

**“Well I never knew that .....**”

Fresh from celebrating his birthday, one of the elder statesmen Geoff Cox is next in the spotlight. My thanks to him.

*How long have you been playing bowls?*

About 5 years

*Your favourite piece of music?*

Faure's Requiem

*What did you do in your working life?*

I have worked most of my life as an Electronic Design Engineer. My first job was as a service engineer working for Plessey in Cheshire servicing Lancaster bombers. This was intensive work as these bombers were in high demand because of the war and we serviced up to 40 planes a week. I joined the Army in 1945 firstly in the Royal Scots Fusiliers before transferring to the Royal Corps of Transport. I served in Berlin which is where I represented the British Army in the pole vault (something I had never done before) in the Olympic Stadium. I was demobbed in 1948 and joined British Gaumont as an engineer servicing cinema equipment. Again a demanding job as I was the man called out if the projector broke down. I came to the Island in 1954 and joined the electronics group Saunders Rowe and worked for a time on the hovercraft development. I worked for Westland and specialised in torque meter technology in helicopters. I travelled extensively particularly in America before ending my career as Production Manager.

*Which living person do you most admire?*

My youngest son who is the most dedicated and intelligent person I know. During the current crisis, he has been in charge of the construction and commissioning of the Megalab in Milton Keynes to deal with the analysis of test samples. This lab was completed in 3 weeks.

*Favourite meal?*

Lamb Shank

*Favourite holiday destination?*

Snowdonia

*Favourite book?*

Not a book as such but the scripts from Downton Abbey

*Proudest moment?*

My eldest son receiving his OBE at Buckingham Palace for his service as a Lt. Colonel in the Army during the crisis in the Balkans. He was instrumental in persuading the Kosovo Liberation Army to join peace talks.

*Favourite place to play bowls other than Bembridge?*

Ventnor for it's beautiful setting

*Favourite film?*

The Cruel Sea. A wartime sea drama made in 1953 about a novice crew of a corvette escorting a convoy in the North Atlantic.