

= Cri @-@ Zelda Brits =

Cri @-@ Zelda Brits , also written Crizelda Brits and Cri @-@ zelda Brits (born 20 November 1983) is an international cricketer . A right @-@ handed batsman and right @-@ arm medium @-@ fast bowler , Brits was originally called up to the South Africa national women 's cricket team as an opening bowler in 2002 . She developed into an all @-@ rounder , and since 2005 has established herself as a specialist batsman . She captained South Africa in 23 matches in 2007 and 2008 , but was replaced as captain in 2009 in order to " concentrate entirely on her own performance . " She was reappointed as captain for the 2010 ICC Women 's World Twenty20 . Between 2007 and 2011 she captain South Africa a total of 36 times (1 Test , 23 One Day Internationals and 12 Twenty20 Internationals) .

She is one of South Africa women 's most prolific batsmen ; being the first South African woman to have scored a half @-@ century in a Twenty20 International , and one of only six women to have scored a century for South Africa in a One Day International (ODI) . She is the leading South African run @-@ scorer in ODI with 1622 runs .

= = Career = =

= = = Early career = = =

Born in Rustenburg , Transvaal , Brits began her cricket career aged 11 when she entered the sport playing in boys ' teams . At the age of 14 , Brits made two appearances for South Africa Under @-@ 21s women against the touring England side in 1998 , playing as wicket @-@ keeper during two 50 @-@ over contests . In the first , an eight run victory for South Africa , she claimed a stumping and a catch but was not required to bat . For the second match , she was promoted up the order from number eight to number five and made 14 runs off 13 balls as South Africa lost by 42 runs .

Four years later , Brits made her full international debut in a One Day International against India women . Brits was selected as a bowler , placed at number nine in the batting order , and opening the bowling for South Africa . The match was first shortened and then abandoned , and Brits only bowled two overs , conceding two runs , before the conclusion . Brits retained this role in the second ODI , claiming two wickets as South Africa won by 29 runs using the Duckworth ? Lewis method . She claimed three further wickets in the final two ODIs of the series . In the fourth ODI , she was promoted up the batting order to number five , though she only managed to score ten runs as South Africa failed to chase down an Indian total of 160 . At the conclusion of the ODI series , the two sides played a Test match , with Brits reprising her role as opening bowler . She took two wickets and conceded 91 runs (2 / 91) as India amassed 404 / 9 declared in their first @-@ innings . Despite her move up the batting order in the shorter format of the game , Brits batted as part of the tail during the Test match , scoring nine runs at number eleven in the first @-@ innings and then as South Africa were forced to follow @-@ on , she made eleven runs from number ten in the second @-@ innings .

= = = England series : 2003 , 2003 ? 04 = = =

She reprised this role for South Africa during their 2003 tour of England . During three 50 @-@ over warm @-@ up matches , Brits claimed four wickets and scored 33 runs while opening the bowling and batting as part of the tail . During the first Test , Brits showed her ability with the bat , scoring 32 runs as part of a 59 @-@ run partnership with fellow tail @-@ ender Sune van Zyl . She claimed two wickets in England 's response , claiming the wickets of opener Charlotte Edwards and captain Clare Connor . In the following ODIs , she claimed three wickets , all in the second match , as England claimed the series 2 ? 1 . Unrequired to bat during South Africa 's solitary victory , she made ducks in both the other matches . She continued her string of ducks in the first @-@ innings of the second Test , falling leg before wicket (lbw) facing her eighth delivery . However , after

claiming two English wickets , Brits top @-@ scored for South Africa in the second @-@ innings , making 61 off 67 balls , including 13 fours . Despite this innings , South Africa lost the match by an innings and 96 runs .

In the South African summer of 2003 ? 04 , England women toured South Africa , playing five ODIs . In the first match , Brits claimed three wickets as England were restricted to 151 , a total South Africa passed with the last ball of the allocated 50 overs . Brits went wicket @-@ less in the next two matches , both England victories , but claimed another three wickets in the fourth match of the series . Despite her wickets , England set South Africa a total of 242 to chase , and Brits was moved up the batting order to open the innings alongside Terblanche . The tactic failed : South Africa needed to score almost five runs an over to win the match , and when Brits was dismissed in the fourteenth over for 20 , the pair had only scored 38 runs , roughly two and a half runs an over . South Africa finished on 142 / 9 , over a hundred runs short of their target . For the 2004 season , Brits joined Kent women , playing in all five of their Women 's County Championship matches . She finished the competition with eight wickets , including a four @-@ wicket haul against Yorkshire in her final match .

