

PHYLLIS COURT CROQUET

Croquet Association Diploma Awards ~ for Services to Croquet ~

Two Phyllis Court stalwarts were recognized by the Croquet Association for their outstanding contributions to our sport. They were presented with the following citations by CA President Quiller Barrett at the CA's AGM at The Hurlingham Club on 24 October 2014.

Brian Bucknall



Brian Bucknall has been at the heart of Phyllis Court Croquet for 37 years.

He was co-opted on to the Croquet committee in 1977, elected to serve the following year and became its chairman two years after that.

He looked after AC competitions and social events for more than five years and, after a brief respite, returned to the committee in 1992 as Secretary and again looking after all things AC.

He then took on the Chairman's role for another three years in 1998 and saw membership numbers reach then record levels. At that same year's AGM, Phyllis Court doyen 'Smokey' Eades recognised Brian's contribution over the previous 21 years, probably not reckoning on his near doubling of that service in the seasons to come.

Vivian Thomson



Vivian Thomson joined the Croquet Section of the Phyllis Court Club in 1999 and enjoyed it so much he decided he wanted to put something back into the sport.

He has more than succeeded in that aim.

He joined the Committee in his 2001 and set about introducing many new golf croquet competitions and tournaments, and in so doing, brought enthusiasm for competitive GC play to a club that hitherto had seen the code only as a social pastime.

He became the Chairman of the Croquet Committee in 2002 and a year later, oversaw the provision of the Club's croquet pavilion.

He successfully fought off a possible loss of one of the Section's courts to bowling, and he also took control of all league and friendly matches, increasing the number of both.

Vivian encouraged Phyllis Court players to attend courses to become coaches and referees, and achieved badges for both himself.

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The
Committee member
i/c this web site is:
Chris Roberts
079 7378 7710
info@kickphoto.co.uk

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Two further five year stints as AC organiser followed in 2002 and 2009 and, although AC numbers have dwindled in latter years, he has been unwavering in his championing of the code.

He has devoted countless hours to coaching AC beginners and improves over many years, often at the expense of his own on court playing time.

He retired from the committee earlier this year and Phyllis Court wish to record the debt of gratitude they owe to one of their true

In latter years, Vivian re-joined the Club's committee as GC handicapper and coach, and it is in the field of coaching that he has perhaps most excelled. He has encouraged many players to experience croquet beyond the gates of our club.

Phyllis Court wish to recognise Vivian's contribution to both their club and all things croquet.