventually so you can check out past month's and even look up future months on there. Also can we remind members when submitting lots for Auction to include their name somewhere, we have two unidentifiable vendors - 2 lots Stamp Albums (Malta and Norfolk Island) and an album of Players Cigarette Packets, please let Alan know if you put this in for Auction.

Things to look forward to at EACCC

++ next month August, we have a raffle, with many great prizes and I have purchased a £100 De Vere Voucher for the lucky 1st prize winner. Their nearest hotel is Dunston Hall in Norwich but they have 12 others to choose from for a weekend away. More prizes needed please

++ Alex is working on the 'date' cards for next year, they will be available – hopefully – at October meeting.

++ Also a free calendar for all members is in the process again, Alex is preparing drafts but wants ideas for monthly themes.

++ there is a very large Cigarette and Postcard fair at Wood Green Animal Centre near Huntingdon on the 13th/14th August, I went last year and found some great cards. I will see you there on the Friday.

++ we have taken delivery of some new stock of Albums and Pages for the club table, so don't forget to have a chat with Bob and Jill and collect your pages. If we don't have them on the table we can order them for you. There will be a new Murray's Price guide 'book of dreams' available at the October meeting (hopefully) at a big discount. We are not aware of the exact publication date but it is usually around that time.

++ it is not too early to plan our Christmas 'do', what shall we do this year.

++ interesting reading !! I was very surprised when the multitude of Cartophilic reading from the 1930's to the present day didn't sell in the Auction, there are more in this new collection so Alan had a quiet word with the vendors and was told to give them away at our next meeting. They have all vanished so enjoy your free read. Whilst on this topic, my development of the club's history is slow but progressing, I'm stuck on how to present it – booklet, leaflet, notelet, A4 stapled etc etc – any suggestions welcome. I've seen a very interesting letter from our President (about 1987 I think) about how your subscription is spent, I will reproduce it and update it in a future newsletter.

++ should be included this month your 3 page Auction list, 2 sided newsletter and a copy of the Members list, please check your entry very carefully and let us know of any errors, thanks to Alex for his hard work in pulling it all together.

New member Mr. Graham Chapman, 27 Oak Road, Great Cornard, Sudbury, Suffolk
CO100EX -- too late to include in members new list

Dealers with us in August ..

**Ken Courtney, Martin Thoms, Keith & Jan Johnson,
Jim Reynolds, Dave Norman, Peter Beer and Mike Prior
Room for 1 more if any one wants to fill it ring Bill, remember it's free.**

Next meeting Saturday 21st August 2010 from 9.00am