= = = Women 's Cricket World Cup in South Africa : 2005 = = =

Brits was named as part of the South African squad to compete in the 2005 Women 's Cricket World Cup . Prior to the tournament , South Africa played two ODIs against England . Brits opened the innings alongside Terblanche in both matches , as she would continue to do throughout the World Cup , and made scores of 23 and 11 . She enjoyed more success during the tournament itself , finishing as South Africa 's leading run @-@ scorer with 206 runs , 92 more than her closest compatriot , Shandre Fritz . Her five wickets ranked her second among South African women behind Alicia Smith . During South Africa 's second round @-@ robin match , against the West Indies women , Brits made both her highest score of the tournament , making 72 , and her best bowling analysis , taking four wickets . She received the man of the match award for her achievement , as South Africa won the match by one run . Though she did not make any further half @-@ centuries during the tournament , she was twice dismissed in the forties , scoring 49 against Australia women and 46 against England women .

Despite Brits ' relative success in the tournament , the win against the West Indies women was South Africa 's only victory , and they finished the group stage in seventh place , meaning that they failed to qualify for the knockout phase . A three match ODI series was hastily arranged against the West Indies women , who had also been eliminated . By this stage , Brits was starting to bowl less frequently . She had opened the bowling in three of South Africa 's World Cup fixtures , but did not bowl at all against England women , and was used as the fourth @-@ change bowler against Sri Lanka women , bowling only four overs . Against the West Indies women , Brits bowled two overs in the first match , being used as the first @-@ change bowler , and has only bowled once in ODI cricket since . Her good form with the bat continued against the West Indies women as she passed 50 in two of the three matches , 2004 / 05 though the West Indies won the series 2 ? 1 .

= = = Pakistan series , Afro @-@ Asia Cup : 2006 ? 07 , 2007 = = =

An injury to Fritz , who had been selected as South African captain for the home series against Pakistan in 2006 ? 07 , saw Brits named as her replacement eight days before the first ODI . South Africa women won the first match of the series by 98 runs , with Brits scoring 39 runs from 42 balls , including 6 fours , in " an attractive cameo " . She top @-@ scored for South Africa in the second and third matches with half @-@ centuries , helping to secure the series victory . South Africa eventually won the series 4 ? 0 , and Brits was named as player of the series , having scored 183 runs and captained South Africa to their first series win since beating India women in 2002 . Brits was subsequently named as captain of the African women side to compete in a Twenty20 match against an Asian women XI during the 2007 Afro @-@ Asia Cup . The side , which contained four South Africans , lost by 60 runs . Brits was one of ten African players to be dismissed with a single

@-@ figure score , and five members of the team were dismissed for ducks .

= = = European tour : 2007 = = =

South Africa began their preparation for the 2008 Women 's World Cup Qualifying series with a tour of Europe , beginning with a Test match and an ODI series against Netherlands women , and then moving into England for more ODIs . Brits remained as South African captain for the tour , and became the only South African to captain her side to a woman 's Test victory , as they beat Netherlands by 159 runs . Although Brits had only managed a score of 21 in the first @-@ innings of the Test match , and had declared with herself unbeaten on 5 in the second , she showed her continued form with the bat by scoring 46 in the first ODI and 59 in the second , partnering Daleen Terblanche in a 131 @-@ run third wicket stand , a South African record for that wicket . A century from Johmari Logtenberg in the final ODI helped South Africa secure a 3 ? 0 series whitewash .

Once in England , South Africa played two 50 @-@ over contests against an England Development Squad , each side taking one win apiece , Brits top @-@ scoring in South Africa 's victory with 78 runs . This was followed by South Africa 's first two Twenty20 Internationals , against New Zealand women and England women at the County Ground , Taunton . The first match , against New Zealand , was marked by a spate of run outs , each team having four players dismissed in this fashion . South Africa lost by 97 runs , with Brits one of only three players to make it into double @-@ figures , scoring 23 at just under a @-@ run @-@ a @-@ ball . In the second match , held on the same day , South Africa again struggled for runs , with Brits this time being one of four players to make it out of single figures as South Africa lost by 86 runs .

