

BAINBRIDGE, Ronald (Junior)

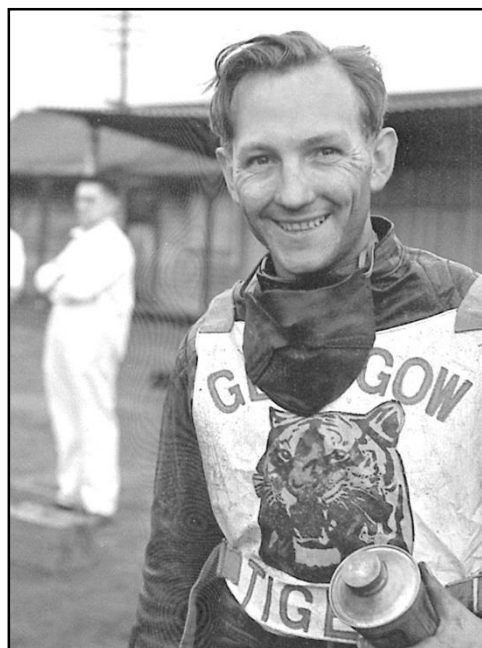
Born: April 19, 1924, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.

Died: November 5, 2000.

Although he hailed from Melbourne, 'Junior' was spotted riding in Brisbane by former Australian international Charlie Spinks in 1946, and came to Britain the following year to join Glasgow.

Despite being somewhat overshadowed in his time on the Scottish scene by riders such as Tommy Miller and Jack Young, 'Junior' was a mainstay of the 'Tigers' team until the end of the 1953 season when the club sold him to Ipswich to help clear the debts incurred during the year. During that time he consistently recorded averages of over eight points per match and proved to be a hugely popular figure on the White City terraces. His best season in the red and white came in 1951 when he achieved an average of 8.95 and by the time the track closed he had scored 37 maximums for the club despite a fractured knee cap sustained in 1952 which threatened to end his career.

When the 'Tigers' ran into financial difficulties and were compelled to put Junior and Tommy Miller up for sale, he moved to Ipswich for a £500 fee but a change of track failed to lessen his scoring power and he filled a heat leader role in his first three years at Foxhall Heath, with his scores actually surpassing the figures he had achieved at Glasgow. The amalgamation of the leagues in 1957 saw him ride in the top flight for the first time since his arrival in the U.K. more than a decade earlier, but despite occasional flashes of form, he struggled to maintain his average and returned to Australia at the end of the year. He continued to ride in his home country and represented Australia in a test match against England as late as January 1960.



Year	Club	Division	M	R	P	BP	TP	CMA	FM	PM
1947	Glasgow	NL2	26	99	117	15	132	5.33	-	-
1948	Glasgow	NL2	33	136	166	14	180	5.29	1	1
1949	Glasgow	NL2	44	177	345	18	363	8.20	7	3
1950	Glasgow	NL2	22	84	173	11	184	8.76	6	3
1951	Glasgow	NL2	28	114	248	7	255	8.95	5	1
1952	Glasgow	NL2	34	145	293	18	311	8.58	2	1
1953	Glasgow	NL2	36	150	275	24	299	7.97	4	3
1954	Ipswich	NL2	23	97	218	7	225	9.28	4	2
1955	Ipswich	NL2	36	186	372	19	391	8.41	5	1
1956	Ipswich	NL2	28	141	286	20	306	8.68	1	3
1957	Ipswich	NL	16	65	67	10	77	4.74	-	-

International Honours: Australian international – 9 caps, 29 points.