

Les Britt Snr (Doncaster, Doncaster Heights, East Doncaster)

1904 to 1936

The doyen of the Britt family, Les Britt Snr was arguably East Doncaster's finest player in the years leading up to WWI. Les also enjoyed lengthy careers with Doncaster, Box Hill and Doncaster Heights before finishing his career with the Doncaster Triangle in 1935–36. In all, Les played in the Reporter for over thirty years and played over 350 games with 5010 runs and 611 wickets identified to date in his career.

Les commenced with Doncaster in 1904–05, but didn't really make an impact in the Reporter competition until he joined Doncaster Ramblers/East Doncaster in 1910–11. In his first four seasons with the club, he won three club champion awards, three batting averages and three bowling averages and, along with Cam Johnston, was the only player to really handle 'A Grade' standard in both 1912–13 (439 runs) and 1913–14 (275 runs and 61 wickets). During 1913–14, Les took 5 wickets in an innings on nine separate occasions and carried his bat for 50 not out against West Doncaster.

Les returned to Doncaster in 1914–15 and took 36 wickets to finish second in the Reporter 'A Grade' bowling average. He then joined Box Hill in 1915–16, taking 20 wickets, before returning to Doncaster in 1917–18, playing in their 'A Grade' Premiership side after making 75 not out against Templestowe in the Semi Final.

After WWI, Les continued with Doncaster and played in a second 'A Grade' Premiership in 1920–21. He then returned to East Doncaster in 1923–24, playing in the 1924–25 'B Grade' Premiership side. Les then left East Doncaster to join eldest son Dudley at Doncaster Heights in 1925–26.

Les enjoyed his most productive seasons with Doncaster Heights (including 399 runs and 56 wickets in 1926–27) and watched as his second son Harold, developed into one of the best players in the competition. Les played a key role in Doncaster Heights' 'B Grade' flag in 1928–29.

After five years with Doncaster Heights, Les joined Doncaster for two seasons, followed by a two-year stint with Blackburn as he followed Dudley and Harold and was joined by younger sons, Les Jnr and Tom. While the four boys stayed at Blackburn before moving across to East Doncaster, Les joined new club Doncaster Triangle in 1934–35 playing one last game in 1935–36. Third son, Tom won three successive BHRDCA 'A Grade' batting averages with East Doncaster from 1935–36 to 1937–38 and made seven centuries in all. Fourth son, Les Jnr enjoyed an outstanding career with Blackburn, East Doncaster and Deepdene.