

## BRIGGS, Wayne

**Born:** June 24, 1944, Christchurch, New Zealand.

How far Wayne Briggs would have gone in the sport but for an unbelievable run of serious injuries can only be guessed. The younger brother of former World Champion, Barry Briggs, Wayne was only 16 years old when he made his league debut - with Edinburgh picking up the scoop signature of the younger 'Briggo'. He was the novice of the year in 1961 but his progress was curtailed by a serious eye injury the following year that required an operation and then by another crash in 1963 which saw him break both his wrists.

At Newport in 1964 Wayne piled up again and broke his leg and so the list went on and on. In between his injuries Wayne showed form which supported the idea that he could have been a world class rider but the best he could manage was being a respected second string and or occasional heat leader in the top flight and a full New Zealand international. After five years at Edinburgh, Wayne moved south to join Poole and rarely settled at any one club after that with spells at Exeter, Coatbridge and Wembley, reserving his best top flight performances for the Devon side in 1967 and 1968 when he filled the second heat leader berth in both seasons. A strange fact in Wayne's career is that he made five international appearances for New Zealand but failed to open his point scoring account on each occasion.



Year	Club	Division	M	R	P	BP	TP	CMA	FM	PM
1961	Edinburgh	PL	24	90	124	14	138	6.13	-	1
1962	Edinburgh	PL	23	96	198	11	209	8.71	1	2
1963	Edinburgh	PL	11	44	94.5	5	99.5	9.05	2	-
1964	Edinburgh	PL	15	63	133	4	137	8.70	2	1
1965	Edinburgh	BL	6	19	16	5	21	4.42	-	-
1966	Poole	BL	24	85	98.5	18	116.5	5.48	-	-
1967	Exeter	BL	17	70	131	7	138	7.89	-	1
1968	Exeter	BL1	36	148	261	24	285	7.70	1	-
1969	Coatbridge	BL1	33	132	176	35	211	6.39	-	-
1970	Wembley	BL1	32	117	146	25	171	5.85	-	-
1971	Exeter	BL1	20	70	86	18	104	5.86	-	-

**International Honours:** New Zealand international – 5 caps, 0 points.