

# Sir Donald Bradman



Bradman at New road, Worcester 1948

**Born:** August 27, 1908, Cootamundra, NSW      **Died:** February 25, 2001, Adelaide, SA (aged 92)

In international Test cricket, Bradman scored a stunning 6,996 runs for his nation and set an indomitable record with an average of 99.94 runs per match. This record remains the benchmark in the “gentleman’s game” to this very day.

The following goes a little way to acknowledging some of his records, his quotes, and some of the quotes made about him.

*“It would be fair to assume that If Australia had this guy around today, they would be an unstoppable force”.*

*“He is the greatest living Australian, elevated not merely by his feats but by the quality of the man himself “ - **Australian prime minister John Howard’s 1990’s***

*“In those lazy, hazy summer days of long ago, the sound of leather on willow emanated from the grounds of Pirton Court, as the great man himself, Sir Donald Bradman stood at the crease and batted away in the sunshine”.*

*“In the 1920s and 30s, the visiting Aussie Test cricket teams were entertained at Pirton Court”.*

*“To the delight of local villagers, record-breaking batsman Donald Bradman played a game of cricket on the west lawn”.*

*"Isn't that Don Bradman over there? I would like to be introduced."*

**- Former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill at a public gathering in 1948.**

*"He is probably the most important Australian of all time."*

**- Legendary broadcaster and former Australia captain Richie Benaud**

*“A good captain must be a fighter; confident but not arrogant, firm but not obstinate; able to take criticism without letting it unduly disturb him, for he is sure to get it — and unfairly, too.” - Bradman*

*“The game of cricket existed long before I was born. It will be played centuries after my demise. During my career, I was privileged to give the public my interpretation of its character in the same way that a pianist might interpret the works of Beethoven.” - Bradman*

*“I was never coached; I was never told how to hold a bat. Every ball went exactly where I wanted it to go until the ball that got me out.” – Bradman*



**1 May 1930:** At 22 years old in Bradman's first innings on English soil –

at Worcester he scored 236 for Australia v. Worcestershire.

**3 May 1934:** Bradman opened his second English tour at Worcester, Bradman scored 206 for Australia v. Worcestershire.

**30 April 1938:** Bradman opened his third English tour -

At Worcester, Bradman scored 258 for Australia v. Worcestershire. *This was his third successive double century made in an opening game on tour.*

**WW11 interrupted cricket internationals for 10 years.**

**29 April 1948:** The war was over. Aged 39 years & 18 years after his first tour Sir Donald Bradman made his fourth English cricket tour also started at Worcester. Bradman scored 107.

The Australian team of 1948 didn't lose a single game on the whole tour and became known as "the Invincibles".

Since records began on sporting history there are less than a handful that have ever reached the iconic legendary status levels of Sir Donald Bradman. The handful of members permitted entry to such a club would likely include Pele and Mohammed Ali – the others are open to fierce debate.

He proved to be a scourge for England, hitting 19 centuries against them between 1928 and 1948. He received an OBE for his conquering of the cricket world and is still fondly remembered as one of the best, if not the best to do it.





We were unaware when we moved to Pirton Court, but soon realised that we were living in the house where some famous names have been entertained. We set about creating an annual village all ages and abilities "cricket match" to celebrate the great man.

Jacqui & Peter

