

YATES, Frederick T. (Fred)

Born: May 1, 1916, Hendon, London, England.*

A bespectacled teacher at the Tamworth Queen Elizabeth Grammar School, Fred was much travelled in his early life, serving with the Territorial Army, the R.A.F. and the Air Engineering Commission with the Royal Navy. Whilst in Australia he saw speedway at Sydney and, after his release from the services, he had trials at Belle Vue. In 1947 he joined Tamworth but suffered a broken hand as he was aiming to win a regular place at the Midlands venue and was eventually transferred to Coventry for £50 for their opening season in the sport in 1948. He was a regular member of the 'Bees' side that year, scoring just over a point per ride, and also turned out for Fleetwood in 1949. Although his league career ended after his spell at Highbury Avenue, Fred was in Australia in the winter of 1950-51 and rode for the English touring party against the Aussies in unofficial test matches at Brisbane and Sydney.

Year	Club	Division	M	R	P	BP	TP	CMA	FM	PM
1947	Tamworth	NL3	4	9	10	1	11	4.89	-	-
1948	Coventry	NL3	33	102	103	15	118	4.63	-	-
1949	Ashfield	NL2	1	2	0	0	0	0.00	-	-
1949	Fleetwood	NL2	15	36	26	2	28	3.11	-	-