Richard Hadlee began his Christchurch club career with the Lancaster Park club in 1969 playing 34 matches for the club and taking 101 wickets at 16.7 average. In 1974 he joined the High School Old Boys club and over the next 16 years he had some outstanding club performances taking over 150 wickets: in 1974/75 he took 32 wickets at 8.7 and in 1981/82 he took 37 wickets at 5.7 average.

He made his first class debut for Canterbury in January 1972 against Auckland at Lancaster Park. In only his third match he took a hat trick against Central Districts and is one of only four bowlers to have done so. He had Ken Wadsworth lbw and he then clean bowled Blair Furlong and John Howell. His best all round season came in 1981/82 when he made 408 runs at 37 and took 45 wickets at 14 with a five wicket bag on five occasions. His best match performance came against Northern Districts in January 1987 with figures of seven for 49 and five for 32. Richard played 62 matches over 14 seasons and scored 2,012 runs at 26 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 taken. Richard was the first player to achieve the 2000 runs /200 wickets double and in his 62 matches he took 31% of the wickets to fall, a remarkably high percentage. In limited over matches Richard only played 30 matches but he took 46 wickets at 14 and he has the leading economy rate at 2.4 runs per over. He was a member of the two winning Shell Trophy teams and three Shell Cup teams.

Richard made his Test debut against Pakistan at the Basin Reserve in February 1973 and when he retired in July 1990 he had played 86 tests for New Zealand scoring 3,124 runs and taking 431 wickets, the leading Test wicket taker at that time. In One Day Internationals he played 115 matches and scored 1,751 runs and 158 wickets. He was first bowler to reach 400 Test wickets when he dismissed Manjrekar at Lancaster Park in February 1990. 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.

To put into perspective the influence that Richard had on the Test matches he played, in his 82 matches he took more than 35% of the wickets to fall and on the 22 occasions when he was on the winning side he took 41% of the wickets: almost eight wickets per match. But aside from his superb bowling, his batting was aggressive and positive and his gully fielding was of the highest quality.

Richard received the MBE in 1980 and was [knighted](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knight) in June 1990 for services to cricket, the only occasion an active cricketer has received such an honour. He was the New Zealand Sportsman of the year in 1980, and again in 1986 and in January 2009 he was one of the inaugural members inducted into the [ICC Cricket Hall of Fame](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ICC_Cricket_Hall_of_Fame).

Richard inspired generations to play and raised the profile of the sport to unprecedented heights. And who can ever forget the huge crowds in the 1980’s chanting in excitement Hadlee-Hadlee as he steamed in from his long run up and his unruly hair flowing in the wind.

Sir Richard Hadlee, certainly one of the greatest cricketer to have ever played for New Zealand. Since then joined by Mark Priest and Todd Astle Along with brother Dayle he held the record for the 8th wicket partnership of 166 a record which stood for 22 years. He made his debut for New Zealand against South Australia in January 1973 and made his test debut a month later against Pakistan at the basin Reserve, later in the year in June 1973 he made his test debut at Trent Bridge. Richard played 86 test for New Zealand **scoring 3124 runs and taking 431 wicket**Sir Richard Hadlee certainly one of the greatest cricketers to have ever played for New Zealand began his club career with the Lancaster Park club in 1969. 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 25.79 and took 285 wickets at 16.14: 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 held the record for the most wickets. He was the only Canterbury player at that time to have achieved the first class double of 2000 runs/200 wickets but since then he has been joined by Mark Priest, Todd Astle and Andrew Ellis.. Along with brother Dayle he held the record for the 8th wicket partnership of 166, a record which stood for 25 years until beaten in the 2008/09 season. When Richard claimed a hat trick against Central Districts in his debut season he joined three other bowlers and over the next 46 seasons no other player has achieved that distinction.

Richard made his debut for New Zealand against South Australia in January 1973 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 he had help lift New Zealand cricket to unprecedented feats in the Test arena.

Until his retirement in July 1990, Richard played 86 tests for New Zealand scoring 3,124 runs and taking 431 wickets, in One Day Internationals he played 115 matches with a record of 1,751 runs and 158 wickets. He was first player to reach 400 Test wickets when he dismissed Manjrekar at Lancaster Park in February 1990 and to add to the legend it was noted that when he had Devon Malcolm lbw at the end of the England second innings at Edgbaston in 1990 he had taken a wicket with his last ball in Test cricket. It was his 36th five-for, which was the record at the time.

To put into perspective the influence Richard had on the Test matches he played, he was on the winning side on 22 occasions and took 173 wickets at 13.6 average which was 41 of the wickets to fall, almost eight wickets per match. In his 82 matches he took more than 35% of the wickets to fall.

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 intenert 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.

He finished his Test career with a five-for, [taking 5 for 53](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/engine/match/63533.html) at Edgbaston in a performance that helped him win the Man of the Series award. and has subsequently been surpassed only by Muttiah Muralitharan and Shane Warne.

