

The following gives a detailed outline of my career, legacy and appointments.

Legacy, Appointments and Awards

- Sep 1966 1st full 11 a side game, aged 11 in the Hull Women's League. The FA ban was still in place, so I started whilst being banned!
- May 1971 Selected for the Hull Representative side.
- Aug 1974 Became the 1st (and youngest at that time) woman FA qualified coach (with 2 others) at Lilleshall.
- Mar 1984 Awarded a Silver Star Award by Northern Sports Writers for successes in representing England
- Nov 1985 Awarded a Sports Council Award for Services to Women's Football.
- Dec 1986 1st England woman footballer to enter the Guinness Book of Records.
- Sep 1992 Returned to grassroots football with AFC Preston
- Sept 1996 Appointed captain of the first ever East Riding County FA representative side.
- May 2009 Retired from playing, aged 54
- 2009 -> Undertaking many ambassadorial appearances and working with, schools, grassroots teams, the media and footballing historians to 'get the facts' out there, much of which is undocumented
- 2011 Remained the longest serving England captain (9 years) until 2011 (26 years) when I was overtaken by Faye White
- Nov 2019 Appointed Ambassador to Hull City Ladies
- Aug 2020 Voted into East Yorkshire's 20 Greatest Footballers – hailed as “arguably as one of the most influential” (Hull Daily Mail)
- Mar 2021 International Women's Day – Celebrated as one of the top 10 Most Inspirational Women of East Yorkshire
- Nov 2021 Inducted into the National Football Museum Hall of Fame
- Nov 2021 Subject of an Early Day Motion in the Houses of Parliament (EDM612)
- Mar 2022 Named as 'One of the Greatest Top 10 England Women's footballers' of all time
- April 2022 Appointed Honorary Lifetime Member of Hull City Supporters Trust
- April 2022 Appointed FA National Mutual Respect Ambassador under the Nationwide/FA “Where Greatness is Made” celebrations
- June 2022 Awarded the FA Long Service Medal for 50+ years service to football

- June 2022 Awarded the Medal of the Order of the British Empire (BEM) in the Queen's Birthday 2022 Honours List
"for services to football and charity"
- July 2022 Appointed UEFA National 'Follow in her Footsteps' Ambassador under the LinkedIn 'Follow in her Footsteps' Campaign
- Aug 2022 Named in 'The Times' top 10 England Women Internationals of all time
- Jan 2023 Conferred as the 59th Honorary Freeman of the City of Kingston upon Hull, de-facto
Appointed a City of Kingston-Upon-Hull Ambassador, with the citation
"In appreciation of the eminent and valuable service rendered by her as a pioneer of modern women's footballing England, her achievements in women's football, locally, nationally and internationally, and in recognition of the high esteem in which she is held."
- May 2023 Recipient of the Mailonline Sport Choice Award at the inaugural (2023) Women's Football Awards
- Jul 2023 Awarded Honorary Degree (D.Univ) by the University of Hull, with the citation of:-
"In recognition of outstanding contribution to women's football and inspiration to girls and women of all ages, I confer upon you the degree of Doctor of the University, honoris causa."
thereby becoming:-
Dr. Carol Thomas BEM, D.Univ (Hull)

International Career Detailed Main Highlights

Aug 1974	August – became the 1 st (and youngest at that time) woman FA qualified coach (with 2 others) at Lilleshall.
Nov 1974	November 1st England appearance (aged 19) in England's 8th international (of the modern WFA era 1972-93) v. France winning 2-0.
May 1976	Appointed England captain in May, aged at 20 and it was her 6th international becoming the second ever England captain.
May 1976	1st England captain to win an international tournament (The Home International Championships against Scotland and Wales)
Nov 1981	1 st England captain to lead England Senior Women outside of Europe (ie. the 81 Portopia Tournament in Japan)
May 1984	1st England captain to lead a senior England Team into an official European Cup Final – MEN OR WOMEN
Mar 1985	1st England player to reach 50 caps
Aug 1985	Led England to victory in the 1985 Mundialito (Little World Cup). England's and her 2nd tournament victory as captain.
Aug 1985	1st England captain to captain England 50 times.
Sept 1985	Final England game and 56th cap. Captained England 51 times.

International Career Summary

Played for England 11 years (1974 to 1985) captaining them for 9 years

Played in 56 out of 57 consecutive England matches

Captained England in 7 consecutive tournaments becoming arguably the most successful England captain, until the successes of the current Lionesses:-

1976	<i>Home Internationals, England</i>	<i>Winners</i>
1979	<i>Unofficial UEFA tournament, Italy</i>	<i>3rd Place</i>
1981	<i>Portopia Tournament, Japan</i>	<i>3rd place</i>
1982-84	<i>Official UEFA tournament, Europe Wide</i>	<i>Runners Up</i>
1984	<i>Mundialito, Italy</i>	<i>3rd place</i>
1985	<i>Mundialito, Italy</i>	<i>Winners</i>
1985-87	<i>Official UEFA tournament, Europe Wide (retired after 3rd game to start her family)</i>	