

Old Boys live it up



BY A.C. DE SILVA

OLD BOYS CRICKET: England was soundly beaten by its old opponent Australia in a trip down memory lane at the Oval.

True to tradition, the men in green caps waltzed to victory by 7 wickets in a special "Old Timers' 50 overs match, as part of the Centenary Test celebrations in the good old days.

Bobby Simpson, battle hardened stalwart of 62 Tests, pointed the way by taking two wickets and then hit a splendid 75. Australia chasing an England total of 230 for 5 wickets, got home with more than 10 overs to spare. This, however,

was a day for reflections on some close "Ashes" confrontations of the past. Both sides locked like a cricket who's who - their total Test appearances adding up to a staggering 1,125.

There was a crowd of around 5,000 and they were given a treat on a not day, without any of cricket's modern tendencies - disputes, bumpers and slow over rates.

Australia had a big age advantage, it included three players who were in their 30's and even senior citizen Neil Harvey who as then aged 51.

The average age of the team was much less than England's which had the 60-year-old wicket-keeper Godfrey Evans as its elder statesman.

Local hero John Edrich, babe of the side at 43, was top England scorer on 61, Basil D'Oliveira made 56 not out.

Colin Cowdrey, the England captain, scored 44, one less than Ken Barrington, who turned the clock back by taking eight overs to reach three.

There were other lasting memories. Fred Trueman and Frank Tyson, the scourge of Australia in 1954-55, once more shared the new ball albeit at the far more gently pace.

There were two stumpings for Evans, three sixes from Simpson off a pertly Tony Lock and an unbeaten 57 from Keith Stackpole. But there were no real losers.



Ever willing for cricket - former England spinner Tony Lock.



At it..... England's Typhoon Tyson sends one down to Australian Keith Stackpole.

SCOREBOARD

OLD ENGLAND

J.H. Edrich c Redpath	
b Simpson	61
P.E. Richardson b Corling ..	6
M.C. Cowdrey st. Taber	
b Gleeson	44
K.F. Barrington c Harvey	
b Corling	45
J.K. Smith b Simpson	3
B.L. D'Oliveira not out	56
J.M. Parks not out	5
Extras	10
Total (5 wickets, 50 overs)	230

Fall of wickets: 1-12, 2-87, 3-119, 4-127, 5-197.
Bowling: Connolly 10-2-37, Mission 2-0-3-0, Corling 9-1-29-2, Gleeson 10-0-42-1, Veivers 5-0-35-0, Simpson 5-0-22-2, Cowper

5-0-31-0, Stackpole 4-0-21-0.

OLD AUSTRALIA

R.B. Simpson st. Evans	
b Titmus	75
I.R. Redpath st. Evans	
b Titmus	27
R.W. Cowper st. Parks	
b Lock	35
K.R. Stackpole not out	57
R.N. Harvey not out	29
Extras	8
Total (3 wks, 39.2 overs)	231

Fall of wickets: 1-79, 2-124, 3-158.
Bowling: Trueman 6-0-24-0, Tyson 5-0-31-0, Lock 10-0-66-1, Titmus 5-0-29-0, Barrington 7-0-41-0, B. D'Oliveira 6.2-0-32-0.



Past-war memories are stirred as Peter Richardson and John Edrich walk-out to open Old England's innings.



Out stumped..... Old England captain Colin Cowdrey is stumped by Old Australian wicket-keeper Taber.



At it again..... Godfrey Evans - the England wicket-keeper roars an appeal and in this instance Bob Simpson of Australia was ruled out stumped off Titmus.

Something to remember - Bobby Simpson - Captain of Old Australia, Alf Gover (centre) the famous coach and President of then Surrey County Cricket club and Colin Cowdrey - Captain of Old England examining the scorecard of the 1880 clash between England and Australia at the memorable match.



Old England cricketers
Back Row (from left): Fred Trueman, Jim Parks, Godfrey Evans, Colin Cowdrey, Ken Barrington, Tony Lock and Frank Tyson.
Front Row: (from left): Basil D'Oliveira, Peter Richardson, Bill Edrich, Smith and Fred Titmus.



Old Australia cricketers - Back Row (from left): Connolly, Mission, Tom Veivers, Keith Stackpole, Ian Redpath, Barry Jarman, in front (squatting) - from left: Bob Cowper, Cerling, Bobby Simpson, Neil Harvey, Gleeson and Taber.