Sir Richard Hadlee, surely the greatest cricketer to have ever played cricket for New Zealand, began his

club career with the Lancaster Park club in 1969.

**Hadlee RJ** from 1965 to 1969, captain 1st XI and soccer 1st XI 1969

LPW from 1969 to 1974 34mts-39-3-74-456-12.7 1685 balls-101wkts-16.7 ave 3x five wkts in an inns

1970/71 99-10-350-15-23.3 1971/72 162-28-569-33-17.2 1972/73 145.7-31-496-38-13.1

Joined HSOB club 74/75 97.4-21-278-32-8.7 best ave 1975/76 92-20-269-22-12.2 1976/77 72.2-14-229-13-17.6

**77/78 52.2 10 174 17 10.23 78/79 57.1 18 153 10 15.3 81/82 139.1 57 212 37 5.7 best ave**

**84/85 84 163 11 14.8**

**Full club bowling figures not available**

Played 24 matches with brother Dayle beginning with 23 December 1972 against Otago, and six with him only, the last match which all three brothers was against England in 5 February 1978

After playing in four Under age tournaments he made

his first class debut for Canterbury in January 1972 against Auckland at Lancaster Park. In rather unfortunate circumstances he replaced brother Dayle who had been injured while working at home. In

spite of his International committements he played 14 seasons for the province and in 62 matches he scored 2,012 runs at 17 and took 285 wickets at 16: on nineteen occasions he took five wickets in an innings and twice ten wickets in a match. When he retired he was seventh in appearances made and he held the record for the most wickets. He was the only player to have achieved the 2000/200 double but since then he has been joined by Mark Priest, Todd Astle and this year by Andrew Ellis. Along with brother Dayle he held the record for the 8th wicket partnership of 166, a record which stood for 22 years. Richard is one of only four bowlers to have taken a hat trick. In his debut year and only his third match he took a hattrick Against Central Districts at Trafalgar Park on 16 January 1972 when he had Ken Wadsworth lbw and then bowled Blair Furlong and John Howell. 34 years since last

RJ Hadlee 408 runs 45 wickets 7 matches 1981/82

Fastest to reach the2000 double. Captain on two occasions and took 6/43 and 10/83

He made his debut for New Zealand against South Australia in January 19 and made his Test debut a month later against Pakistan at the Basin Reserve. When he retired at the age of 39 from international cricket in 1990, Richard was considered one of the great fast bowlers of all time and lifted New Zealand to unprecedented feats in the Test arena

Until his retirement in July 1990, Richard played 86 test for New Zealand scoring 3,124 runs and taking 431 wickets, in One Day Internationals he played 115 matches with a record of 1,71 runs and 158 wickets. He was first player to reach 400 Test wickets when he dismissed Manjrekar at Lancaster Park in  and to add to the legend when he had Devon Malcolm lbw at the end of the England second innings at Edgbaston in 1990 it was noted that he had taken a wicket with his last ball in Test cricket.

Many of you here tonight will remember the early Hadlee with the long run up and a full head of hair in flow as he steamed in intenet on bowling as fast as possible. Later memories are of the shorter controlled run and the crowd in full roar with chant of Hadlee-Hadlee.

Two matches remain high in the memory of cricket enthusiasts, in February 1978 his 10 wickets, including 6 for 26 in the second innings, condemned England to the first defeat against the New Zealand and the match that Richard rates as his best performance his 15 wickets with nine wickets for 52 in Brisbane in November 1985 remains one of the most talked-of moments in Trans-Tasman rivalry.

He finished his Test career with five for 53 at Edgbaston in a performance that helped him win the Man of the Series award. It was his 36th five-for, which was the record at the time and has subsequently been surpassed only by Muttiah Muralitharan and Shane Warne.

To put into perspective the influence Richard had on the Test matches he played, he was on the winning side on 22 occasions and he took 173 wickets at 13.6, 41%, almost eight wickets per match. In his 82 matches he took more than 35% of the wickets to fall. Against Australia in his 23 Tests Richard took 14 five wickets in an innings the most by any bowler against them. Each wicket against them cost him 20.56, which is among the best for bowlers who got at least 75

In March 2009 Richard was commemorated as one of the [Twelve Local Heroes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twelve_Local_Heroes), and a bronze bust of him was unveiled outside the [Christchurch Arts Centre](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christchurch_Arts_Centre).

In August 1990, Hadlee established The Sir Richard Hadlee Sports Trust. It was opened to help sportsmen and women who were in situations of hardship to strive for success in their chosen sporticultural

discipline and the annual event has become a highlight

It was by umpires, who were former players, who said that it is not in the spirit of the game. You don't need to do that. You're a better player and person than that. Take notice.But I still had a presence. Greg Matthews would sum that up, saying: "Hadlee was the most intimidating bowler that I have faced because he didn't say anything."