

East Anglia Card Collecting Club

Newsletter No. 624 Saturday 20th July 2024

It is always nice to meet in the summer month's - driving over early in the morning light, empty roads, you can't beat it, just me and Tony Blackburn !. I reckon some dealers and members suffer from insomnia, because I got to Roydon at twenty five minutes to eight and Mike and Peter were busy setting the tables out. We were one short today setting up, poor Barry Allen has covid and couldn't come (get well soon, see you next month), but we all did a little bit extra and I even cajoled a couple of early birds to help set up. We were ready by 8.00, so I went and put the kettle on. Quite a few members come early to have a go at the type books that are put out and get a bargain. I only had three books this month and a couple of boxes (which went very early), but they still found a lot of cards to add to their collection.

After last month's plethora of dealers we were fewer this month with just five selling us their wares, unfortunately Darren Moyse had to cover at work and didn't make it so at times the room looked underused, won't be a problem next month, see the end of the newsletter.

I didn't count the number of members attending but there were 45 coffee's sold so I would think we were around 50 in number. We had 5 visitors today, all regular faces (mostly from convention) but one making his first appearance. It was nice to welcome Keith Millar (from the London branch), I think he had a good day and he bought several lots in the auction. I hope they all had a good day and found plenty of cards to take home. We were a bit light on members but then we never expect big numbers in July, it's traditionally a holiday month but next month is usually one of our busiest as not all club's open in August and collectors need that monthly fix of card hunting and come to see us.

It was a busy morning of 'wheeling and dealing', buying and selling, I sold a lot of new pages this month and need to restock specifically on larger pages so a order will be done before the next meet. I really need to give our cupboard a good sort out so we can see what's out of stock and needs ordering. We sell them for virtually what we pay for them so although the club covers it's overheads, it is really a service for the members. Please continue to support it. We have a huge number of used albums to sell (50 plus), most in very good condition, and if not they clean up with warm soapy water very easily, so please help us to clear some space, they are only £1 each, you won't find a better price anywhere else, it is certainly an opportunity to put some in your stock, they won't be available at this price forever.

The morning passed very quickly and when we went in the back room for our lunch, it was full of members, so we had our 'pies' in the main hall. I think Sally does a great job for us with a lovely selection of hot and cold food, her breakfasts look especially good.

When the auction hour came round (12.30) we were ready, it was a first for us, all 300 lots from the same vendor (Gus), same again next month (and October) but as always there was something for everyone and the final figure of £3889 reflected that. There were 20 successful in house bidders who spent £1320 on 151 lots and a further 27 successful postal bidders spending £2569 on 126 lots, only 23 remained unsold. A lovely set of Pattrieuex Speedway riders raced into top spot for about half their catalogue value. Right now I have to explain a glitch we had this month with the computer (that's why I was asking members what they had spent), for some reason it failed to record all the final selling page (251 to 300). So unfortunately if you bought a lot /or two from this final page you may have paid us wrongly. I have a list of six members who underpaid, and have written on the bottom of this newsletter if it's you and by how much. We would be grateful if you could square up with us next month. Apparently the correct phrase reads ' half the pivot table on the last page didn't register'.

Next month we are bringing the postal auction lots for you to view (and leave a bid), a list of the magnificent 500 lots is included with this newsletter. We will be around to help those that need it, but our plea to all members is 'please try and keep them in the right numerical order. Bidding sheet and spare lists will be available on the table. We will repeat the opportunity at the September meeting. Any bids can be left with Alan or myself and will be treated in the strictest privacy. You have until Monday 30th September to make your offer, and any you win will be brought to the October meeting for settlement. Not all silly offers will be accepted if we think more can be got from selling it at a later date, the auctioneers decision is final.

Next month we meet on Saturday 17th August at Roydon Village Hall from 8.30 to about 3.00pm Dealers booked in are Peter Beer, Richard Buckle, Sean Coafield, Mike Heard, John Shaw and all the way from the welsh border Peter Russell. A full house guaranteed. Darren Moyse has said he is coming but I have lost faith in his appearance, but we will fit him in if he shows.

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