

# East Anglia Card Collecting Club

Newsletter No. 618    Saturday 20th January 2024

The awful weather in the North, as usual, never ventured South, thank goodness, we had lovely weather in Roydon all day. There seems a lot to report this month and some good news and some bad. Let's start with the bad, sorry to report to members the death of another stalwart, our good friend Ken Short has unfortunately died. He wasn't at the December meeting as he was in hospital where he caught Covid which developed into pneumonia, he died on the 23rd December, too late for inclusion in the last newsletter. His funeral was on Thursday 11th January and attended by 3 members and a few neighbours and friends. Ken has been a member since 2000 and is number 16 in the 2007 EACCC Personalities set. He was one of the 'boys' who helped set up the hall for our meetings. His specialism was silks among other collectables which included militaria and pin tables. He will be missed by many members, thank you Richard Buckle for stepping in to help at this meeting.

There was plenty going on when I crossed the threshold at ten past eight, everyone was eager to get set up and start selling. The early birds duly obliged, money and cards were soon exchanging ownership. I took four type albums from the 'Gus' collection and they proved very popular once again, banking a further £300 in his developing funds. There were some eager buyers today and all the dealers had a good day, unfortunately Robert Butterworth wasn't feeling to great and couldn't make it. Get well Rob and we hope to see you next month.

The day progressed well, with lots of action, setting up the auction I couldn't find 50 lots and it took a lot of searching to find where I had stored them safely, I didn't fancy a ride back to Kings Lynn, Alan saved the day and found them in a box with a load of other ones. The members rolled in steadily all day and I have a final number of 56 members and 6 visitors. Sally was busy all morning and virtually sold out of all delicacies, good to see several members enjoying the all day breakfast.

We had to have a committee meeting today there was some important decisions to make, some were easy, others needed discussion. As a members club we believe that we don't need to keep a big bank balance (we will never have a rainy day) and this past year members have benefitted from our once large bank balance, remember ..... free year subscription, free pens and free Christmas buffet, to mention just a few. Our balance is now around £2/£2.5K which is just about good. Everything has gone up this year including the cost of cards but more to the point, postage and hall rent. As the club subscription is due in April, we agreed a small increase was needed and as from April 1st when subs are due, it will be £12 (a rise of £2), the first for 7 years. Les will be collecting this from the March meeting. Visitors entrance fee will rise to £3 from April. At the moment we have one or two dealers who are not members, this loophole will closed this year. We did consider charging dealers to stand (all other clubs tend to) but income from our auction should cover this for the time being. We also considered a summer

raffle for club funds but put this on hold. Incidentally we hope to present a cheque for £500 to Breast Cancer Now (proceeds from the Christmas raffle and a members donation) at the February meeting. The other decision we made was that as we have increased the auction to 300 lots, we would start all auctions this year at 12.30 instead of 1.00pm. There was a final decision concerning the April meeting we needed to make and as the National Convention has moved from Pudsey to Salisbury and changed the dates to 20/21st April, it clashed with our booked date. We agreed to change our meeting date in April to the 27th, luckily the hall is available that day. We have managed to change the date on all the auction sheets. We did check with Sally and most of the dealers and they were happy with this decision.

As usual in the January edition I highlight the members with the best attendance record from the past year and I'm pleased to tell you 14 members attended all twelve meetings last year, a further 8 only missed one meeting. There were 20 members who never made it at all to Roydon, our membership currently stands at exactly 100.

I have a huge number of used Albums to sell at the moment so take this opportunity to help yourself. They are £2 each (some have slight faults and these will be available at £1 each, slipcases are an extra £1. Don't forget we have a good stock of NEW albums and pages available all day at the price we pay, we don't always get them out of our cupboard, just ask us if you would like some, we will happily get them out. I will bring next month the collection of 'Fools & Horses ' memorabilia to sell for the best price I can get for it.

It was our first ever 300 lot auction this month and we were all ready to run at the new time and Alan soon got into the swing of it and finished around the same time as usual. It was very exciting at Lot 139, Sixteen Godfrey Phillips 1895 Seven Gold Medals (estimated £10 -15) where two members were very keen to get their hands on these rare cards and after a frenetic round of bidding they were knocked down for £420 to a hearty round of applause from the members. Alan was trying very hard to have a complete sale this month but unfortunately he had 6 unsold at the end of the day but it wasn't through lack of trying. The final figures were 300 lots sold for a total of £5006 for the 6 vendors. There were 19 successful in house bidders spending £2565 on 187 lots and a further 28 successful postal bidders who spent £2441 on 107 lots. I've given a mention to the top lot. We began the sale this month of the Gus Garrod collection with 50 lots, 100s and 100s still to come well into 2025.

Next month we meet on **Saturday 17th February** , usual place and time. **Auction at 12.30** The dealers booked in are Mike Heard, Peter Beer, Richard Buckle, Robert Butterworth, Sean Coafield, Richard Spurgin, John Shaw, Mike Murphy Gary Challis and Brian Pentalow. Two dealers will be in the back room.

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