

EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No. 506 --- Saturday 18th October 2014

Sometimes things go well and other times it is challenging and it seems the latter was the call of the day, my car was in dock (that's another story) and I had a 'Dinky' Citroen C1 courtesy car. Colin came with me and was 'up close and friendly', all the way. Alan Neale offered to come over on his own; I don't think he would have enjoyed being tied to the roof. Things were going well until we got to the club then we had a big sort out to do.

Thankfully the boys had set out the hall and everyone was busy sorting out their stock and tables and chairs, then we realised we had too many dealers, nine booked in it meant we had to reshuffle the tables to get everyone in. Geoff McMillan was happy in front of the stage and John Taylor was on the stage which meant we had no club tables this month. Bob and Gill had the day off and a good wander around the stalls chatting to everyone. I'm not sure how we came to have too many dealers, I hadn't written Mike Heard down on my sheet as coming and I took Jean Dixon as a late booking but we managed. The hall was full and bustling all day. It was nice to welcome Ken Sandeman back with us for his 2nd visit this year. Alan wasn't having to good a day either, he only brought half the auction lots with him and had to go back to Ipswich to collect the missing items. He had computer problems later in the day when the computer wouldn't talk to the printer but we adapted.

We had about 65 members call in during the day and with 6 visitors (furthest was probably Mr. Christmas (two month's early) who came up with the Sussex boys, so in all must have been 80 + people involved with the club this month. Ted Wareham's son called in with some auction lots for a future sale and told me his Mum and Dad is getting better slowly. I rang Ted on my return and he told me he is hoping to get to the November meeting if he can find a driver. I had a lovely letter from Vera this month, who wishes to be remembered to members, she is making slow progress but will not be able to make it to the Christmas dinner. That takes me nicely on to the December Christmas Extravaganza, thirty members returned their dinner order – don't forget the November meeting is the final opportunity to place your order. The day will run something like this:

8.30am Doors Open – Arrivals – Auction available to view
Dealers booked in are Peter Beer, Paul Lynch and John Shaw
11.00am 150 Lot Auction
12.15 A Christmas greeting from Chairman Les Woolnough

12.30pm Take your places for Lunch – sit down to Waitress Service for
3 courses with all the trimmings including Wine, Luxury Crackers
and Mince pies
2.15pm Grand Raffle with proceeds going to the Royal British Legion
4.00pm Time for Home

All this and more – completely **Free** to all members (non-members welcome £10.00). We would like everyone to bring at least ONE raffle prize. We have been given £150 by a member (who wishes to remain anonymous) to buy a decent 1st prize, we will be getting M&S vouchers for some lucky members. So book your place without delay. Raffle tickets will be available from the November meeting.

Dates for next year 2015 have been finalised, they are all 3rd Saturdays... January 17th, February 21st, March 21st, April 18th, May 16th, June 20th, July 18th, August 15th, September 19th, October 17th, November 21st and Sunday 13th December.

On a different note, one of our members has had a lot of Basset Cards stolen, not from the club I hasten to add, but from his home. If any member hears of a large quantity of Basset cards being offered for sale or in an auction please let us know and we will tell him.

We were ready for the Auction at the predetermined hour of 1.00pm, despite the many issues of the morning. There were a couple of wrongly described lots this month which some astute members seem to get great pleasure in pointing out to us. Well we are only human and errors can occur but considering the huge number of cards that pass through our auction each year, I think Alan does a tremendous job on behalf of the club. This month was the last of the 'Redhill' collection which has been passing through our club for the past 16 months; a total of £38k was sold, bringing nearly £4k into the club funds – thus the free Christmas Dinner! Alan has enough lots for January and some for February, but we need more, it's time to have a sort out, get rid of all your spares, pocket some cash and buy more cards. We don't think that the bargains of the past will be quite so obvious in the future but we will see. This month was alright not extremely high but satisfactory.

Of the 250 Lots – 50 remained unsold, the final figure was £2501, and we sold to 17 in house bidders for £1777 and to 10 postal bidders for £724. Top spot was Lot 78 for a modest £135 a nice set of Gallaher's Votaries of the Weed. Next month we have to find new homes for 191 lots, some common sets but some nice special lots as well, all 8 sets Gallaher Great War Heroes in ONE lot is the stand out Lot. The December list is with this newsletter.

Next month we do it all again on the 15th November – usual time, usual place – auction as usual 1.00pm. Dealers booked in include John Haddon Silver, Peter Beer, Ken Courtney and Martin Toms – as we are a bit low, special invitations have been sent to Mike Prior and Neil Daniels, at the time of writing I'm still waiting to hear from them. Our club table will be back for the last time this year so remember to stock up on Albums and Pages to see you through the New Year.

Next month I will tell you about an exciting and informative new Cigarette Card book just come on to the market and a quality read it is as well but that's for next month.