

VOLUNTEER AWARDS



2021

TOGETHER, WE ARE KENT





We'd like to extend a warm welcome to all the volunteers attending the match today at The Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence.

This year we are celebrating all the volunteers in Kent that have made a real difference to the game up and down the county.

Volunteers are so important in cricket because they sustain every aspect of the game, from what happens on the pitch, to safeguarding, to the finance behind the scenes. The best thing for me is that volunteers provide support for anyone - of any ability. I remember when I first started playing cricket that it was a volunteer coach who spent time planning really engaging and fun cricket sessions that kept me coming back week after week.

People's reasons for volunteering in cricket vary from person to person - from a love of playing the game, the chance to meet people and make new friends, or the opportunity to use their professional skills to help their community are just a few examples.

During the lunch interval we will present the winners of the following awards:

- Alan Albury Memorial Awards
- Grassroots Cricket Awards
- ECB Coach Awards

The following pages highlight who our winners are and from what category they were nominated.

Congratulations to each and every one of you and I hope you enjoy your day with us.

1. Welcome
2. Alan Albury Awards
4. ECB Coach Awards
6. Grassroots Cricket Awards

COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Alan Albury was a founding Trustee of the Kent Recreational Cricket Welfare Trust (KRCWT). He was also Chairman of both the Kent Cricket Board and the Association of Kent Cricket Clubs for over 15 years, during which he made an immense contribution to recreational cricket.

Alan was keen that there should be recognition of those who give their time voluntarily to cricket and so these awards are given to those who have made an outstanding contribution to the life of their club over many years.

The Awards came into being in 2004, and are managed by the KRCWT. To date, there have been more than 150 volunteers recognised. The current trustees of the KRCWT are;

- Mrs. Pat Lippiatt
- Mr. Peter Robinson
- Mr. Michael (George) Cocks
- Mrs. Caroline Maxwell
- Mr. Pat Harlow
- Mr. Geoff Cox

WINNERS

Trevor Forte - BOCA Sports & Social Club

Trevor has been Treasurer, Fixture Secretary, League Rep, Coach and an overall organiser. He continues to coach at various schools and has especially helped with Sri Lankan children.

Eve Beer - Littlebourne Cricket Club

Eve was a much valued, committed member of the club who sadly passed away earlier this year after a short illness. Her speciality was feeding both home and away teams on a Saturday and Sunday for over 35 years.

Debbie Bensley - Farningham Cricket Club

Debbie is a Life Member of the Club and despite serious health issues has worked tirelessly to maintain the financial stability of the club. She has also worked alongside her husband Paul in organising the Annual Quiz Nights.

Donald Hill

Don has played at the club since 1978 and still plays a few games, even at the age of 68. He has been not only a player, but a captain and one of the best Fixture Secretaries in Kent.

Leonard Kirby - Cudham Wyse Cricket Club

Len was previously Team Secretary for a few years but has been Fixture Secretary since 2019 and is currently Club President. He has helped with renovation of the pavilion, and since hanging up his boots he takes on the weekly task of scoring.



Alan Albury Winners 2021, presented by James Reid and David Fulton. The winners were (L-R): Eve Beer (posthumous) • Leonard Kirby • Donald Hill • Debbie Bensley • Trevor Forte



It's a tremendously exciting time to take on the title of Coach Development Manager in Kent, which will sit as part of my role as a Community Cricket Manager.

Despite the restrictions of the last year, it has been tremendously pleasing to re-launch continual professional development events through our Coaches Association, and I look forward to developing further events in the near future. Coaches have once again gone above and beyond to help ensure not only that cricket takes place in Kent, but that it does so to an exceptionally high standard and I'm pleased to recognise some of those individuals here today.



MATTHEW FAGG
Coach Development
Manager

WINNERS

1. COACH OF THE YEAR

Bim Gajjar - Capel Cricket Club

Bim has devoted a huge amount of his time to Capel during the last 18 months and treated his voluntary role more like a full-time job! During this time, Capel CC have gone from strength to strength, growing in membership across all categories.

As well as leading junior sessions, he is the dedicated coach for the Ladies team which was established in 2018.

Aside from his coaching role, Bim is also the Club Chairman where he has led the club in exemplary fashion during an extremely difficult time.

2. YOUNG COACH OF THE YEAR

James Nordin - Kent Cricket, Girls Pathway

James was appointed the Specialist Fast Bowling Coach for the Kent Cricket Women and Girls Pathway this year and has had a really positive impact after just a few months. Not only has he excelled in the role, working with girls throughout the pathway from the U11 through to the Kent Women, he has also

contributed to various other areas of work where cover has been needed; including, fixtures, working on the Emerging Player Programme, accompanying squads to summer festivals, supporting community events, and delivering seminars to the Coach Association Members in Kent.

His commitment and diligence in his work is thoroughly deserving of this award. He is never far from scribbling in his notepad or thinking of the next way in which he can improve his coaching.

3. OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION (SERVICES TO COACHING)

Tim Cook - Sidcup Cricket Club

Tim has drive, charisma and a love for Sidcup Cricket Club! Thanks to Tim's work, the club has seen extraordinary growth and is shaping a very bright future.

His hard work at all levels, and especially with the younger ages is second to none. Tim organises cricket week, Under 9s festivals, supported the launch of the ladies team – all whilst continuing to play himself... and work a full time job.

Tim's knowledge, confidence and enthusiasm are infectious and it is inspiring growth at the club with him at the helm. His encouragement and knowledge are great, and he has a gift in inspiring confidence and growing enthusiasm.

His determination, positivity and ambition has meant that the club is at its strongest in living memory.

3. OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION (SERVICES TO COACHING)

Phil Pass, Neil Taylor, Peter Carter

This award recognises the dedication and hard work that the Coach developers have put in during the summer. Not being able to run courses during the winter created a back-log of demand, which could only be met by running extra courses in a small window during the season. Phil, Neil and Peter were able to do this, despite the best efforts of the Great British weather and they have now supported over 150 new coaches across Kent.

They have always been keen and eager to get the courses running and inspire the next generation of coaches.

Thanks for your dedication and passion, gentlemen!



Known as the OSCAs (Outstanding Service to Cricket Awards) up until 2020, The Grassroots Cricket Awards are designed to celebrate our grassroots cricket superstars. The awards take place in every county across England and Wales, culminating in a national ceremony.

Each year, Kent Cricket will seek nominations from clubs, leagues and affiliated teams from across the county, against the categories put forward by the ECB. A Kent Cricket panel will then meet to score each nomination in order to identify

a 'county winner'.

Categories can include the following, but are subject to change each year;

- Inspired to Play
- Lifetime Achiever
- Game Changer (Young Volunteer)
- Cricket Innovators
- Unsung Heroes
- Growing the Game
- Connecting Communities

WINNERS

1. INSPIRED TO PLAY

Cowdrey Cricket Club

Since launching their dedicated girls cricket sessions on the 19th of May this year, Cowdrey Cricket Club have gone from strength to strength and now regularly have 30 girls playing every Monday evening and entering girls only teams into local competitions.

2. LIFETIME ACHIEVER

Desmond High - Linton Park Cricket Club

Des is currently within his 20th year of leading the junior section at Linton Park, which continues to provide a strong pathway for juniors to move into senior cricket. During his tenure there has been a regular presence of Linton Park players within county age groups and oversaw the Under 13s reaching the national stages of the ECB Under 13s Cup.

5. CRICKET INNOVATOR

James Chamberlain - Street End Cricket Club

James has been at the forefront of re-establishing Street End CC after a rocky period, both as vice-chair and an instrumental part of co-ordinating the junior programmes. Thanks to James' hard work, in 2021 the club had more than 70 children under the age of 11 coming through All Stars & Dynamos Cricket coordinator, who have received a tremendous experience led by James the team of dedicated Activators at the club.

5. CRICKET INNOVATOR

Kevin Coates - Hayes Cricket Club

Kevin has only been a member at Hayes for three seasons, but has had a hugely positive impact on the running of the club. Kevin was responsible for the implementation of the net booking system to enable our members and their families to use the nets after the initial lockdown, which was a tremendous success.

Kevin has also introduced new systems to manage memberships, matches fees and setup live streaming for the first xi. He's been an absolute asset to the club and the committee and members would like to thank him for his excellent work.

5. UNSUNG HEROES

Malcolm Bristow & Mickey Back - The Mote Cricket Club

This award recognises the dedication and hard work that the Coach Developers have put in during the summer. Not being able to run courses during the winter created a back-log of demand, which could only be met by running extra courses in a small window during the season. Phil, Neil and Peter were able to do this, despite the best efforts of the Great British weather and they have now supported over 150 new coaches across Kent.

They have always been keen and eager to get the courses running and inspire the next generation of coaches.

Continued overleaf

6. GROWING THE GAME

Paul Tyrer - Medway Youth Cricket League

Paul has been Secretary of the league for many years and has always operated with the priority of providing as much cricket as possible for the young cricketers of Medway, whilst also accommodating entries from neighbouring districts.

With both league and cup competitions operating for Under 11s, 13s, 15s, 16s and 17s there is no shortage of administrator required for them to take place, so in that sense Paul is largely a victim of his own success!

7. CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

Gravesend Cricket Club

It's well documented that the pandemic has had a profound impact on young people, limiting their opportunities to socialise and be physically active. As volunteers, it would be understandable to have headed into 2021 with caution. Gravesend however, led by Lak Pahal and Graham Simms opted to launch the club's first All Stars and Dynamos Cricket programmes, giving local communities a new entry point to the game.

Through their work with local schools, the Gravesend welcomed 75 young people to the club for their first taste of cricket across both programmes, ensuring that Gravesend CC are a beacon for local cricketers.



DYNOTM
Plumbing T20

FINALS DAY

Sunday 19th September at The County Ground, Beckenham
Bexley CC • Wickham Park CC • Sibton Park CC • Tonbridge CC



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