

THE DUKE WITH THE AUSSIES

The Aussies open their tour in Britain with a match at the East Molesey Cricket Ground in Surrey. The home team bat first before a record crowd of ten thousand.

The Duke of Edinburgh, a more-than-useful cricketer himself, arrives in time to see Ray Lindwall, the Aussies' No. 1 speed merchant, take Bernard Constable's wicket with a catch to Bill Johnston.

Lindwall to McGuire, who hooks it for a near boundary.

Here's big Bill Johnston, the fast spin bowler.

But Johnston injures his right leg and leaves the field. He'll miss the Aussies' first county match. Now Keith Miller (not bowling bumpers on this occasion) gives Douglas Insole an anxious moment.

Mr. David Eccles sees wicket keeper Tallon stump McNeill, East Molesey's captain - and down go the opposition's hopes. During the tea interval, Lindsay Hassett introduces the Duke to the members of his team, who have been given 244 to beat by the East Molesey team. Among the other personalities present is Sir David Maxwell Pyfe. When the Aussies go into bat, Arthur Morris leads an assault on Tagg's Island, onto which no cricket ball has ever been hit.

Keith Miller lashes out, but not even the Aussies can reach the Island. Australian-born George Tribe scatters Neil Harvey's wicket - but the tourists bat on to final victory.

At Lord's Cricket Ground, a new gallery has been built as a memorial to cricketers who gave their lives during two world wars. Paintings from many Commonwealth countries and portraits of some giants of the past decorate the walls. The Duke of Edinburgh steps forward to declare the gallery open, and the Australian tourists applaud as a memorial plaque is revealed.

A full display of the counties' own emblems are among the exhibits now on show to the public - and historic bats recall bygone summer days when they were wielded by cricket idols who, to most of us, are but hallowed names in the pages of Wisden.

The Duke shows a keen interest in the relics on display, particularly in the original "Ashes," the legendary prize of the cricketing season.