

I was sad to read of the passing of Frank Chaillon at the age of 92. That makes him about 20 years older than me. I will write a few lines below that you may consider publishing.

Frank Chaillon

A stalwart of Norths Cricket Club who played from the 1940's right through to the 1970's.

Besides being a good cricketer, he was also a very good rugby league player for Centrals.

His highest representative honours in cricket came in the 1949/50 season when he represented Queensland Colts in a game against NSW Colts at SCG No2 ground. Unfortunately, he came up against an up and coming colt named Alan Davidson, destined to become one of Australia's greatest allrounders. Davo tells the story in his book, Sixteen Paces, about the Colt who came 2000 kms from North Queensland only to be run out by him for a duck. That Colt was Frank Chaillon. Frank did get a start in the second innings but was out for 11 in his only match for Queensland Colts.

I had the privilege of playing with Frank for several seasons and marvelled at his ability as an opening batsman taking on the best fast bowlers Townsville cricket could send against him as he continued to open the batting well into his forties. He had all the time and all the strokes needed to be successful.

He was a real gentleman and a great team mate to everyone. His father, Harry Chaillon, was Patron for a time and after a game we often gathered on the front lawn of his house in Belgian Gardens to sip a few cans of beer and discuss the match. This was in the days of 6.00pm closing on a Sunday so going to a hotel was out of the question.

As a Life Member of Norths Cricket Club, may he always be remembered as one of the pioneers and stalwarts of the club during its early days.

Ray Kohn