

EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No.491 --- Saturday 20th July 2013

There was a good display of 'legs' at this month's meeting, the unusually hot weather meant it was suntan oil and the feel good factor mixing with the cartophilic searching, pleading and bargaining. The sun bought the members (and the visitors) to Roydon, although it seemed quiet early on by the time the auction came round we had a good audience for the sale of the delectable delights to be sold.

The morning saw the regular early birds, as usual, Barry and Ken had opened up and set out the chairs and tables, by the time we got there all was in full swing. Although we were a couple of dealers short, John Haddon Silver was suffering from the high pollen count associated with the hot weather and Neil Daniels had got his dates wrong, (he is with us next month instead). Martin Toms was back from his holiday in Thailand in his usual spot, John Shaw has adopted the bar side of the hall and calls it his own, Peter Beer was in his usual corner ably assisted as always by the General Proctor. It was nice to welcome Peter Russell to our part of the country; he told me it was 194 miles door to door for him. We really appreciate him making the trip. I hope it was worthwhile, I know he was busy most of the morning; I went to his table three times and couldn't get near because of the enthusiastic collectors. It does appear as if we have a 'tea leaf' in the club, unfortunately Peter Beer has had a set of A&BC Footballers removed from his stall without being paid for. All Stall holders be on alert, if they are caught they will be kicked out and never be allowed in again.

There were 5 visitors this month, two from Hastings in Sussex and two from Redhill in Surrey who along with the members and dealers made up a total of 80+. It was nice to welcome Gary May and Christine who came from Lincoln to pay their subscription, he managed to swap a day at work to come to the club.

During the morning we spend a lot of time chatting about all and everything - main topics this month - what are we going to do for the Christmas meet this year? Several members had their opinions and after much input, Les is going to explore the idea of a 'Christmas' themed buffet. We could probably do it for free (if it wasn't going to be too expensive). Unfortunately we clash with the North Kent club annual day meeting again this year, and most of the dealers traditionally go there - however Paul Lynch will be with us, be nice to have another 'big' dealer though! Any offers. A few of our members go to North Kent (I do when we don't clash) but EACCC is always well supported.

We have no news yet on the Calendar - John Smith who offered to do it hasn't been to club lately - probably in France on one of his long sabbaticals. Hope to get it sorted out soon. For our 500th meeting (May 2014) a special commemorative card is being designed and will be free to members. Only enough will be printed so they will become collector's items in years to come.

I have nearly finished sorting out the Surrey collection - only 1 box to go - 2350 Lots so far - they will be numbers 1 to 150 until at least August 2014. Some great cards coming up. The two visitors from Redhill in Surrey are the people tasked with disposing of the collection of their relative and they came along to see the first 100 lots go through this month. They were quite impressed and very pleased to be told that over £2000 was made for them - only 2250 to go. We also had another 100 lots of Dennis Towler's collection - last lot next month - so we have done very well. I understand possibly two more collections could be coming our way very soon, so the auction will be set up for at least the next two years. We don't want more than 250 - 280 a month although we could easily, but there is a limit to the depths of member's pockets. It has been suggested we have a 'sale' open to anyone on a first come first served basis for the unsold lots. We will explore that further - watch this space.

One o'clock soon came round and we were ready to find new homes for the 265 lots. There were some juicy items this month. The final cards from the type collection were up first and at one point we thought all the type collectors had gone home - only a few were moved on. Alan will be putting those unsold on eBay (vendor's instructions). The lots were soon rattled off and that's when the problems started. Technology is brilliant when it works and a pain when it doesn't. For some reason or other at the completion of the auction the computer decided to play up and as the queue got bigger and bigger, after all everyone wanted to go home or maybe to sunbathe on the terrace. Anyway we resorted to good old adding up with a pen and paper and got it almost right. Alan sorted out the computer on his return home and we had added up three buyers total wrong, Alan will see them next month. Anyway final figures - total sales £4070 with 93 unsold, 8 vendors, postal bids took £1957 and 20 in hall bidders took something new home. Top spot was never going to be in doubt; Lot 183 had caused a lot of telephone interest prior to the sale and an equal amount on the day, eventually the Large set of Churchman's Prominent Golfers all VG+ was knocked down for £530 - way above price guide.

Next month we meet on Saturday 17th August 2013
Dealers with us are Martin Toms, John Haddon Silver, Ken Courtney, Peter Beer and Neil Daniels. Room for one more, ring me if you want to have a clear out and sell some cards. Don't forget to visit our Club Table, a full array of Albums and Pages are for sale at ridiculously cheap prices. Plus many second hand Albums at only £1.00 each.