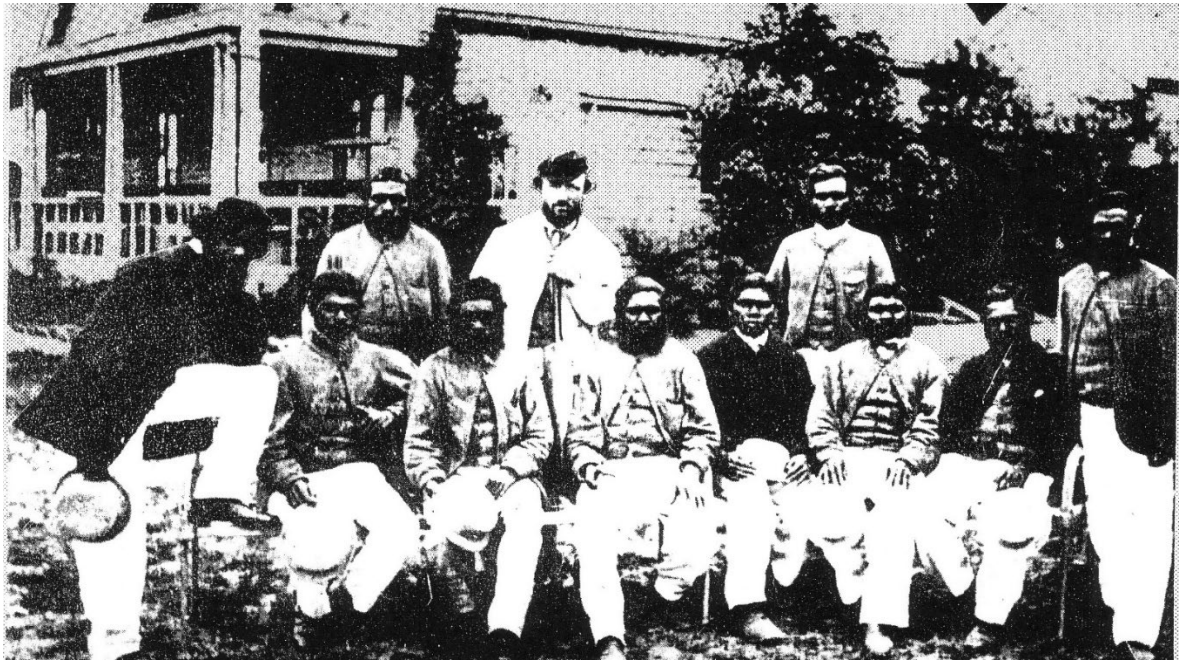


1868 CRICKET NEWS

FIRST AUSTRALIAN TEAM TO TOUR ENGLAND NOTCHES IMPRESSIVE WINS



HISTORIC PERFORMANCES!

The 1868 Cricket Tour of England has now established Australia's maturity as a sporting nation with a total of 14 wins 14 losses and 19 draws in the tour fixture. It is a feat far beyond previous Australian teams, which even on Australian soil had been subject to consistent thrashings by the English. This was despite the fact that we often fielded teams of 20 or more against the English 11.

SUPERB FIELDING!

