

EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No. 497 --- Saturday 18th January 2014

As we start our fourth year at Roydon it is going to be (we hope) a special year, the club has maintained a good level of attendance and has financial security for several years now. So we hope long may it continue into 2014 and beyond. I had my usual wonders about this month (remember a year ago we cancelled the meeting because of snow) but with a lack of dealers booked in, then Ken Courtney ringing in sick and at 7.30am on the Saturday morning John Shaw rang up to tell me he had broken down on the A14, even more alarm bells started ringing. I have the utmost faith in EACCC members supporting a good cause, I didn't want them to be disappointed at the meet, and of course, they weren't were they.

The three dealers did us proud, all three busy all day, I had three lists from far away collectors who asked me to find them some odds, which I'm happy to do and I found several at John Haddon-Silver's and Martin Toms stall to satisfy their collecting craves. I finished 14 sets for them. It seemed quiet in the hall early on but warmed up with members as the morning moved on. Some rarely seen members this month, include Alan Neale with us looking for the football card bargains, and Richard Corby made a very rare appearance. Great to see our Chairman Les in good spirits, keep it up mate we need you. My apologies to Bill, Vera and Muriel who took offence at me comparing them with an 'ugly glove puppet' from a TV advert last month, no offence was intended, I stand chastised. They were in good form today, visitors pay £2.00 to come in from this meeting (making your membership even better value) and the two regular visitors from Sussex joined today, along with Ian Penistone a member of years past. Their details are:

Mr Granville Elliott, 29, Church Vale Road, Bexhill on Sea Sussex TN402ED

Mr Dave Turnbull, 17, Brookland Close Hastings Sussex TN342DF

Mr Ian Penistone, 6, Eastwood Ave, Grimsby Lincs. DN345BE

Looks like I have some badges to make. As they all joined us today, the furthest away visitor this month was Richard Wood from Nottingham. Bill and Muriel gave me last year's attendance sheets and they make interesting reading, 10 members made it to all 11 meetings last year, with 18 only missing one meeting, a further 10 missed just two meetings. An amazing 29 members never made it to even one meeting, they must like the newsletter.

Our new caterers made their debut today and this became the main talking point, without doubt they produced snacks, drinks and meals to do us proud. I understand the full English breakfast at £4.00 was something to behold. They were well supported by the members present and went home very pleased with their takings. Our voucher system was re-introduced and I paid for 46 vouchers at the end of the day. I reckon some people must have taken their vouchers home because the girls on the door told me 56 members attended with 3 visitors and 3 dealers.

Bits and pieces ... I have ONE copy of the LCCC card catalogue left; it's on the Club table to the first member to pick it up. Means we have sold 36 copies of each.

.... MacMillan Nurses are not able to collect the cheque from the Christmas raffle; Les was actually told they don't work Saturdays. It has made us question whether they want our contribution.

..... Most people know Card Times finishes in April, Dave Stuckey (editor) is finally retiring, another bastion of Cigarette Card Collecting falls by the wayside.

.... I have to report also the closing of the East Kent branch, lack of an organiser seems to be the reason.

.... This year's convention is in Southport, up on the North West coast, just above Blackpool for the uninitiated. The dates are 25th/26th April, venue Southport Convention Centre. It's a long ride for us but I'm sure some of our members will go. No news on where 2015 will be, probably in the south somewhere.

As the clock swung round to 13.00hrs, Alan and Ann were soon in position to start the process of finding new homes for the 211 lots in this month's extravagant auction. I did have doubts if anyone was listening when 4 of the 5 first lots went unsold but it soon picked up. Alan is limiting the auction to a more manageable 200 lots, the first 150 are from the Surrey collection (until October), the rest which are given to us from the members. Alan works 3 months ahead and has completed May but needs more for June and thereafter, no big collections have been offered yet for after October. Have you ever given any thought what will happen to your collection when you move on – none of us are getting any younger – it's something we don't talk about enough (I know some members don't even care, they are getting their pleasures now from their collection), but I personally dread two things – they will be binned (I know at least one of our members whose next of kin will do just that !!) and two, they will be given to a national auction house for sale at their huge rip off prices and at your cost. Do the right thing now – ensure your instructions are clear – leave them to your club to sell to your friends at EACCC to buy and enjoy. But don't leave them just yet, we need all our members to hang around a lot longer yet.

This month there were 211 lots from 4 vendors. The final total was £3955, this was £2226 in the room, £1677 went postal and left us with 58 unsold. Top spot went to Lot 119 Daily Mirror My Club Football teams transferred for £230.

Next meeting Saturday 15th February 2014 usual time, usual place.

Dealers booked in include Martin Toms, John Haddon Silver, Peter Beer, Ken Courtney and Mike Heard ... still room for one more

Don't forget our wonderful members table, why not bring some of your spare cards and sell them to your friends at the club. Some great bargains are always to be had on these tables plus new and used (when we have some) albums and pages. If you can't find any cards and don't need any pages you will always get to have a nice chat with Bob and Jill. Finally thanks for the many comments about the photos that were included last month (mostly complimentary). I may be encouraged to bring my camera more often, who knows it could be a regular feature.