

EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No.475

Report of a meeting held at Roydon Village Hall on Saturday 17th March 2012

There was a dramatic build up to the 475th meeting of our club, and it turned out to be a long hard day! You always know when something is going to happen and it did at 8.00pm on the Friday night - - we had no caterers.

The build-up involved our good friend and club PR man Alex being rushed to hospital during the previous week, the reports from Val telling me there was little improvement, they diagnosed he has Bronchial Pneumonia and is still in the ITU unit at Bury St Edmunds hospital. Anyway to cut a long story short Kevin hurt his foot and couldn't walk so we had no caterers. After a chat with Les and a couple of pleading calls, I was in Morrison's at 10.00pm buying tea, coffee and cake to keep the multitude fed at the meeting. Get well Alex and Kevin soon, we missed you. Thank you to Ken Short, Mrs Wareham and Mrs Glancy for organising and serving the drinks so capably.

I knew several people weren't able to get this month, besides the above, Ken and Alice Courtney couldn't make it, Jill & Bob Jennings had their annual table tennis championship on this day. Nonetheless 68 members came along with 6 visitors and 7 dealers plus 1 dog. Among the rarely seen members Alan and Muriel Utting came again, he's still searching for his East Suffolk Churches. Did you know Alan has visited every one of the churches on the two sets (I believe he said that only one is missing). I did have a word with the Pages (Beryl and Tony) who came along just to pay their subscriptions; it must be out of darts season. I also saw Tony Impey with us again. Ken Short isn't sure whether he is going to get to the club again in the foreseeable future; he needs to be at home to look after his poorly wife. I'm pleased to report Muriel back in good health and was able to congratulate our President on his recent 96th birthday. He missed his bacon roll this month but I did see him tucking in to two slices of Madeira cake. Two locals called in to see what was going on - attracted by our board outside - and are bringing their collection in next month to be valued, lots of Liebig and Brooke Bond I heard.

Amongst the dealers present, nice to welcome Geoff McMillan from Melton Mowbray (he loves coming to EACCC he told me) also our new recently retired 'bobby' on his second visit Paul Lynch, John Shaw had a good day (it was his dog by the way) as I understand did Ken Sandeman. Missing was Martin Toms (just discovered his car was pelted with stones on his way to Roydon and he decided to turn round and go home - quite understandably). For the second month in a row Peter Beer was a lonely figure in the corner, missing his able partner and sidekick Neville, still away on his world cruise.

I spent the majority of the meeting collecting subscriptions for the coming year and to be honest I quite enjoyed the experience. I'm rather poor at putting names to faces and this task has helped, it was like trying to squeeze water out of a stone from some members, but most realised what great value it was and I came away with 71 paid up members (nearly half the membership) - one or two escaped me but I will ready for them next month. I am doing away with written receipts for the £5 membership; you know whether you're paid or not, just make sure I tick you off my list when you cross my palm with a nice new crisp £5 note. You have April and May to pay up and avoid the dreaded red spot on your newsletter.

Next month it is our AGM and no doubt the usual waive of apathy will prevail but to make it more interesting (!) I am putting together a financial balance sheet so members present can see how our money is spent or not in some cases. I understand all officers are willing to stand for a further term and if you attend the meetings regularly (which most members do) or read the newsletter (which I believe 1 or 2 members do) you will know what goes on, so we do not need to prepare long winded reports telling everyone how good our club is, you already know.

I don't think a minibus or coach is going to the Cartophilic Convention in Lincoln but it is easy to find if you're driving - on the A15 just north of the city. A good train service goes to Lincoln and I am given to understand a taxi will cost about £10 from the station to the showground - cheap if you share. A bus service does operate but it drops you at the main gate and it is a good walk down to the convention hall, worth it though with 65 dealers present including three from USA and Canada. Bet their not selling Brooke Bond. So try and get, you will have a great day out - don't forget the dates 27th/28th April. Alan will be flying the EACCC flag in the pre-convention golf tournament at Canwick Park Golf Club. I'm sure he can do it; after all he is a bandit off his 14 handicap. I'm not playing this year (it's my wife's birthday) better not say too much Ipswich beat Peterborough this afternoon, I will never hear the last of that, seems a long while since Posh won 7-1.

It seems the Olympic coin collectors have reached a peak with just the Weightlifting being the elusive one; most people just need that to complete.

As the day moved on we were ready at the appointed hour to begin redistributing the wealth of cards and related items through our auction. Although we are missing a prime collection to sell the 171 lots reached a respectable £2313. Top spot went to Lot 130 Taddy VC Heroes for £220, whereas 58 lots went unsold and only £734 went postal. With this month's newsletter is the May Auction list and a special on it is too, only 194 Lots but some fantastic material. Rare type cards, very rare American trade sets, loads of football interest, an awesome collection of 'Smith's' sets plus rare Players, rare Ardath Photocards and Fry's, ATC the mouth-watering list goes on and on. Well done Alan on putting together a super special Auction, all you have to do is come along with a bit of cash and bid for whatever you fancy. A copy of this list will be going in the goody bag of everyone who attends the convention so expect some strong postal bids to be in. These are rare never to be seen cards and may be your only opportunity to add them to your collection. I am expecting the club record to be broken this month (currently £7200). Remember though it is 12th May (2nd Saturday) not our usual 3rd. This is the first of three date changes this year (the other September and November) because the hall was already booked when I asked for our regular date. Finally on the Auction Alan is currently seeking items for future auctions - we cannot sell common Players/Wills/Gallaher's and Brooke Bond but stick them in a box of 500 or a 1000 and we might be able to find a new owner for them. Several people commented on the picture in last month's newsletter we will do it again sometime (when I can't think what to write).

Our next meeting is Saturday 21st April (just before Convention) at the usual venue Roydon Village Hall from 8.30 to 3.00pm

The dealers expected Mike Heard, Martin Toms Ken Courtney, Peter Beer, Jim Reynolds, John Haddon-Silver and Alan Wilde.

== Room for one more just gives Bill or me a ring. ==

Plus the Club Table will be back with a grand array of Albums and Pages including new stock.