

## **BAILEY, Cecil John**

**Born:** June 29, 1918, Liverpool, Merseyside, England.\*

**Died:** May 22, 2008.

Cecil was born in Liverpool but moved to Southampton at an early age and spent the majority of his speedway career with his adopted home town club.

A fine all round motorcyclist, specialising in grass track and reaching international standard at trials riding, Cecil took up speedway seriously in 1948 and spent two high scoring seasons at Bannister Court, finishing both 1948 and 1949 as the club's third highest scorer and recording twelve maximums for the club in his debut year. The fact that the second of those seasons was in Division Two showed that his rise had been somewhat meteoric and an average of over seven points per match augured well for a long and successful career in the sport.

He figured in a surprise move to Plymouth in 1950 with many expecting him to become the 'Devils' number one, but he endured a torrid time at Pennycross and was back at Southampton later that year, retiring when the doors closed to the sport at the south coast venue in June 1951.

Cecil later became one of the sport's leading photographers.



<b>Year</b>	<b>Club</b>	<b>Division</b>	<b>M</b>	<b>R</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>BP</b>	<b>TP</b>	<b>CMA</b>	<b>FM</b>	<b>PM</b>
1948	Southampton †	NL3	53	189	371	30.5	401.5	8.50	7	5
1949	Southampton	NL2	45	182	307	18	325	7.14	-	-
1950	Plymouth	NL2	13	48	52	12	64	5.33	-	-
1950	Southampton	NL2	16	59	80.5	11	91.5	6.20	-	-
1951	Southampton	NL2	1	2	1	0	1	2.00	-	-