

Report of a meeting held on Saturday 19th June at Roydon Village Hall

It was quite obvious from before the start of the meeting what everyone would be talking about today, not the great auction, or the food but the previous night's football. What a shambles, all Mr. Capello had to do to beat Algeria was talk to a few EACCC members. Get rid of Rooney, Lampard and Terry were among the suggestions; stop their pay was another. Today though Roydon Village Hall was a no football zone!

Anyway it had been very quiet between the meetings, only a few discussions with Bill but our June meeting was to follow the trend of the previous years meetings, good numbers in attendance, great atmosphere, good food and a lively generous auction. Everything was in full swing by the time I got there, Alan had the auction out, Barry and Ken had the chairs and tables out, the bacon and coffee were on, Muriel and Vera were in place offering a warm welcome to everyone who stepped through the door and as importantly the dealers were all with us and happily taking our money. Nice to welcome Jim Jackson and his wife Judy who had travelled down from Manchester (4 ½ hours) to be with us, Martyn Toms was in his usual place - apologies again Martyn for spelling your name wrong - and welcome to Chris Bree who was making his debut as a dealer, (he must have done alright because he has booked in again for October). Thanks Chris, I completed 2 sets from your stall, one of which I have been searching for over 2 years. Don't forget dealers get free tables up to December meeting, why not take up the opportunity and book yourself a couple of tables to sell your excess cards, maybe get together with another member.

One of the things we have been working on, is a sign to go outside on the main road to encourage passers by in and Neville Proctor produced for us two lovely clear boards that will hopefully go up next month. Barry Allen has taken them home to fix hinges and a chain on. You can never get enough publicity other suggestions, I heard were, tee/polo shirts with EACCC on, mugs with 'I'm proud to be a EACCC member', whatever next. On this line of thought, do we want the little date cards and/or a calendar next year?

As the morning progresses members turned out in vast numbers, a few remaining subscription stragglers who wished to be cured of the awful Red Spot syndrome turned up. In all only six members have not renewed, our current membership stands at 134 with 13 new members this year, a club record high. If you want to add the 60 postal 'members', we total nearly 200. Alex has taken the lists home to produce a comprehensive address list, it will be circulated hopefully next month. Anyway the girls reckon 74 members, 8 dealers and 6 visitors crossed the threshold.

As always at our club you have some nice chats with the members, what a surprise to see Stuart Barker back with us after nearly a year, he's fully retired now and given up doing his George Formby impression and always cleaning windows. Cliff Waller was telling me about his adventures to the Artic circle and how impressed he was with Finland, Alan has just returned from Cornwall, he didn't find any Pinnace Footballers but did some bonding with his new grandson. I hear Neville Barnard is making a good recovery from his operation and is hoping to be with us in July. Jim Reynolds was back this month and we welcomed 2 first time visitors to East Anglia from Lea Valley Club. I have been informed of the death of Keith Strudwick, a member from Stowmarket who died last August. We have been asked by his executors if his cigarette card collection can go thought the club auction with all proceeds going to charity (I will let you know which one when I find out). Alan is going to collect the cards in the next fortnight prior to being lotted up later in the year (or even early 2011).

We also have Herbie Nevil's collection to fit in 2011 so it looks good for the auction, we will always fit in regular vendors, as we never give much more than 100 lots to the complete collections.

For once we were late starting the auction and it was 1.15pm before we got under way with the 209 lots, a very good one it turned out to be. Our club record is £4850 and there was talk of our clearing the £5k barrier but as it turned out we cleared £4730, a very commendable total. I have a feeling that July could be better and who knows what August (284 lots) and September (259 lots) will do. Principal prices were Lot 91 £180 for Topical Times Scottish Footballers, Lot 73 Topps Beatles £135, Lot 182 Copes Boxers fought the way to £230, several lots went above £100. I was very surprised the Cartophilic N & N never attracted a bidder for most of the Lots. The list for July has been circulated and the American cards look very tasty along with 5 more Taddy part sets, there is space for few bring and sell on the day lots but not in August or September.

Don't forget our raffle in August; we have been given a donation to buy a really good first prize. So after a discussion with various members we have decided purchase a 'weekend away' at a nice hotel, perhaps with Marriott or De Vere. Please continue to bring in your prizes, Bill is happy to store them in his garage.

Another snippet of news to share is that Mr. Murray is going to produce a new price guide for 2011; we hope to have them available at the October meeting, no idea of the price this year yet. I really hope he has been listening to the letters in Cartophilic Notes and News and greatly reduces the Players, Gallaher and Wills 'between the war' sets to a more realistic and sensible price. Something like 80% reduction would be about right, what do you think? Also heard that Card Times is going bi-monthly from July.

Everyone paid up their auction dues promptly and efficiently and the faithful members cleared the tables and chairs, so we were away by just after 3.00pm another successful meeting completed, pity we have to wait another 28 days before the next. Two new members this month Paul High from Norwich and Judy Jackson full details in the forthcoming address lists.

I know a lot of members plan well in advance and we certainly have to as far as booking the club dates in with the hall, so here are the dates for the rest of this year and all of next.

Saturdays 17th July, 21st August, 18th September, 16th October, 20th November, 11th December

Our dates for 2011 will be: Saturdays 22nd January, 19th February, 19th March, 16th April, 21st May, 18th June, 16th July, 20th August, 17th September, 15th October, 19th November, 10th December. All are the third Saturday of the month except December, which is the 2nd.

Dealers with us in July

**Alan Stevens, Martyn Toms, John Haddon Silver,
Jim Reynolds, Dave Norman, Peter Beer and Mike Towersley
And a new dealer to us, Geoff McMillan from Melton Mowbray**

Room for 1 more if any one wants to fill it ring Bill, remember its free.—

Next meeting Saturday 17th July 2010 from 9.00am