



### **A. (Alby)Westcott - 1959/1960**



Alby commenced playing with Croydon Cricket Club at age 13 in 1927. A lengthy career finished in 1966 and Alby passed away in August 1967. He was married to Lyn and they had two children, James (Jim) and Sandra. Jim also played for Croydon for 12 seasons and represented the RDCA and Victoria in Under 21 teams. Alby's father Stan was an umpire in the 1940's and a President, Secretary and Life Member of the Croydon Cricket Club. Alby was also an Uncle to another RDCA Life Member in Ken Johnston (Ken's mother's maiden name was Thelma Westcott) and his brother-in-law, Reg Johnston, was also an RDCA Life Member. Alby spent all his working life as a Licensed Customs Agent for Gordon and Gotch.

During his 40 years at Croydon Cricket Club Alby was a committee member for over 30 years and was the club delegate to the RDCA for 26 years. As well as playing he also coached junior teams for the club. His playing career was successful with a double century against Ringwood in a semi-final and on another occasion, he teamed with George Collis (Snr) to post a record RDCA fourth wicket partnership. Alby made 218 and George 240. Bowling was also a strength - Alby was an accurate medium pacer and had best figures of 6/48.

Alby started his cricket in the RDCA matting competition before 'graduating' to the ESCA turf competition when the turf wicket was laid at Croydon and Croydon Cricket Club moved to the new competition. He won the Croydon First XI batting average and the ESCA "B Grade Turf" award in 1963, 1964 and 1965 as an opening batsman. The Honour Board in the Croydon Cricket Club clubrooms acknowledges the tireless work of Alby. Life Membership of Croydon Cricket Club was bestowed on Alby in 1958.

Service to the RDCA included many years on the Executive including being a Vice President from 1951/2 until 1960/1 and then again in 1962/3. He was an RDCA selector for a number of years in the 1950's and himself played many representative games for the Association from as far back as the 1930's.

Alby was made an RDCA Life Member during the 1959/60 season in recognition of his extensive service to the Association.

*Acknowledgement for information and photo to - "Croydon Cricket Club - 1886/1986" Centenary Report.*