

# EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No. 471

*Report of a meeting held at Roydon Village Hall on Saturday 19th November 2011*

*Our November meeting promised much and duly delivered. It seemed very quiet for most of the morning and I was nicely surprised when the girls told me there were 79 members present.*

*The summer autumnal weather continued and by the time we reached Roydon the late summer sun had burnt off most of the early morning fog although it seemed to delay most peoples trip to the mecca of cartophilily, so we had to make the most of the day. Bill was waiting for us and as usual greeted us with his usual banter, he had been in hospital since the last meeting and he did not expect to be able to stay all day but 'of course' he did, you cant keep a good cartophilist away, it must have been the bacon rolls that kept him going.*

*Les and Anne were with us early as Jane (from the catering company) was coming in to finalise the Christmas Dinner arrangements. More about that later. Our dealers were already busy, nice to see Mr. Murray with us and he was busy most of the morning. He has booked in for two meetings next year so is hoping to have some cards left. John Shaw was with us from Derby and Geoff McMillan from Melton Mowbray along with our galaxy of local dealers made up the days trading. On a sad note I had a telephone call earlier in the week from our good friend Dave Norman, he has decided to 'retire' from card dealing and concentrate on his 'stamp shop' in Brent Wood. He wants to sell all his cards, give him a ring if you fancy becoming a dealer with a ready organised stock. We will miss you Dave, I do hope you will call in and see us every so often. I know the 'No.10' will be missed from the auction each month. Bill and I took time out to check the dealer bookings for next year and they look good. at the moment. Spaces in January and February but then full or nearly full for the rest of the year. I will be in touch with one or two new dealers to fill the gaps.*

*The volunteer caterers were kept busy all morning with the 'all day breakfast' getting more popular each month closely followed by the homemade sponge cake. Almost worth coming to the club just to experience the culinary delicacies. Alex spent most of the day washing up and has developed a soft hand syndrome, I have suggested we buy him a pair of marigolds. Kevin is getting skilled at cooking fried eggs and only broke 1 all day (so I was told). Well done one and all, financially the club is profiting from their endeavours. There has been a suggestion that one or two members are abusing the free tea and coffee available but we know it is appreciated by all members and quite unique in the Card Fair world. Can I suggest that we limit it to two cups each member each meeting, members to be self monitoring.*

I had a interesting chat with John Smith from Hunstanton who is currently cataloging for archive purposes all cigarette card. Using his considerable computer skills, he is scanning cards and preserving them for prosperity.it is a long term project, probably a life time.

When 1.00pm came round we were ready for the auction, we knew it wasnt going to be earth shattering and at the end with 50 unsold lots and a final total of just over £1800 our thoughts were confirmed. The basic problem was there were to many common sets 'Players, Wills and Gallahers 48' for sale. We are a well established club with a well established and experienced membership who have all the common sets. We have no new collectors coming into the hobby.We could not even get £1 for some lots.We have been fortunate in the past two/three years to have some collections to sell and although they contain common sets they also have rarer cards and make it worthwhile listing.Alan has complete the February listing and is urgently looking for quality material for March onwards - dig out your excesses and bring them to the club, its only 10% commision - the best rate in the country. For those members who like to know the statistics top price went to Lot 166, 29 Smith's sporting types for £210.

Next month is our Christmas Dinner - thank you everyone for returning their meal order to me by the closing date - 75 members will be sitting down to a real Christmas treat. The club will be open from 9.00am with Mike Heard and Peter Beer our dealers present. Can I ask everyone to be present by 11.00am please. The tables will be set with name tags and the action will begin at 11.30am, with a auction of 150 lots. Lunch will be 12.45/1.00pm followed by a presentation by Chairman Les. Then our raffle, can I remind everyone to bring at least one raffle prize , we already have a few but would like to top 100 prizes. I know you can do it. Proceeds will go to Air Ambulance. Anne has been selling tickets this month and has already taken £118 from members who cant make it next month. First Prize in the raffle a £100 Marks and Spencer voucher, 2<sup>nd</sup> prize a £50 voucher.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Club table this year with the addition of Albums and Pages it has produced a small healthy profit for the club. Special thanks to Jill and Bob for looking after it each month.

**Next meeting Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2011**

**at Roydon Village Hall from 9.00am**

**Auction at 11.30am ish**

**Dinner at 12.45am ish**

**Raffle at 2.30pm ish**

If you are not coming to the Christmas dinner, may I take this opportunity to wish one and all, a Very Merry Christmas and may all your card dreams come true in

2012