He showed his independence from an early age when he opted to joined the Lancaster Park rather than the beloved HSOB club. From 1969 until 1974 Hagley Oval he played 39 matches and scored 456 runs and took 101 wickets at 16. He played in under 20 age tournament 68/69 and 69/70 and under23 tournament 69/70 and 70/71 26 January 1971 at Under 23 tournament

many of you may well remember the early Hadlee, with his long run up, fearsome pace and long hair flowing in the breeze as he reached the crease. His lithe, whippy, side-on action made life uncomfortable for all the great batsmen of his era, as he extracted pace, bounce and movement from even the least responsive of surfaces. is batting was full of handsome and ambitious strokes, and his fielding at his favourite gully position was quite outstanding. He received, and deserved, a fistful of county cricket awards, and

a knighthood newly conferred upon him for his services to the game,

Hadlee was always assured of immortality, but in addition to his matchless skills with the ball, he was also a hard-hitting batsman of unquestioned skill, and he is acknowledged as one of the four great allrounders of the 1980s, along with Ian Botham, Imran Khan and Kapil Dev. here was an Indian connection to another highlight of Hadlee's career, to become the first man to 400 Test wickets.

a *Wisden* Player of the Year in 1982, and with his typically determined approach put together the amazing effort of the double - 100 wickets and 1000 runs in a county season.

His knighthood had, of course, come earlier in that tour; he was the first active Test player to be so honoured by the English monarch - and his friends reckoned that Walter wore the same smile for a week.

place. His first great demolition job came in Wellington in February 1978 - five years on from his debut - when his 10 wickets, including 6 for 26 in the second innings, condemned England to a first defeat against the Kiwis. However, it was for the Australians that he preserved his finest efforts, and his 15-wicket haul in Brisbane in 1985-86 remains one of the most talked-of moments in Trans-Tasman rivalry. He needed just 79 matches to reach 400 wickets - a phenomenal strike-rate - and he was still very much at the top of his game when, in 1990, he bowed out against England at his adopted home of Trent Bridge - his second-innings haul of 5 for 53 included a wicket with his very last delivery.

After retirement he went on to to become an outspoken media pundit, and later the chairman of New Zealand's selectors. **Andrew Miller**

e almost single-handedly carried a New Zealand bowling attack that had few other attacking options. Hadlee began his Test career in 1973, but his first five years were fairly ordinary, fetching him only 61 wickets, each costing more than 35.

Hadlee was lethal against most opponents, but he saved his very best for his trans-Tasman rivals, Australia. In only [23 Tests](http://www.espncricinfo.com/ci/engine/player/37224.html?class=1;filter=advanced;opposition=2;orderby=five_wickets;template=results;type=bowling;view=innings) against them, Hadlee took 14 five-fors, the most by any bowler. Each wicket against them cost him 20.56, which is among the best for bowlers who got at least 75

Hadlee was appointed MBE in 1980 and [knighted](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knight) in 1990 for services to cricket. He is a former chairman of the New Zealand board of selectors. In December 2002, he was chosen by [Wisden](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wisden_Cricketers%27_Almanack" \o "Wisden Cricketers' Almanack) as the second greatest [Test](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Test_cricket) bowler of all time.[[1]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Hadlee#cite_note-1) In March 2009, Hadlee 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).

Richard Hadlee is one of the twelve [Canterbury Heroes](http://my.christchurchcitylibraries.com/canterbury-heroes/) - important local figures who have been acknowledged in a set of bronze busts

Shortly before the second test of the [England series](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Zealand_cricket_team_in_England_in_1990) at [Lords](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord%27s_cricket_ground) the [1990 Queen's Birthday Honours](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/1990_Birthday_Honours#New_Zealand) were announced and included Hadlee's appointment as a [Knight Bachelor](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Knight_Bachelor) for services to cricket.[[7]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Hadlee#cite_note-7) Hadlee was not invested with his knighthood until 4 October 1990 after the end of his final test match on 10 July 1990, although he became Sir Richard upon the publish date of the Honours List.

Don Cameron on Hadlee

[**The consummate professional**](http://www.espncricinfo.com/magazine/content/story/465974.html)

He was New Zealand's greatest bowler and the first Test cricketer to be knighted while still active, but at home he didn't get the adulation his stature demanded

Stats analysis

[**The complete fast bowler**](http://www.espncricinfo.com/magazine/content/story/464688.html)

For a team starved of match-winning fast bowlers, Hadlee was a godsend

**Timeline**

The Sir Richard Hadlee Sports Trust[[edit](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Richard_Hadlee&action=edit&section=7&editintro=Template:BLP_editintro" \o "Edit section: The Sir Richard Hadlee Sports Trust)]

A bust of Hadlee at the [Twelve Local Heroes](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Twelve_Local_Heroes) display, Christchurch.

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 sporting or cultural discipline. The criteria for the Sir Richard Hadlee Sports Trust are: the applicant must be under the age of 25, the applicant must be from the region of Canterbury New Zealand, the request for assistance is specifically for sporting or cultural purposes and applicant is disadvantaged, facing hardship or has special circumstances which prevent him or her from pursuing his or her sporting or cultural endeavors. The Sir Richard Hadlee Sports Trust relies on the generosity of the community, as well as its corporate sponsors [CTV](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canterbury_Television), [Lion Nathan](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lion_Nathan),[Newstalk ZB](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Newstalk_ZB), [Pernod Ricard](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pernod_Ricard" \o "Pernod Ricard), Pope Print, PR South and Vbase.[[13]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Richard_Hadlee#cite_note-13)