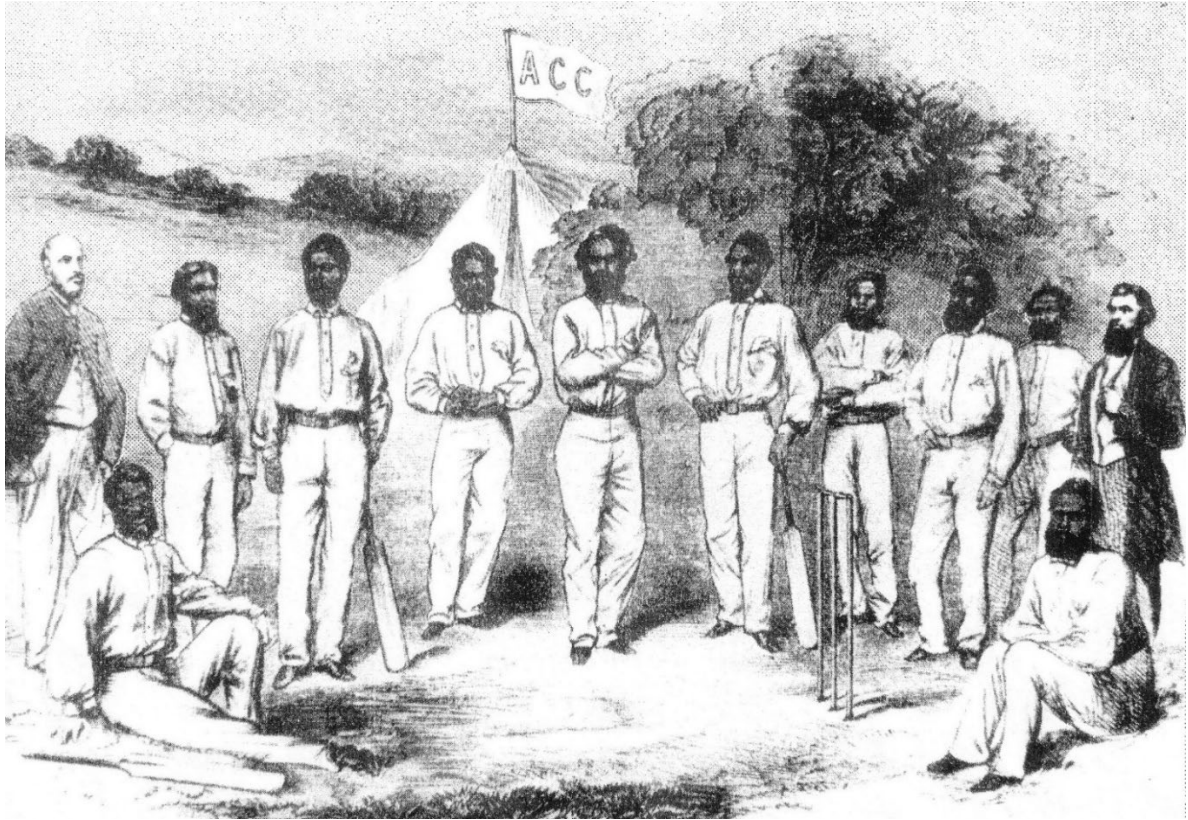
This history making Australian team displayed unique skills on the field of competition. In fact, the fielding techniques they employed would revolutionise the game. These agile players field the ball on the run, throw on the turn and send bullet-like flat returns flat and low to the Keeper, often resulting in surprise run-outs. Similarly, their skill with bat and ball and level of athletic fitness, have added a new dimension to the game.

NATIONAL PRIDE!

The 1868 First Australian Cricket Tour of England has proved to be a landmark in Australian sporting history. Hopefully the contribution of this historic team to the development to the noble game of Cricket, and to and to the establishment of Australia's sporting equality with England will be remembered and revered by generations to come.

1868 CRICKET NEWS

ABORIGINAL AUSTRALIAN CRICKET TEAM BEAT POMMS!



1868 - THE YEAR AUSTRALIAN SPORT CAME OF AGE

Before the first tour of England by an Australian cricket team in 1868, the English had in their previous tours of Australia thrashed us unmercifully. We had never even won a single game against them despite often having 20 or more players against their eleven.

But the 1868, Aboriginal Australian Cricket Team changed all that!

In losing only 14 out of 47 matches for the whole tour, not only did they establish our sporting equality with England for the first time, but the techniques they employed in fielding and bowling were revolutionary. These Aboriginal cricketers were the forerunners to the modern athletic style of cricket.

The star was Johnny Mullagh, who topped both the batting and bowling averages for Australia. After more than 150 years his achievements are finally being recognized, with the Johnny Mullagh Medal now being awarded to the best player in the iconic Melbourne Boxing Day Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

Strangely though, it is the second touring side of 1877, the first official Australian Test Team, that is remembered better than that ground-breaking 1868 Aboriginal team.