EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No. 468

Report of a meeting held at Roydon Village Hall on Saturday 20th August 2011

One thing that can always be guarranted at our club when a problem arises there will always be members who are prepared to roll up their sleeves and get stuck in to solve the problem.Our problem this month was enormous, I had a telephone call on the Thursday night prior from a friend of Margaret Tebbs to tell me her Kelly our caterer had done a 'runner'and we would be very unlikely to have any catering at our August meet. I shared this issue with several members and what a reaction I got. It was obviously to short notice to bring a new caterer in but within 24 hours offers of help were coming in. With hot drinks the priority we soon had it sorted but not only drinks but Bacon Butties and snacks were available. The boys were back and set up by 8.00am and I sailed in with Dennis and Colin in tow. Barry and Ken were armed with a shopping list and on Morrison's doorstep by 9.15, Alex, Val, Lorraine and Kevin set about the kitchen with a fervour and soon the wonderful smell of bacon was wafting around the hall. Ken was working up a sweat over the cooker and Kevin did a great job washing up. They all had a great day and thoroughly enjoyed providing us with the much needed refreshments throughout the day. Thank you all very much indeed it was appreciatted by every member present. I wouldn't have survived the day without my caffiene intake.

It never the less was a problem that needs a permanent solution and therefore many discussions took place throughout the morning on the issue.It is extremely doubtful if Kelly and her team will be back so what could we do. Why she has gone, even her mother dosen;t know, but we think it might be related to the recent death of her father, but we don't know for sure. She has provided a tremendous service to the club and on behalf of all the members i do hope she is alright and will return to her distraught mum very soon. Les has been on the internet and discovered three other local mobile caterers and will be in touch with them next week, meanwhile the enthusiastic volunteers Val and Lorraine offered to do it again for us in September, so we took them up on their very kind offer. What we are going to do for Christmas is 'once again' in the air.

August is always one of our busier months and this proved to be the case this year, some 85 members, 8 visitors (2 from Hastings Sussex) and 10 dealers were present throughout the day john Shaw was with us from Derbyshire and has booked in four dates for next year. Mike Towersley was with us and for some unknown reason was set up the wrong way round and despite moaning that he didnt have enough space when I found him another table that didnt suit either. You can't please some people however hard you try.

It was great to see Ron Newstead with us again and although his arm was in a sling and he had his son in tow, was soon searching for cards. The wheeling and dealing went on at a pace all morning and everyone seems to have had a good day. By 1.00pm the deals had been done , the auction lots perused at leisure and much interest and Alan was ready to begin providing new homes for 260 lots. There had been the usual number of postal bidders to provide us with a starting price. As usual the first 150 lots were from the Roy Wilson collection and much in demand, there will be two more months of his cards. Quality cards always sell.

Top price this month went to Lot 8 set Gallaher Kute Kiddies for £360 (catalogued at £400)closely followed by Lot 83 Players Acters & Actresses playing to only half a house £320, for those that like statistics only 53 were unsold and the final figure was £4716 of which only £1780 went postal. Whilst still on the auction please remember to put your name on any Lots you give to Alan to sell, we find it very difficult to pay out on vendors who don't give us there name. One in June and another in July still have unknown vendors, speak to Alan if you are awaiting payment.

You should find in your envelope this month next years date cards superbly produced by Alex as usual, those members who get their newsletter by email can collect their card from the Ladies on the desk.. The final format for next years Calender was approved and will be at the printers next week, with a bit of luck it could be available to collect next month.

We have our full quota of dealers for the rest of the year (although we haven't finalised December yet) and are now taking bookings for 2012. Any dealer reading this needs to speak to Bill ASAP to ensure they get the bookings they want to come. We do seem a popular venue as I was approached by three new dealers at Huntingdon asking to come to Roydon and sell their wares. They were Paul Lynch from Nottingham, David Stuckey (Card Times) from up North and Neil Daniels (Leeds) is well again and keen to return.

Anyway with us in September are Jim Reynolds from Woodbridge, Ken Courtney Bury St. Edmunds, Martin Toms from Middlesex, Mike Heard from Derby, Peter Russell from the Welsh Marshes, local lad Chris Bree, Kent lad Dave Norman, and our good friend John Haddon-Silver.

Next meeting Saturday 17th September 2011 at Roydon Village Hall from 8.30am to 3.00pm Auction at 1.00pm