



Volunteer Awards 2019

Welcome to Kent County Cricket Club

We would like to welcome all those volunteers who are attending the match today at The Spitfire Ground, St Lawrence. In particular, we pay tribute to the winners of our volunteer awards.

Volunteers are so important in cricket because they sustain every aspect of the game. The best thing for me is that volunteers provide support for anyone - of any ability. I have always been encouraged to join in, get active and to get interested in cricket thanks to the volunteers at my club when I first started playing.

People's reasons for volunteering in cricket vary from person to person - a love of playing and/or watching 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
- Outstanding Services to 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 – enjoy your day with us.

Andy Griffiths

Director of Community Cricket

Alan Albury Memorial Awards

Alan Albury was a founding Trustee of the Kent Recreational Cricket Welfare Trust. He was also Chairman of both the Kent Cricket Board and the Association of Kent Cricket Clubs who made an immense contribution to recreational cricket over many years.

A memorial fund was set up on his death and it was decided to institute the Alan Albury Memorial Awards, which are administered by the Kent Recreational Cricket Welfare Trust. 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 from then until today the Trust has made Awards to over 150 recipients.

FRANK HOBBS - Elham Valley CC

Frank has been connected with Elham Valley CC since he joined in 1963 as a young man.

During his time at the Club he has been Captain, Treasurer, Vice Chairman and for over 25 years Chairman. Since finishing his playing career, he has taken the umpire exams and now umpires for the Club on Saturdays and Sundays.

Frank has devoted many hours to the club, helping with groundwork and still continues to cut the outfield, every Friday afternoon.

COLIN 'PADDY' POWELL - Downham and Bellingham CC

Colin joined Downham and Bellingham CC in 1979 and his playing career was impressive both as a left-handed opening bat, a slow left arm bowler and a regular wicket keeper and brilliant fielder.

Since retiring from cricket Colin has played a critical role as groundsman, umpire and a very active Vice President.

'Paddy' as he is more affectionately known has been a great ambassador for the Club and made a massive contribution both on and off the pitch.

MARK RENSHAW - Old Colfeian's CC

Mark has been a Member of Old Colfeian's CC since 1972. He was Secretary from 1980 to 1983 and has been Captain of various X1's.

Mark is part of a small group who raise sponsorship for the club. He has been a key Member of the club, both on and off the field during the last 5 years and has led the Club through a very difficult period and has restored stability in order that the Club still has 4 teams playing league cricket.

Mark also set up a Junior Section which includes All Stars Cricket.

He is now Chairman, a post he has held since 2014.

DANNY THOMAS - Cudham Wyse CC

Danny joined the club in 1985 and has been a playing member ever since, not missing a single year.

Whilst a full-time fireman, Danny also took over the maintenance of the home pitch at Cudham in the mid-1990s and has been the Club groundsman since then.

Danny spends many, many hours each week lovingly preparing the ground, and calls Cudham his 'happy place' to be. He will make the 5 miles trip to the ground to put on, or take off the covers at the drop of a hat.

He has served as Club Captain, 2nd team Captain, Fixture Secretary and supported the club committee in one shape or form for 25 plus years.

ALAN VIDGEN - Leeds and Broomfield CC

Alan has been a Member since 1959 and played until the 1990s.

In 1990 he captained the 2nd XI to win The Marrant 2nd Division title, the first captain to win a title for Leeds and Broomfield CC.

After retiring as a player, Alan donned the white coat and is still a much respected and highly thought of umpire. He turns out week after week and never lets the Club down.



Outstanding Service to Cricket Awards

The NatWest OSCAs are the ECB'S Outstanding Service to Cricket Awards and are aimed at recognising and rewarding those volunteers who give so much of their time to the game of cricket. Today we shall be presenting certificates to our County Winners across a number of categories. All County Winners have also been nominated for the National ECB OSCA.



“Heartbeat of the club”

Mike Buchan

Mike fits the category of ‘Heartbeat of the club’ perfectly. He has held the position of club Secretary for a number of years, but his contribution has extended well beyond that role.

