

East Anglian Card Collectors Club

Newsletter No. 609

Saturday 15th April 2023

Another month, another meeting, another newsletter, everyone who turned up today were still talking about last month and the difficulties we had to overcome just to have our club meeting, it will go down in EACCC folk lore history! This month the road outside had been completed and it all looked very nice with bright white road markings and a smooth surface, a very unusual thing to say about Britain's road network.

I wasn't really sure what to expect this month with the National Convention just a week away and just up the road – it appears dealers knew what was afoot and we only had 5 booked in and Darren's vertigo was still playing up so he couldn't make it, we had just 4 but I think they all did alright. I'm sure members were saving their hard earned money for next weeks big spend, there was great expectations all round and a number of questions flying everywhere – what is the postcode of the centre (PE30 2NB), how many dealers are coming (26), what time can I get in (CSGB members 10.00, non members 12.00 Saturday, everyone 10.00 Sunday). By the time you get this newsletter it will be all over and we will be thinking, where will it be in 2024, but that's a long way off.

We had a major hurdle to overcome again this month, our caterer got her dates wrong and was a no show (she thought it was next week) if only she read the newsletter !! Anyway we couldn't conjure up any food but we did manage tea's and coffee, thanks to the great effort of Ray Huggins who did an absolutely life saving magnificent job of providing drinks for us all day. It certainly saved my day. Many many thanks Ray, a round of applause please. Ray's 'oppo' Graham has had a fall downstairs and damaged the muscles in his back, so is out for six weeks, he is gutted he will miss the National.

Once again I forgot to do a head count but would estimate around 45 members came along, some to just say hello and do a bit of socialising. My main target this month was to tie up any loose ends for next weekend as we were the hosts, we wanted everything to go right. Les had done the rota for the door (Saturday only) and our club table where we were selling Albums and Pages, a few unsold lots and a few reference books which had been donated to the club. Thanks for everyone who volunteered it really helped. Alan had sorted out some special lots from the May/June auction for people to look at and hopefully leave bids. Our June auction is to be circulated to all 550 members of the Cartophilic society world wide so we expect many extra postal bidders.

– Have you picked up your free pen yet, come along next month and get one.

Back to the day there seemed to be a lot of discussions going on, Alan and Ann had a discussion about the auction and decided to bring it forward to 12.30, so were ready in good time to pass on the 250 lots to their new owners. Once again it was a low key auction many

lots struggling to raise a bid. It's not really fair on the vendors if we knock their £100 set down for a £1, so we decided on new guidelines to follow. That is a lot valued at £20 and under we can sell for a £1, with a value of up to £50 minimum £2 and anything above £100 would be a minimum of £3. It seemed to work and Alan did a excellent job of applying it. There was not really a lot of quality cards, mostly common Players and Wills etc etc, top spot was only sold for £80, that was for Lot 37 a nice set Barratt Cricket 2nd series. May and June auctions are a lot better, already we have a bid for over £500 for one lot. Three lots in May have a catalogue value of over £1000. We have a really special set coming up in September, almost mint set of Barratt Famous Footballers A12 series with the George Best card alone recently selling for £6k, so we have high hopes for that set. Today however we had 23 successful postal bidders who spent £1250 on 85 lots, a further 13 members were present to spend £588 on 130 lots. There were 35 unsold lots returned to the owners and 9 vendors.

That wrapped up our 609th meeting and we were on the road home by 2.45pm., all cashed up and balanced. Next month we meet on Saturday 20th May with 6 dealers booked in, Gary Challis, Mike Heard, Brian Pentalow, Robert Butterworth, Darren Moyse (we hope) and Peter Beer. Roydon Hall is the venue and any time after 8.30am.

I have delayed putting together this newsletter so I can include a sentence or two about the convention. Did you go and enjoy the experience of an awesome two days card searching and socialising. What an event it turned out to be, an exceptional venue – Kings Lynn Lynnsport – well lit with plenty of free parking, and hot food was just the start. Twenty six of the countries top card dealers including one from America. There were three of these dealers just collectors in reality just selling their collections. In all well over 300 attended including dealers, their helpers, council members and people who were just interested in our hobby. I know of at least 8 Americans who came over specifically to attend. I don't think they went home disappointed. Thank you everyone who got involved and gave up an hour or two to collect money from the visitors door. In all 119 attended the Saturday and 93 on the Sunday. The second day is usually much quieter, this years total the best for many years. Did you find many cards to complete sets, I found a very rare Bridgewater Mickey Rooney card I have been looking for many a long year plus some Monty Gum cards I hadn't seen before. It was a very long two days and took me a bit of time to recover but it was worth every minute. Our club table took over £600 for club funds mainly through the sale of albums and pages, Alan also got several bids for future auctions. I think about 50 of our members made it to one or both days. Next years venue has yet to be found, somewhere in the Birmingham area looks to be favourite but it has become difficult to find a building that ticks all the boxes, mainly affordable, large enough and easy access with a club to host. I will let you know when I know. Well done everyone it was a truly great and memorable two days.

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