

ARTHUR PIKE

Arthur was born 25 December 1862 on Nottingham Road, Keyworth, the son of James Samuel & Elizabeth Pike. A brilliant wicket keeper/batsman, he made his first class debut for Nottinghamshire CCC on June 14th 1894 after outstanding performances for the Nottinghamshire Colts team in the same year which also included a match against Yorkshire Colts. He went on to play 66 first class matches for the County, scoring 1128 runs at an average of 13.93 and taking 102 catches and making 30 stumpings. His best two seasons were 1896 and 1897 during which he made his highest score of 66 against Middlesex at Trent Bridge in 1896 and took 27 catches and made 27 stumpings that season as well. In 1897 he caught 23 and stumped 12.

Arthur was a particularly powerful batsman playing through the 'V' and often played in the same Nottinghamshire CCC team as fellow Keyworth player William 'Dick' Attewell.

Arthur also played as a professional with Nottingham Commercial CC and at Leyland CC in the Lancashire League and was on the MCC staff at Lords from 1895 to 1906. He first started playing with Keyworth CC in 1881 and continued to play when not engaged with the County up until 1898 and in an away match against Forest United on 30th April 1881, Arthur equalled Josh Simpson's performance of claiming four stumpings in a match - a record that still stands today. His 53 career stumpings remain the second most for KCC. After retirement as a professional player, Arthur umpired in county cricket from 1901 through to 1905 and was highly respected.



ARTHUR PIKE continued

An outstanding sportsman, Arthur played at right back for Nottingham Forest FC on three occasions between 1887 and 1990 and was selected to represent the Nottinghamshire FA in matches against the London FA at the Trent Bridge ground in both 1883 & 1884 in the left half back position, see the match card/programme (pictured right).

He was one of three Pike's from Keyworth who all played for Forest in the same match against Sheffield Wednesday FC at home on 4 January 1890, together with centre half Harry and left winger Horace and he was a stalwart of Keyworth FC where he eventually played at centre half before a knee injury brought his retirement from the game. Arthur died in Keyworth on 15 November 1907 after a protracted illness of 5 years.

His brother William (born 1871) played for Keyworth between 1883 and 1890 and eventually moved to Wales on the recommendation of Notts CCC & England cricketer and England footballer William Gunn where he was engaged as the professional for Porthmadog CC whom he continued to play for until aged 65 years. He also had a spell coaching Pwllheli CC and played football for Porthmadog and was responsible for establishing the first green at the town's Golf Course. Sarah, Arthur's widow went to Wales to look after William whose wife had passed away in 1904. Sarah's brother Matthias Hodgett (born 1871) was also a prominent Keyworth cricketer and footballer.

Arthur Pike's Keyworth career statistics...

	Mat	Inns	NO	HS	Runs	Ave	6's	Ovrs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Ave	Ct	St
1 st XI	130	123	10	58	1346	11.91		79	24	162	28	5.79	45	46
2 nd XI	29	29	1	52	437	15.61		21	6	50	6	8.33	6	7
CAREER	159	152	11	58	1830	12.98		100	30	212	34	6.24	51	53

