

EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No. 510 — Saturday 21st February 2015

It has been 5 weeks since we last got together and we were ready to do it again, withdrawal symptoms were obvious. We did wonder how today was going to go, with all the 'big' dealers at a fair the other side of the country, we relied on who may be available.

The frost the night before meant a careful drive to Roydon but we were soon in amongst the action. John Haddon Silver and Martin Toms were set up and selling, Mike Plant on his debut as a dealer displayed a lovely selection of quality cards. Many American ones I had never seen before, enough to make your mouth water and your wallet ache. Mike Prior was with us, I 'press ganged' him at the Boston club the week previous. Thanks for coming Mike it was a great help. I had scrambled some 'odds and ends' together (or in other words had a clear out) and stood as a dealer for the first time in years. It was an interesting experience and one I enjoyed to be honest, I had a number of cheaper cards and was told by one member that I was competing with Poundland. I'm not sure whether it was a compliment or an insult! I certainly took home a lot fewer cards than I brought. Maybe more members might be encouraged to have a clear out and a table.

There was a good attendance at the meeting and the final number was 57 and 4 visitors, the furthest from Nottingham. Among the lesser spotted member I saw Cliff Waller from Halesworth, Tony Debenham made a late appearance but still found time to search for those elusive cricket cards. Also with us were Tony and Gary Colman, who gave me some very interesting information on some Horniman cards I had on my table, after ½ an hours looking he finally paid 50p for them.

Other news to share .. I had a call from Aubrey James daughter to tell me his memorial service will be on Thursday 26th March at St. Mary's Church Otley near Ipswich at 2.00pm. Remember Aubrey was a D Day veteran and ardent collector, so I'm sure many members will want to be present. The family would like everyone to go back to the village hall after the service.

I have also been told of the death of another of our members, David Gosling who lived in Norwich had a fatal heart attack on January 19th. David has been a member for a few years and although not a monthly attender always came to see us 3 or 4 times a year. I have passed on sincere condolences from all club members to his family.

At the March meeting we will be presenting a cheque for £300 to the Royal British Legion following our Christmas raffle. The press will hopefully be with us.

Les will be back in March and will start collecting this year's subscriptions of £6.00 from members. Better value will be difficult to find. We have the AGM to look forward to in April. I'm in the process of 'pulling together' a financial balance sheet for those interested. This will be a chance to replace us officers if you wish, we have been doing it now for 10 years so maybe it's time for a change.

Our website has been one of the most successful aspects of the club, but unfortunately our web meister Jackie is retiring and we need to replace her ASAP, any offers or suggestions would be welcome.

An update on the 2016 convention, I think Peterborough is out of the frame now, with no venue being suitable. Apparently St.Neots and Huntingdon is being explored.

After a morning of 'wheeling and dealing', Alan had some tasty lots for our auction and at 1.00pm the room was ready and I counted 21 hopeful faces, looking for a card delight in the 211 lot auction. The final figures were ...

Total sold £3750 from 6 vendors, of which 18 in house bidders spent £2255, 18 postal bidders spent £1495 and only 19 went unsold. Top spot went to the reliable Lot 185 a set of Churchman Prominent Golfers teed off for £240. Nothing went wrong with the computer this month and although the auction started at 1.00pm we were cashed and cleared up very promptly, and I drove out of the car park at 2.25pm.

Next month we meet on the same date Saturday 21st March and have a plethora of dealers booked in with us as well as a smashing auction of quality cards. Enclosed with this newsletter is the April auction list.

Dealers booked in are Martin Toms, Mike Heard, Ken Courtney, Peter Beer, Peter Russell, and Geoff McMillan, plus 'of course' our own Club table stacked high with Albums and Pages to keep your cards all neat and tidy. Also as well you will find members books with many highly sort after cards.