His work on the ground has been manifold. He has taken every role in support of our groundsman, from providing strategic oversight, to putting shovel-to-ground during off-season repairs and getting out the super-sopper after a rain delay.

His roles on our juniors committee and as manager of the U17 and U15 sides at the club over the years have ensured that this important aspect of the club has gone from strength to strength.

He also ensures the important, but dull jobs, such as the Clubmark paperwork, are undertaken.

And then he will be found coordinating some of the most important events on the club calendar: Adult and colts presentation evenings; Natwest CricketForce and match-managing games during cricket week.

Our cricket club has gone from strength-to-strength over recent years, due to a large number of volunteers, but pulling all the strings behind them has been Mike, doing all the difficult, dull or challenging roles, giving others the capacity to take the club in a number of new directions.



“Young Volunteer 14-18”

Edward Scrivens

Leeds & Broomfield CC would like to nominate Ed Scrivens for the Young Volunteer Award for his complete dedication to our All Stars Cricket programme.

Despite playing cricket himself every Saturday and Sunday, he has supported our Activator every Sunday morning session by coaching 55 young All Stars, followed by an hour with our u11 squad!

Feedback from the parents has been fantastic and Ed is inspiring the next generation of young cricketers.

His time, dedication and commitment to the club and the game of cricket is an inspiration.



“Young Volunteer 19-25”

Ian Crust

Ian has become a pivotal person in the development of our young players.

He started out as a Level 2 coach working with the U11 age group, but quickly grew his volunteering to establish and captain the “Sidcup Falcons” U19 T20 team.

When he outgrew playing in the U19 side, he took over as manager, organising fixtures and selection, coaching the side and developing captains. He went one further to create a fantasy cricket competition to raise both the profile of the T20 side and money for the club. Alongside this, Ian has taken on coaching the U15s and U17s.

This year, Ian has gone beyond the call of duty on two counts. Firstly, he has grown his volunteering role despite having shoulder surgery which will prevent him playing all season, showing resilience despite a deeply frustrating injury.

Secondly, we very abruptly found ourselves without a groundsman this year, and Ian has pitched in as part of the volunteer team who have come together mowing, rolling and marking pitches to keep the club ticking over.

Ian has become an excellent role model and leader in the transition of our youngsters into adult cricket, a vitally important aspect of the club.



“Lifetime Achiever”

Peter Robinson

Peter was influential in the establishment of Kings Hill 12 years ago and has been a constant at the club ever since. As well as multiple committee roles, he’s the club groundsman and spends at least 20 hours a week tending the square and ground.

Peter has also been key in developing our strong community links and has established ongoing annual festivals for local primary schools as well as a festival for disabled children and those with special educational needs.

Peter is always available to support club members and continually seems to have a project on the go. He has built a score box for the club and provided a host of essential extras out of his own pocket.

He also leads our efforts to support Young Leaders in Cricket and is the go-to person for organising our fundraising activities and grant applications.

Peter’s legacy at Kings Hill will be the utopian combination of a performance cricket club as well as a club at the heart of the local community.

Peter has been on the managing committees for both the Kent Cricket League and the Regional Cricket League for over 20 years and is affectionately known around the club as Mr Cricket.

Peter’s knowledge of cricket in the county and the support he has given it over years is second to none and he has given his life to improving opportunities for everyone.



ECB Coach Awards

The ECB Coach Awards recognise those coaches who have given up so much of their time to developing cricket within the recreational game and may have previously gone un-thanked.



“Coach of the Year”

Lucy Arman

Lucy’s coaching career boats that of Kent Girls U13 squads and St Lawrence & Highland Court CC. She has worked with the county for several years working and developing players through the girl’s county pathway. She is the main female coach within our Ladies team at SL&HC and has more recently become the lead coach for our newly formed Ladies Softball team.

Not only is she a fantastic coach, she is an inspiration and a role model to both youth and senior players alike. Lucy acts as the Youth Player Liaison Officer within the ladies’ section and acts as a vital link between grass roots/ youth level and the senior female cricket team, ensuring a smooth transition between these teams.