= = = World Cup Qualifying Series : 2007 / 08 = = =

In order to qualify for the 2009 Women 's Cricket World Cup in Australia , South Africa had to compete in the qualifying series , which they hosted in Stellenbosch , the event having been postponed and then cancelled in Pakistan due to security concerns . Brits was not required to bat in the first match , a ten @-@ wicket victory over Bermuda in which eight of the Bermudans failed to score a run , and the remaining three were all dismissed for just one apiece . After scoring 17 in the second match , against Papua New Guinea , Brits made her highest score in One Day International cricket in the next match , against Netherlands . Coming in at number three after opener Daleen Terblanche had been dismissed for a duck after five balls of the match , Brits batted through the remainder of the innings and finished on 107 not out . Brits only managed 3 in the victory against Ireland in the semi @-@ finals which guaranteed South Africa a place in the 2009 World Cup , and was dismissed for a duck in the final as South Africa easily overcame Pakistan to win the competition . Brits was named as the 2008 CSA Women 's Cricketer of the Year .

= = = United Kingdom tour : 2008 = = =

Brits represented Central women during the Pro20 Women 's Super4 's in 2008 , and finished the tournament with 103 runs , trailing only Highveld 's Mignon du Preez , who scored the competition 's only half @-@ century . Upon the completion of the competition , the national team flew over to Ireland to begin their tour of the United Kingdom which started with an ODI just four days later . South Africa enjoyed a comfortable ten @-@ wicket victory in the tour opener , with Brits bowling an expensive two overs , conceding 17 runs including eight wides . She had not bowled in international cricket since 2005 , and has not again since . After making 13 in the Twenty20 match against the Irish , Brits fell for successive ducks in a 20 @-@ over match against England Academy and the first ODI against England . She continued to struggle with the bat in the remaining three ODIs , failing to pass 20 as England eased to a 4 ? 0 series win . She dropped down the order for the Twenty20 matches , batting at five and six , but after remaining 20 not out at the close of play in the first match , she was dismissed for 2 in both the following games .

== = Cricket World Cup , World Twenty20 : 2009 == =

Following their successful qualifying campaign , South Africa were one of eight women 's teams represented in the 2009 Women 's Cricket World Cup . Prior to the tournament , it had been announced that Sunette Loubser would replace Brits as captain of the national team . Denise Reid , the convenor of selectors , stated that the change had been made in order for Brits to " concentrate entirely on her own performance " as " [South Africa] require her undivided attention at the role assigned to her " . During her time as captain , Brits had averaged 32 @.@ 07 with the bat , however twelve of her sixteen matches were against Ireland , Pakistan and Netherlands women , both teams that South Africa had beaten easily in the World Cup Qualifying Series ; against the more competitive England side , she had averaged a much lower 8 @.@ 75 with the bat . Brits made modest totals in the two warm @-@ up matches against India and Pakistan , but averaged 33 @.@ 00 in the World Cup matches , second among the South African team behind Trisha Chetty . After scoring 7 against the West Indies in their first match , she made 36 against reigning World Champions Australia . South Africa finished the group @-@ stage winless when they suffered a 199 run defeat to New Zealand in the final group match ; chasing 250 , South Africa only managed to make 51 , with Brits ' score of 25 making her the only South African to make it into double figures . Brits remained 31 not out in the seventh place play @-@ off as South Africa successfully chased down the Sri Lankan score of 75 with over 20 overs to spare .

Brits finished the 2009 ICC Women 's World Twenty20 as South Africa 's top @-@ scorer with 71 runs . Her half @-@ century against New Zealand in the second match is the highest score by a South African woman in a Twenty20 International , surpassing the record of 38 set only four days earlier by du Preez . Despite her record , South Africa lost to the New Zealanders by 6 wickets , though Brits had the small consolation of being named man of the match . Brits scored seven runs in each of the other matches for South Africa , both defeats , against West Indies and Australia respectively .

== = West Indies series : 2009 ? 10 == =

South Africa and Brits had a point to prove during their 2009 ? 10 series against the West Indies , and were keen to improve on their recent performances . Brits top @-@ scored for the South Africans in the first of four ODIs with 48 , but an unbeaten century from West Indies opener Stafanie Taylor helped the tourists to chase down the total and win with 51 balls remaining . Brits made 31 in the second match as South Africa levelled the series , and then scored a match @-@ winning 60 not out in the third match to give South Africa the lead in the series . During this innings , she became only the second South African woman to pass 1 @,@ 000 career ODI runs . Brits missed the following Twenty20 series with bronchitis .