

EAST ANGLIAN CIGARETTE CARD CLUB

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Newsletter No. 513 — Saturday 16th May 2015

It was an early start for me (the boys were working) and I managed to get to the hall before quarter to eight and had most of the tables and chairs out before anyone else turned up. The girls were first and I could soon smell the coffee and bacon wafting through from the kitchen. I don't know whether it was the early start or the build up of the morning but it seemed very slow. Peter Beer and Neville were the first dealers on the scene (congratulations Peter on doubling your majority in the recent election), closely followed by John Haddon Silver (after a 2 month absence) but where was everyone else? John Taylor thought it was a 9.00am start so didn't rush to get to us from Melton Mowbray, then I started hearing reports of huge traffic jams on the approach to Diss (resurfacing work) but no sign of Martin Toms (it appears he has hurt his foot and couldn't drive) or Mike Heard (not like him to not let me know if he couldn't make it). The usual early birds were in evidence (not stopping because they wanted to get back to see the big match, Norwich tonking the Tractor boys. Paul Lynch asked me if he could be excused as he has a problem with his knees and I agreed because we had plenty of dealers booked in.

Joyce was busy checking everyone in throughout the morning – I made it

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members and three visitors. Nice to welcome Brian Weltman to the club from the wilds of Bucks, I hope he wasn't too disappointed with what he saw, he did find a few cards though. Also with us a new visitor from Bourne in Lincolnshire, a Mr John Shaw (no relation) but he bought quite a bit in the auction. After paying up, his final words were 'see you next month'.

As the morning progressed I had long chats with Alan, on the auction's future, Ipswich Town and golf, then another coffee and chat with Dave Scuffham on all things cartophilic and the awesome responsibility of being a granddad for the first time, Congratulations Dave and I would say 'well done' but you didn't actually do anything did you. Les was next and it was nice to catch up.

There was a good show of our members at the recent CSGB convention in Worcester, plenty of cards and many dealers who we don't see in the East. I found

quite a few cards to complete sets including some of the more rare A&BC gum cards. There was a good attendance on the Saturday (about 180 I believe) but much lower on the Sunday. As there were plenty of dealers present we didn't have to 'push and shove' our way to the delights. Next year is still in the balance, it definitely won't be Peterborough, I will tell you next month where we are going.

Sad to report another member has died, our good friend George Smith from Peterborough, quietly passed away in his home last Thursday. I liked George a nice man, I have spent many hours in his company, we always had something to talk about. He hasn't enjoyed good health this past year and has only been to our club three times, but he enjoyed his card collecting. We have been selling his collection 'on and off' over the past few months and more will be coming our way in due course. His funeral is on Tuesday 29th May at 1.30pm at Peterborough Crematorium. I will be going to the funeral and representing the club and to say a final farewell to a good friend. That's three members we have lost in as many months, tell's you a lot about the age group of our club.

The Roydon Village hall committee has been revitalised and I met the new booking clerk who tells me they are going to do some improvements in the hall particularly the back room. I have asked her to see if she can get some of the tables mended, there are at least three broken and unsafe to use.

The Diss branch of the Royal British legion have told us the seat they bought with our Christmas raffle donation will be unveiled on Monday 8th June, Les and Anne will be present and will be taking some pictures. The press have been invited.

The red dots did their trick last month, we have had 88 members renew their subscription, still another 13 to come so I will leave the membership update until next month, when they have not received this newsletter!

It was soon auction time and ½ time in the football (1-1) but we had our listeners (Peter Beer on the phone and another member on his car radio) keeping us up to date. After last month's poor auction we hoped for something better this month and the 227 lots did deliver a better total. Facts and Figures are the total lots sold made £1989, of which £772 went postal to 14 bidders and £1217 went in house to 20 bidders. There were 8 vendors and 60 unsold. Top spot went to Lot 118 a box of 500+ silks for just £95.

We could do with some more lots to sell, if you have any spare cards to share with your fellow collectors, Alan is currently listing our August auction so we have a three month turnaround. The July auction list is with this newsletter.

Our next meet is on Saturday 20th June 2015 same place, same time. Dealers booked in are John Haddon Silver, John Shaw, Ken Courtney, Peter Beer, Jean Dixon and Alan Wilde. Space for two more if anyone is interested.