She has a strong desire to increase participation within female cricket of all ages, constantly driving for player recruitment in youth, senior and softball cricket. Her ability to adapt her coaching styles to differing age groups and capabilities is fantastic, her sessions are stimulating, challenging and fully inclusive. Lucy’s commitment to the club and passion for cricket is unparalleled amongst senior female players, with the developmental needs of others preceding her own training.

Looking at Lucy’s qualifications and experience within coaching, it is quite clear she is an accomplished coach; however, it is her intuition, commitment and most of all her affable nature that sets her aside from most.

Lucy is a highly motivated, quality coach. She has made a huge impact on the girls she coaches and the development of the Kent u13 side. She is very committed in wanted to push the women’s side of the game further and this is show in her coaching of the girls with the amount of time and effort she put into her sessions.



“Young Coach of the Year”

Kayleigh Gallagher

Kayleigh has been a fantastic contributor to cricket at Hayes CC for many years. She started out as the u9s coach and now leads the Mini Super 8s and All Stars Cricket program at the club. She is a lynchpin of the club’s coaching set up, her know how and skills are indispensable and she has even taken up cricket herself, to support the women’s cricket team.

Throughout the summer, winter and All Stars coaching periods Kayleigh has helped see players develop through the age ranks. She is a fantastic role model and her manner and demeanour is incredibly encouraging to all children of any age and ability and her rapport with parents allows the children to develop in a relaxed nurturing environment.

Due to the age of the children Kayleigh works with, she has to make learning engaging and break the challenging aspects of cricket to keep them simple. She does this with games that are fun, engaging and build in cricket-based knowledge. The impact this has is clearly visible as children progress and are more technically advanced as they move up the age groups.

Finally, Kayleigh gives up huge amounts of time to make sure that her Mini Super 8 groups are well prepared for their fixtures and also arranges soft ball friendlies so they can play throughout the summer.



“Outstanding Contribution”

John Swannick

John always does his best to get more people involved in coaching and has organized many a course at his club to ensure it happens. He was also the driving force behind the Club Community since its launch in April 2018.

Club Community is an online and App-based virtual network for mutual support, sharing learning and experience amongst those responsible for club management and administration; finance and fundraising; club development; junior recruitment, retention and welfare; communication and marketing; and facilities management and improvement.

Club Community is a peer-led, peer-driven initiative supported by Kent Community Cricket - and leveraging the team’s knowledge and skills - as a joint venture with Cricket Club Development Network moderator. John is also a Coaching Ambassador.



“Coaching Club of the Year”

Chestfield Cricket Club

Paul Gibson (Chairman)

Chestfield CC have been on an upward surge now for a number of years and are due recognition. In terms of providing an extensive programme for children of all ages, there cannot be many clubs offering a similar level of opportunity, certainly in the eastern part of the county. With 3 teams fielded at each of the 11s, 13s and 15s - plus more than 60 Under 9s turning up each week who are also provided inter-club Kwik Cricket competitions.

The club is essentially overflowing, with cricket taking place 7 days a week throughout the season. The transition into adult cricket is also showing an excellent return with the club adding two Sunday teams and two indoor teams to their adult offering in the last three seasons. This is as a result of the growing need to provide open age cricket to juniors as they reach the top of the junior ranks.

The club have managed to continually nourish and grow their pool of dedicated coaches to meet the demand for coaching. Currently there are 20 qualified coaches that are part of the Chestfield coaching success, along with a number of under 16 leaders.

It is hard to think of an area of the Chestfield regime in which they are lacking. The atmosphere on arrival is electric, with numerous stations across the ground to make use of every inch of space. A welcoming and enthusiastic team of volunteers on a rota are visible each session, manning a BBQ, drinks, recycled kit and fundraising initiatives.

Even the maintenance and development of their facilities are worth note, with a recent refurbishment and extension of their nets - entirely as a result of a glowing report from an inspection officer from the funder who initially funded their nets. Leaving the club with an invitation to reapply, on the basis of the volume of use they received and the level of care they were clearly given. The growth of Chestfield over recent years is quite phenomenal and has been a collective, internal effort for which they are now reaping the benefits. Recognition through this award would be thoroughly deserved.

