

East Anglian Card Collectors Club

Newsletter No. 528

Saturday 20th August 2016

It's always a funny month to predict August, most other clubs take a summer break but we know East Anglian's get severe withdrawal symptoms if they have to wait 10 weeks for a meet. They always support this holiday month and even a few members from other clubs come along to see us. Although rain was forecast it didn't reach us but the members did and our new greeter Doreen checked in 64 members and 4 visitors, the furthest from Market Rasen near Lincoln.

Everything was in full swing when we pulled into the car park, the boys had done a great job setting out the furniture and our dealers were all busy sorting and checking their stock. Nice to see Mike Heard and John Shaw back with us and displaying their extensive range of cartophilic wonders. Martin Toms didn't turn up which was 'of concern' to many members (I heard later that he was feeling unwell but hopes to be with us next month). John Haddon Silver and Peter Beer were busy, even Alan Wilde turned up with some postcards to sell. Ken Courtney could be found in his usual place in the back room with the lovely Alice helping him. Roger Mann will be back next month.

There was quite a buzz again this month with the extensive number of modern cards – mostly football – that Alan has to dispose of, it also includes many used albums and slipcases which he wants to move on. He did sell all his cards with Peter Beer sweeping up the remnants at the end of the day. Apparently he gives them away to local schools to encourage new collectors. There are a few albums left which Alan will bring next month.

It was great to catch up with everyone as it seemed a long five weeks since our last meet. Had a chat with Barry and Ken (the boys) who were able to stop a while this month. Doreen told me Bruce Tyrell is still unwell. I also had a chat with Ron Newstead without his son this month, he was telling me that coming to the club is the highlight of every month for him, as I'm sure it is for many members. Nice to see Derek Lugo back with us after a few months' break, somebody whispered to me he was 92 years young. We have had an influx of new members recently who have all become regulars, another new member this month Richard Buckle from Bacton in Suffolk – you are most welcome. Just heard from our good friend Ted Wareham, he is home after a long stay in hospital and back sorting his cards out again. He is eagerly awaiting delivery of an electric wheelchair. He has ready for us quite a few lots for our auction which I will pick up in the next couple of weeks and Alan will put them in a New Year auction.

During the course of the meeting one of our past members brother bought us in a

nice collection of lovely condition cards for us to sell in a future auction. – 5 very large albums full of excellent condition cards, again they will go in the New Year. This was the collection of John Madden from Norwich who died earlier this year.

It was great to welcome Doreen Roderick as our new ‘Meeter and Greeter’, thank you for volunteering, I know it is always nice to receive a warm and friendly welcome when you walk in a hall like ours, Doreen is spot on for that. Thank you.

I did get a chance this month to see what delectable treats were on offer from our dealers and picked up a few cards to try and complete some sets. Next year’s convention has been confirmed as Stratford upon Avon ‘Shakespeare’s city’ on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th April 2017. Checking out hotel vacancies is proving difficult – it’s the bard’s birthday celebration week and the hotels seem to be cashing in!

Did everyone see the sponge cake on offer in the back room, I saw it mid-morning, and it was magnificent, by the time I went through for lunch there was one slice left which Alan quickly devoured. I did see John Shaw with two huge slices, not for his dogs I hope. Nice to hear we kept Sally busy all morning.

I must give a mention this month to our members table, stacked high this month with albums from members, a plethora of cards available. Thanks to Bob and Jill for keeping it all under control. Many cartophilic bargains were available.

As the auction hour came round. Like a ‘well oiled’ machine Anne and Alan soon collated the lots and were ready by 1.00pm to find new homes for all the cards on offer to an expectant and enthusiastic audience eager to spend their hard earned cash. We currently have a good stock of cards to sell but will be looking for new cards to sell in the New Year. Alan is currently listing January and has enough for up to March 2017. The pick of next month’s auction has to be Lot 162 a complete set of Carreras Turf Slides Famous Cricketers. These are ultra-rare as they are mostly cut down to card size; an estimate of £80 - £100 seems to be real bargain.

There was quite a selection on offer this month, among the 250 lots, and Alan only took 75 minutes to distribute them to new owners. The facts and figures were total sold for £2984, to 20 in-house bidders spending £1598, 18 postal bidders spending £1236, with only 2 vendors and remarkably only 16 unsold. Top spot went to Lot 23 a lovely set of John Players Famous Irish Greyhounds bounded away for a mere £95.00. This month the computer had no gremlins and we were ‘dun and dusted’ packed up and locked up and on the road by quarter to three.

Next month it’s only 4 weeks until we meet again, same time same place.

-- SATURDAY 17th SEPTEMBER --

Dealers booked in include Peter Beer, Ken Courtney, John Haddon Silver, Martin Toms, Roger Mann and Peter Workman. Space for one more anyone interested.

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