

East Anglian Card Collectors Club

(Celebrating 50 years in October 2019)

Newsletter No. 562

Saturday 15th June 2019

There seemed to be a lot to do this month, mainly in the preparation for the meeting. I had an early ride in to see the boys and when I walked in Barry and Ken were putting the finishing touches to the hall preparation. Great to see Ken back with us again after his adventures and illnesses, he was looking super well. We had a good chat about all things cartophilic and golf, but it wasn't long before the first dealer Mike Heard came bursting through the doors with his stock of cartophilic delights. For the third month in a row he tried to persuade me to buy his excellent set of A&BC Scottish Footballers but we have a long way to go before he will succeed !

We had a full house of dealers booked in but Ken Courtney couldn't make it and two further no shows Gary Challis and Alan Wilde. That was very disappointing because not for the first time this year I have had to turn dealers down. I can usually replace a dealer with 48 hours notice so please let us know.

Although it was slow in the morning (or seemed slow) there was a steady trickle of perusers and buyers. My 'blue' sticker last month did the trick and spurred many members into paying their subscriptions altogether we have lost only 8 members. A new copy of the membership list with contact information will be available next month, not everyone wants a copy so I will only produce a limited number they will be on the reception desk as you come in. Nice to see some familiar faces back with us after a break, Tim Bloomfield has been inundated with Saturday work and has found it difficult to come. It was great to see Ron Newstead and his son Mark back with us and bidding lively in the auction. Among the other Gary Daynes, Beryl and Tony Page and Ron Newman also showed up and 'of course' everyone is most welcome. There were no visitors this month and in total 60 members put in an appearance.

I had a ride out to the wilds of Stowmarket last weekend to view and discuss our late member Alan Huggins collection with his widow and family. Her daughter and son in law have the collection and want it all to go through the club – all 250+ albums and 40+ boxes of odds . I filled my car up and have started the process of preparing them for auction. There is a lot of work involved but they are quality cards and many many rare and expensive ones – many of which I have never seen before. Alan was a very astute buyer who although a general collector got a lot of pleasure (as we all do) from collecting and has accumulated a fantastic collection, for his sake we need to do it justice and sell them for the best price we can get.

I bought a few used albums to sell on the club table and they all sold before 11.00am, more will be available next month, on a first come first served basis

– £1.50 each or £2.00 with a slipcase. Also available on the club table was a book by a local author about the Austin Seven (car) on cigarette cards. Locally produced about 12 copies remain at 50p each, proceeds to Cancer Research. Incidentally I took a cheque for £180 into my local Cancer Research shop last month at the request of one of last month's vendors.

We were able to move the plans on for our forthcoming 50th anniversary celebrations in October, a free buffet will be available to all members, along with a commemorative gift. I think I will keep it a secret – what it is – but it is very nice and will be a welcomed commemoration of our truly unique event.

A couple of members have asked if we could include an address on every month's newsletter (so they can send in their subscriptions!) so I have put mine on the bottom of the sheet.

As the day progressed, we had several coffee breaks and a 'pasty' for lunch then it was auction time. Everyone was seated and ready 15 minutes before the allotted time and with encouragement from Ann and a enthusiastic and keen room of eager bidders, Alan started early. He soon whipped the audience into a bidding frenzy (sorry I was thinking of another auction I went to !) and rolled through the 250 lots smoothly and slickly. It wasn't a great auction – quality wise – and the final figures reflected that notion, although we did beat last month's total JUST. We did our best to move them on to new homes. As that person on 'Flog it' says quality always sells. I'm sure we are selling cards that have been through our auction several times now. I was sorting some out a few weeks ago that still had our auction numbers on !! There is always a few highlights each month that make it worthwhile but we need to clear £200 profit each month just to cover our costs. For a second month running we didn't.

The final facts and figures are the 250 lots sold for £1763. There were 9 successful postal bidders spending £432, a further 20 successful in house bidders who spent £1331. There were 5 vendors and a remarkable 83 unsold lots. Top Lot this month was number 28 a part set 45/50 Wills Cricketers (with a small s) being knocked into touch for a bargain £55.

Next month we meet on Saturday 20th July 2019.

– five whole weeks to wait –

Roydon Village Hall – 8.30am to 3.00pm Auction 1.00pm

Dealers booked in are Peter Beer, Ken Courtney, John Haddon Silver, Geoff McMillan John Shaw and of course 'Brian and Chartlie.

Space for ONE more if you would like to sell some cards.

Chairman Les Woolnough 01473 743794

Secretary/Treasurer Colin Fawcett 01553 674358

1, Levers Close, Kings Lynn Norfolk PE30 3UU

Auctioneer Alan Worthington 01473 714411

