EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No. 503 --- Saturday 19th July 2014

It was forecast to be the hottest day of the year with temperatures reaching 32 degrees, but I don't think it quite made it. Does the weather affect our attendance; I don't think so, so we were out in force on this beautiful day. Ken Courtney won the award for the most sartorial pair of shorts, does he really holiday in the Bahamas every year.

As Barry and Ken weren't available, I had to leave early and was quite pleased with myself when I drove into the car park at 5 minutes to 8, after encountering only 1 or 2 tractors en route. No one was waiting but I no sooner got the ramp down and a couple of tables out then people started to arrive. Neville and Peter first in and were soon busy offloading. The girls in the kitchen were next and 10 minutes later the smell of Coffee and Bacon soon wafted from the kitchen area. John Haddon Silver was an early bird closely followed by other dealers and members; even Mike Prior was with us before 8.30am, a first in living memory. Welcome back Mike, we have missed you. Mike Heard and John Shaw were both at Kempton Park at their annual card fest, but will be with us next month. All the dealers seemed busy all morning so must have had a good day. Alan arrived in good time after having to negotiate a fallen tree in the road which meant a diversion, he didn't need a Sat. Nav. to find his way round and we soon had the auction lots out and ready for viewing. Joyce has settled into her new job on the door and it's so nice to see a smiling face and warm welcome for all who venture over the thresh hold. I had sorted out the badges this past month so only members who have paid their subscription have a badge in the box. There was a good number of members present this month, I got to 60 and stopped counting. Only 3 visitors, one of whom has said he will be joining next month. Nice to see Les back with us and looking good after what was a major operation. Ann was busy all morning, with auction numbers and showing the lots then passing them on to their new owners.

There are several pieces of news this month ...

<u>Graham Convey</u> has had his operation and is 'tearing his hair out' at home; missing out on his continual search for those wonderful gum cards he is so successful in finding. He will be back with us in September.

<u>Bill Peck</u> is in hospital (Norwich & Norfolk) with an infection. He has been there a fortnight. I was going to call in and see him at home after the club but Diane his carer told me he would not be allowed home until this coming week. Muriel is coping well without him but her confusion and repeating seems to be getting no better.

<u>Ted Wareham</u> rang me in the week prior to club and was telling me about his trials and tribulations with his ill health. He has had an operation (which took $12 \frac{1}{2}$ hours) and is making a slow recovery. He hopes to be with us in August, be nice to see him again.

Nobody bought a copy of 'The Card Scene' from the welcome table, I think more people subscribe than we thought, I liked the first edition as it has some useful information in, I'm sure it will get better over the next few months. I will sell the one's we have cheap next month first come first served.

A member has reported misplacing a page of 'Shadowgraph's' cards at the club, if anyone can help, please speak to me.

Several members took advantage of the extremely cheap LCCC albums I took, so I will bring some more next month, also some new ones for the club table. Bob and Jill do a wonderful job for us and we have sold a lot of Albums and Pages recently.

I gather several members are planning to go to the Card Fair at the Wood Green near Huntingdon on the $25^{th}/26^{th}$ – most seem to be going Friday – hope there will be some Cigarette Card dealers present and not all postcard dealers. See you there if you can make it. Just had a thought this won't go out until after the event.

Now I know it's only July but guess what Les, Alan and I talked about this month, yes your right the Christmas meeting. What do you think, it will be Sunday 14th December – so members can go to North Kent on the Saturday. It also means more dealers are available and want to come. Is it time for us to go back to a served sit down meal?

Don't forget to collect the new membership list from the front table, also attached to the list is all next year's dates, so you can book your holidays around our club meets. I know Alan and I do, sad isn't it.

At this point a little moan from me, it would be really helpful to us if members present at the club could help with the clearing up of the hall – tables & chairs need to be put away after the meet (not during the auction, it's a bit noisy and distracting) but I was not happy to have to spend another 15 minutes clearing up – remember I put them out as well. It's our club and we all have to share the responsibilities.

It soon came round to the magic hour of 1.00pm, Alan, Ann, Albert and I were ready, 212 lots to be moved on. It was a very good auction as well, facts and figures were; total taken £4550, this was £1818 spent by 19 of those present, £2732 spent by the 18 postal bidders, with several lots going to Canada. There were 55 unsold and 5 vendors. Top Lot was 51, a lovely set Wills Wild Animals of the World with P/C inset getting tamed for £190 (about 1/3rd catalogue).

Its only 4 weeks until we do it all again, and the dealers booked to come are John Haddon Silver, Martin Toms, Peter Beer, Ken Courtney Mike Heard and John Shaw.

Saturday 16th August 2014 Same time same place.