

EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No. 465

Report of a meeting held at Roydon Village Hall on Saturday 21st May 2011

What a busy month it has been, it was great to see so many EACCC members at the Stratford upon Avon convention, a very successful event indeed with over 50 dealers present (all ciggy card sellers) and in excess of 500 visitors. Alan, Bob and I played the pre-convention golf competition – without success I'm afraid – although we did sneak in the prizes as 'team joint runners up' well I did sort out the scorecards at the end. Next year our near neighbours and friends are hosting the convention at Lincoln Showground.

I was a bit concerned about today's meeting, with all the 'big dealers' choosing to go to Woking instead and Bill unable to attend as he had an operation on his eye the day before so what was going to happen. The boys travelled with me as usual with the usual chatter and banter, the expectations building as we approached Roydon. Straight in to the fro we went, our 280 lot auction took but a few minutes to sort out, Muriel and Vera were in place and feeling able to cope without the guardian angel looking over their shoulder and away went the day at a frenetic pace. I did seem to have more time to chat and it was good to catch up with many members. Ron Newstead wasn't with us because I heard he had come off his motorbike and had been in hospital for a short time but is getting better slowly and will be back with us later in the year. Another member had some Singer trade cards of birds he couldn't identify but a chat with one of many trade card experts soon shed some light on what they were. I was told by the girls that 85 members came through the door with 8 visitors and 7 dealers.

Over our 2nd cup of coffee and with the Chairman in tow, we sat down to discuss many various items that related to the club. The most pressing was how we dealt with the numerous suggestions made by various members on how we should spend some of the club's money (as mentioned in last month's newsletter). After instantly rejecting some suggestions like a coach trip to America card hunting? And one or two more obscure ideas we looked at the more practical ideas. There were two priorities 1... Don't spend it all – we need £2/3k a year for running costs (hall postage etc. etc.) and 2... It's the member's money and they should benefit from it.

So the final decisions were --

a... free tea and coffee for all members and visitors all day- not restricted to just one as at present. We don't think members would abuse this but Kelly would monitor it for us.

b... reduce the vendor's commission to 5% from June to December to encourage quality items for our auction. All total collections would be 5% from June.

c... we reinstate the full sit-down Christmas Dinner at the December meeting – free or with a small contribution from members (depending on cost). Kelly is happy to organise this for us. It would be on the club's December date (2nd Saturday) at Roydon Village Hall, but would just be a dinner, auction and raffle (possibly for charity), no dealers. The only difficulty might be is a 120 limit on the hall for a sit-down at table's meal

d... the final suggestion which we had received in writing from a member was that all officers of the club be made 'honorary' and therefore excluded from paying the subscription. We all work many hours for the benefit of the club in our various capacities and enjoy doing it, but it was being seen as a way of appreciating our efforts.

Membership - this month was the last call for the subscriptions to be paid and Alex and Val were grabbing everyone who came in for their £5, and they got a lot in with just 13 members not paid so they will be written off and not receive this newsletter. We welcomed 4 new members this month, David Davis (Magda cards), Sean Cresswell from Lincoln, Stan Nicholls from Bury St. Edmunds and Douglas Rumsey from Mannigtree. It is not our intention to circulate a membership list this year but any member can have a copy, just by asking me.

There was great anticipation ahead of today's auction, after all the first 155 lots were from the Roy Wilson collection, along with the fact that Alan had given out over 100 May auction lists at the convention, meant that there was a lot of extra postal bids to contend with. One new bidder sent in over £2000 worth of bids. It was as expected a great auction with a final figure of £6925 with nearly £4500 going postal, Very few withdrawals (45) with top price going to Lot 7 Players Authors and Poets £320 It is expected we will be selling Roy's collection up to September at least. Don't forget if you want 4 albums with slipcases all nearly new for just £10 see Alan before the auction starts, still a few left.

We only have to wait 4 weeks before we do it all again.

Dealers with us in June... Mike Heard, John Haddon-Silver,
Martin Toms, Ken Courtney, Jim Reynolds, Dave Norman,
Peter Beer, Chris Bree

Plus our own fabulous 'Club table' – bring in your own albums of spare odds in, we have restocked our Albums and Pages as well for you,

Next meeting Saturday 10th June 2011 at Roydon Village Hall
8.30am to 3.30pm Auction at 1.00pm.