

## **BYRNES, Bernard Francis (Bat)**

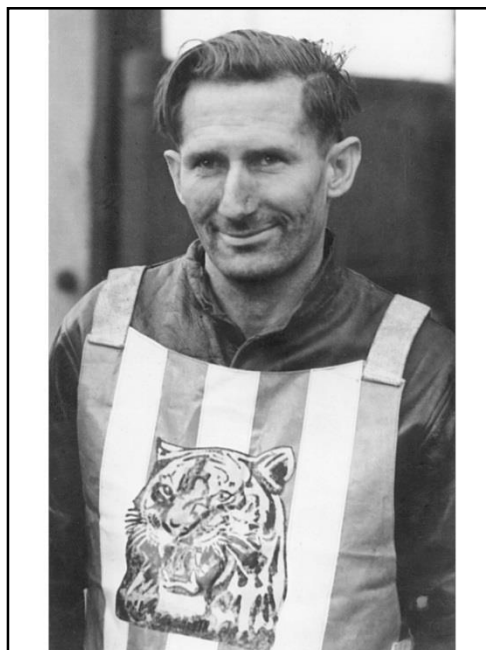
**Born:** July 15, 1915, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia.

**Died:** 1976.

'Bat' was a road racer who first came to England in 1947, joining Harringay with little experience of speedway but having been named as Sydney's top novice the year before.

After struggling to win a place in the 'Racers' team, he moved to Glasgow where he became a crowd favourite, spending three seasons with the Scottish club. Road racing commitments delayed his return in 1948, but when he did arrive he lost no time, scoring double figures in his first three matches and was even better in 1949.

In what proved to be his last season in Britain, 'Bat' topped the Glasgow averages with a figure of 8.35 points per match but a fractured skull sustained at Norwich in September ended his season early. He found himself suffering from deafness in one ear and serious headaches as a result of the crash and informed the Glasgow management of his decision not to return for the 1950 season.



Year	Club	Division	M	R	P	BP	TP	CMA	FM	PM
1947	Harringay	NL1	4	10	3	1	4	1.60	-	-
1947	Glasgow	NL2	17	69	96	10	106	6.14	-	-
1948	Glasgow	NL2	19	81	149	13	162	8.00	1	1
1949	Glasgow	NL2	21	85	170.5	7	177.5	8.35	3	-