

# East Anglian Card Collectors Club

Newsletter No. 604

Saturday 17th December 2022

*There is always something special about our last meeting of the year, it's not so much about card collecting, it's more about being with your special interest friends, it's about charity and fun. I'm sure many members considered whether or not to make the trip to Roydon, the weather the days prior was not good with ice in the early morning but not many could miss it and it turned out to be a very very successful meeting.*

*In years gone by we used to all sit down to a more 'formal' 3 course dinner all dressed in our finery, only to be regaled with stories and jokes by our then very verbose chairman John Knowles. Times have changed, the membership has changed as the club has developed, we are much more social and friendly now. This days structure was introduced when we moved to Roydon in 2009 and it seems to work for us so it has become well immersed in our Christmas December meeting tradition.*

*You could feel the atmosphere building throughout the morning, many members arrived early specifically to checkout the dealers cards, many having travelled many miles in the cold and ice (no fog or snow, 'thank goodness'). The dealers were happy as many members bought their 'Chrissy' presents for their selves and added nicely to their collections. What a great display of jumpers there were this year, really wonderful. In total 47 members came to Roydon and two visitors. The visitors made a donation towards the buffet. Sad to report to members the death of a friend and member, Richard Corby from Attleborough. Richard was a relatively new member (3 years), he came to the club regularly and was last with us in August. His funeral is on December 30<sup>th</sup> at Catton, I have sent condolences on behalf of the club to his mother.*

*As it's the end of the year I have done the calculations and of our 89 members - 16 came to all 12 meetings in 2022, 9 further members missed just the one meeting and a further 20 never came to any meeting. This just demonstrates to me the loyalty and friendship of the members. We must be doing something right. I was asked today about the dates for next year and repeat them for everyone now. = 21<sup>st</sup> January, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 15<sup>th</sup> April, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 17<sup>th</sup> June, 15<sup>th</sup> July, 19<sup>th</sup> August, 21<sup>st</sup> October, 18<sup>th</sup> November, 16<sup>th</sup> December. = it is very easy to remember the third Saturday of every month.*

*The auction was two hours earlier today and the 200 lots were quickly and smoothly knocked down by Alan. We didn't have to wait long for the top slot - Lot 1 a very nice almost complete set James Taddy Medals & Decorations but with the extremely rare black backs selling for £670 - unfortunately the rest of the auction was the usual ! The total sales were £2211 this was spent by 17 successful in house bidders £662 and by 16 successful postal bidders spending a further £1549. There*

were 9 vendors and only 15 remained unsold. Ann very kindly donated a very large 'Eeyhore' cuddly toy which was sold at the start of the auction for £22 which went into the charity pot. Next month's list was sent out last month and you should find the February list enclosed. Alan is putting the final touches to the April listing and has some very nice and very rare cards to include.

Chairman Les was up next and took the opportunity to thank everyone who helped make the club work, it is very much a team effort and takes a lot of time to make it what it is today. Les particularly highlighted the many hours that Alan (and his wife Gill) put into the auction and myself on the newsletter and other matters. We all received gifts as a mark of appreciation. Then it was buffet time and what a buffet it was - an enormous spread of wonderful Christmas themed food. I can categorically state we all ate and drank as much as we wanted., it was tremendous and plenty of it. Most members went back at least twice to enjoy the wonderful spread. As usual a few members had brought their 'dockie' bags (and boxes) so nothing was wasted. Thank you Kate and Sally for doing us proud.

Then when we had cleared up it was time for our giant charity raffle. Many many thanks to everyone who donated prizes and then bought tickets. This years chosen charity is Bowel Cancer UK and they will be along to the January meeting to collect a cheque for £360 - - a truly great effort. I think most members won at least one prize and several members including Brian, Chris and Alan won as many as 8 prizes. We had well over 80 prizes to distribute. I can't thank everyone enough for their generosity. Ann our unofficial club photographer took pictures of the event, I will print them off and hope members will take the opportunity to have a look at them next month.

I still have a few copies of the Murray's book of dreams left,if any one needs one, please ask, they are only £10 each. Can I remind everyone of our club table where you will find all new albums and pages at the cost price. They are the best display books to use for storing your cards.

Next year, we start our 14<sup>th</sup> year at Roydon on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2023 Dealers booked in include Mike Heard, Brian Pentalow, Peter Beer, Darren Moyse, and Robert Butterworth. Gary Challis also intends to come, lets hope he makes it.

=== Room for one more, give me a ring ===

Finally may I take this opportunity to wish every single member a truly great 2023 and thank you most sincerely for making our club such a great place to be once a month.

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