

WILLIAM LANE PIKE

Will Lane as he was generally known, was born at Selby Lane, Keyworth on 14th November 1860, the son of Peter & Elizabeth Pike. Lane was his mother's maiden name.

Arguably, one of the club's greatest ever bowlers, he took more than 5 wickets in a match on a record fifty six occasions and his record for a career haul of 536 First XI wickets survived for more than one hundred years until surpassed by Rob Baker in 2010 and was renowned as very difficult to play on a damp, sticky wicket and able to swing the ball both ways.

Between 1875 and 1903, Will Lane took 584 wickets in total for the club at an average of 6.1 with a best performance of 9 wickets for 14 runs against Forest Wanderers CC in an away friendly on 12th June 1880. Against Kimberley Institute CC in an away friendly on 17th May 1890 he became only the fourth player to perform the 'double', scoring 52 not out and taking 5 wickets for 10 runs in the same match. Five times he took 8 wickets in an innings and eleven times, 7 wickets.

He was selected to play for Nottinghamshire Colts in both 1880 and 1881 against the County team alongside William Attewell and also played for the Colts against Yorkshire Colts in 1888 at Bramall Lane, Sheffield and took 3 wickets for 54 runs from 19 overs including 2 maidens but he failed to secure a place on the playing staff at Trent Bridge. He also enjoyed spells as a professional and one time was employed as a coach at the famous Eton School.

Will Lane was also a very capable footballer and a dominating wing half or inside forward who regularly captained Keyworth FC during the early 1880's but like so many other Keyworth 'sons', eventually emigrated to Canada in 1904 at the age of 44 years from his home on Wysall Lane and did so as a 'Prairie Pioneer' in the Forest Bank area of Saskatchewan taking with him his wife Hannah and three children.

A 'pioneer' was expected to develop a farm and build a community and Will Lane was allocated 160 acres of virgin land for which he paid \$10 and in three years was expected to break and crop 30 acres and build a house valued at \$300. By 1906, he had opened a Post Office at his home and delivered mail up to 30 miles around, plus he became the Registrar of Births, Marriages & Deaths. His transport was a horse or sometimes ox drawn cart. He became the Chairman of a committee that built a School in 1907 and the organist for a church built in 1909. It is likely he would have had little time to coach cricket or football to youngsters but his son Everard Pike was the captain of the first Forest Bank football team so it must be assumed that Will Lane had some influence.

Will Lane also tried living in New Zealand with their son Archibald Octavius Pike when he settled there

Will Lane had married Hannah Gunn, the daughter of Joseph Gunn on 6 September 1881 when they were both 20 years old. Will Lane returned to the UK after his wife died in 1934 and died on 13 August 1938.



WILLIAM LANE PIKE continued

Will Lane's father Peter (born 1838), the proprietor of the village knitwear cottage history played for the club between 1853 and 1865 and Will Lane's brothers were also cricketers with Keyworth. Alfred (born 1865) and Claude Owen (born 1880) and his cousins Horace Pike (born 1870) the Nottingham Forest player and Shelton Pike (born 1872) were both prominent Keyworth cricketers and footballers.

William Lane's nephew, William Gunn, usually known as Billy became a stalwart player with the club between 1894 and 1948 and later served both as club Chairman and President and lent his name to a major club trophy.

William Lane Pike's Keyworth career statistics...

	Mat	Inns	NO	HS	Runs	Ave	Ovrs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Ave	Ct	St
1 st XI	187	170	17	71	1986	12.98	1801.4	559	3400	536	6.34	61	2
2nd XI	3	4	1	24*	25	8.33	18.4	7	35	14	2.50	1	
Youth XI	4	7	2	31	119	23.80	57.2	22	127	34	3.74	7	
CAREER	194	181	20	71	2130	13.23	1877.4	588	3562	584	6.10	69	2