



ECB Yorkshire South Premier League

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## HALL OF FAME

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No 4

**Bob Leafe**



Robert Leafe, usually known as Bob, joined Cleethorpes Cricket Club as a junior in the late 1950s, in the footsteps of his father Frank. His talent as a batsman soon emerged and, after graduating from Nottingham University with a Geography degree, he returned to Cleethorpes to take up a teaching career and returned to his cricketing roots. It was the beginning of his lifelong association with the Club.

Bob joined a highly talented emerging group of players who went on to win the Lincolnshire County Cricket League Championships 11 times between 1967 and 1983. In 1984, the club was invited to join the Yorkshire League and, although never winning the league during Bob's playing days, he played a leading role in making the club a highly respected force. He was club captain between 1977 and 1980, then again 1987 to 1989, and finally 1999.

Thanks to his very understanding wife, Pauline, it is difficult to remember Bob ever missing a game – whether league or the then regular Sunday friendlies against strong visiting teams. He must be a member of a very select band of club players who have scored more than 35,000 runs – a testament to his loyalty, longevity, dedication – and, above all, his talent.

Bob has always had Cleethorpes at heart, not just being satisfied with his batting successes but on the administrative side as well. At the time of his induction, he was in his second spell as cricket chairman at Cleethorpes CC and was one of the club's four Trustees. Bob has played a huge part in the development of the club, both on and off the field; his attention to detail ensures that no stone is left unturned and that the club is up-to-date in all areas of administration. He also served on the committee of the former Yorkshire League.

Bob Leafe was inducted into the Yorkshire South Premier League Hall of Fame on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2017.