

“Well I never knew that”

Taking her rightful place in the spotlight, Phyl Liddiard. My thanks to her.

How long have you been playing bowls?

18 years

Your favourite piece of music?

I have three. “Look at this face” sung by Aaron Neville and Linda Ronstadt which was played at my wedding to Jack. “Lady in Red” sung by Chris de Burgh and the hymn “Make me a Channel of your Peace”

What did you do in your working life?

I left school at 15 and started work as a typist in an insurance company in the City of London. I then worked as a typist in the accounts department of a travel firm. After the birth of my first child I returned and was a temp in various offices before working for accountants for a number of years. I ended up by working as a secretary and personal assistant at Deloitte in the City. I lived mostly in South London and my daily life involved me joining the morning and evening commute to the City. One of my most striking memories was when I was working at the first firm of accountants, their office overlooked St. Paul’s and we were allowed to go into the office on the day when Prince Charles and Diana got married and we were able to look out the windows and watch the procession into the Cathedral afterwards down Ludgate Hill.

Which living person do you most admire?

Jack Liddiard (who else)

Favourite meal?

Anything involving eggs. Eggs on toast has been my favourite since I was a child.

Favourite holiday destination?

Jack and I have loved to travel. I am fond of Portugal and Cyprus but Australia which we have visited six times is my all time favourite.

Favourite book?

Anything by Philippa Gregory who writes historical novels or Harry Bowling who was known as the King of the Cockney Sagas. He was 57 before he wrote his first novel. He died in 1999.

Proudest moment?

I have a number of proudest moments. The day I received a Long Service medal from the Chief Scout for my work as an Akela. The Torchlight Procession in Hyde Park when Charles and Diana got married. Receiving the Freedom of the City of London. This was a hereditary award but I was still very proud. Going to Buckingham Palace when Jack received his MBE.

Favourite place to play bowls other than Bembridge?

Totland as everyone is very friendly at that club.

Favourite film?

Anything starring Kenneth Moore such as “North by North West” or “Reach for the Sky”

(Editor’s note: You may have noticed that Phyl has a rather elastic interpretation of the word “favourite”. Perhaps it is a reflection of her busy life that she has so many favourites!)