

## ***Joe Beale (Templestowe) – 1906 to 1935; 1945 to 1948***

Joe Beale started with Templestowe in 1906-07 and played until 1934-35, before returning for three seasons after WWII, finally playing his last game in 1947-48. Beale became the first bowler to pass the 1000 wicket milestone in the association and he took 1022 wickets at 8.68 for Templestowe. He took five wickets in an innings 77 times and ten wickets in a match on 13 occasions. Beale also made 3704 runs with 3 centuries.

His first big season was in 1906-07 with 38 wickets. Three ten-fors were found with 13-69 against Blackburn, 12-87 against Ringwood and 11-78 against St. Barnabas. He won the BHRDCA bowling award with 50 wickets at 7.42. Another 51 wickets followed in 1908-09.

In 1909-10, Beale took 55 wickets including efforts of 8-12 against Doncaster and 8-22 and 7-7 in two separate games against Warrandyte. Templestowe were then placed in the newly formed 'B Grade' for 1910-11 and they won the premiership. Beale made 252 runs and took 93 wickets at an incredible average of just 3.49 to win the BHRDCA 'B Grade' bowling award. He took match figures of 10-29 against Warrandyte, 10-45 against Croydon and 8-2 in an innings against Mooroolbark.

Templestowe won the 1911-12 'A Grade' flag over Mitcham with Beale winning the BHRDCA 'A Grade' bowling average with 64 wickets at 7.04. Beale made 80 not out and took 5-25 against Canterbury and took 12-55 against Surrey Hills. In 1912-13, Beale made 450 runs and took 58 wickets with a score of 97 against Croydon. Two matches featured in Beale's 1913-14 season. He made 128 not out and took match figures of 11-53 against Doncaster, then made 111 not out and took 6-59 against Canterbury.

From 1906-07 to 1913-14, Beale took 479 wickets for Templestowe. Beale then served in WWI and missed from 1914-15 to 1918-19. From 1919-20 to 1923-24, Beale took 195 wickets over the five seasons, including 59 wickets in 1921-22. Beale then won his second BHRDCA 'A Grade' bowling average in 1924-25 with 36 wickets at 7.76. 44 wickets followed in 1925-26 with 8-55 against Canterbury. Then in 1926-27, Beale took another 40 wickets and made 342 runs with 118 against Balwyn. 39 wickets followed in 1927-28.

Templestowe had been competitive throughout the 1920's without premiership success, but with Beale and the Mullens brothers having great seasons, defeated Canterbury to win the 'A Grade' flag in 1928-29. Beale took 48 wickets including 8-28 against East Doncaster, 9-21 against Surrey Hills and match figures of 11-103 against Surrey Hills in the Semi Final.

Beale then took 38 wickets in 1930-31 and 35 wickets in 1931-32 but his output declined after this season before retiring after 1934-35 – with three subsequent seasons after WWII.

Beale was an uncle to Les and Keith Read who played with the Doncaster Footballers. During WWI, Beale was renowned as one of the armed forces more accurate bomb throwers, due to his prowess as a very accurate bowler!