

ERNIE W J LAY



Born 1949 in Northamptonshire, Ernie made one 2nd XI appearance for that county in 1971 according to Wisden records.

Ernie made his debut for KCC in 1976 and continued to play until 2018. Built like a jockey, this wicket keeper, left hand opening batsman has been a prolific run scorer and loyal club man for more than four decades in whichever XI he has been selected, earning him a Long Service Merit Award in 2001.



He scored 6342 runs in the 1st XI and 12,581 runs playing in the various club elevens. He has three centuries to his name, 113 against Lowdham CC on August 20th 1983, 105 not out against Balderton CC II's for the second XI on July 23rd 2005 and 102 not out against Sutton Bonington

CC for the seconds on July 30th 1988, a match in which with Kevin Hitchcock he set the second highest batting partnership made in the club's history as they notched 229 runs together for the third wicket.

Ernie has twice been out on 93, in 1990 and 1997 and he passed fifty on forty eight occasions and his two best seasons for scoring were 1976 with 628 runs and 1979 with 597. Keeping wicket, his 246 catches at first team level and 357 in all club teams is almost twice that achieved in a career by any other player for the club and he had 86 stumping victims in a staggering total of 774 appearances with 419 at 1st XI level which puts him second on the all time list to David Baldrey in both categories. He has picked up many club awards including the Batting Trophy for Best Average in 1983, the 2nd XI Batting Trophy in 1989, 1993, 1999 and 2005. The Highest Score Trophy in 1977, 1983 and 1990 and the Chris Keeling Champagne Moment Trophy in 2004 and was Chairman's Clubman of 2017.

Ernie has always been very active for the club off the field of play and was heavily involved with the Youth Team between 1981 and 1984 and served on the Nottingham Youth League committee and from 1979 to 1981 served as Club Secretary and for many years represented the club on the Keyworth Show committee and as a qualified Umpire often officiates for 2nd & 3rd XI matches and in recent seasons has devoted himself to help with the responsibility for supervising the preparation of the wickets at the Platt Lane ground. His son Paul Lay was also a regular player with the club from 1989 to 2012 making 133 appearances and grandson Oliver is a beginner with the club.

Ernie Lay's Keyworth career statistics...

	Mat	Inns	NO	HS	Runs	Ave	6's	Ovrs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Ave	Ct	St
1 st XI	419	391	39	113	6342	18.02	38	14.1	1	63	3	21.00	246	49
2 nd XI	238	220	22	105*	4990	25.20	24	29	2	146	2	73.00	82	24
3 rd XI	10	10	0	33	191	19.10		2	0	7	0		2	
Evening	107	92	10	85*	1058	12.90	10						27	13
CAREER	774	713	71	113	12581	19.60	72	45.1	3	216	5	43.20	357	86

