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### First Cricket

**MR ROBERT MENZIES,**

cricket enthusiast Premier of Australia, who arrives here tomorrow has an engagement on Saturday that is very much to his liking: he is to lay the foundation stone of the new pavilion of East Molesey Cricket Club.

Australians have always had a warm spot for the East Molesey Club. It is said to be the oldest cricket club in the world.

Cricket was first played there in 1695. In the Long Room at Lord's is a painting of cricket being played there in 1761.

In 1948 when the Molesey Club wanted a new pavilion it raised £3,500 but could not get a licence. Then costs soared.

But one of Britain's leading building contractors offered to build at cost. Kitchen, bar equipment, glass and paint were given. The Australian Government decided to give all the wood needed for the panelling. The first Australian touring side played its first match in England there.

Mr Menzies himself is a life member of the club and the beautiful wrought iron gates, given by an anonymous Australian which are now the

club's entrance on the Thames-side, are called The Menzies Gates. General Sir Dallas Brooks, Governor of Victoria, is another life member.

Mr Menzies will be given a surprise present when he lays the foundation stone—a rare silver meat skewer of the kind used in Britain 300 years ago. It is dated, appropriately, 1695.

660,96x

1955

1695

260

Star

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In arrears

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Silent coverage only.

In arrears