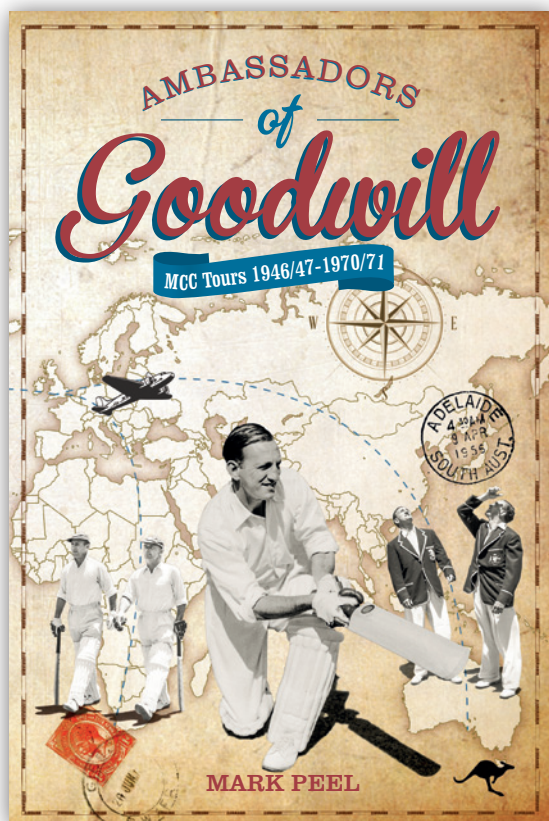




# Title information



## Ambassadors of Goodwill

MCC Tours 1946/47–1970/71

By Mark Peel

### Key features

- Uses recently released material in the MCC archives to provide a fresh appraisal of the tours and players involved
- Describes the changing nature of touring in the jet age, and explores its changing role during the post-war era
- Written by award-winning cricket author, Mark Peel
- Evaluates the growing importance of the role of the manager in restoring standards
- Provides a fresh angle on the controversial D'Oliveira Affair and absolves the England selectors of the charge of political opportunism
- Includes picture section with photos from the tours covered within the text

### Description

Since Victorian times, the MCC had embraced the amateur ideal that cricket was more than a game. It was the very essence of camaraderie and good sportsmanship. Yet for all their evangelising, the game's privileged elite were part of a British establishment which revelled in its national prestige and imperial hegemony. And winning at cricket was essential to maintaining that stature. *Ambassadors of Goodwill* assesses the MCC's attempt to marry these conflicting objectives and foster goodwill within the Empire via long, formal overseas tours. After the war, the amateur ideal suffered when Len Hutton was appointed England's first professional captain. His uncompromising leadership brought success on the field but discord off it. Managers were installed to restore diplomatic harmony but, with the growing upheavals of the late 60s, cricket became increasingly associated with nationality, race and professional cynicism. Ray Illingworth's controversial win in Australia in 1970/71 clearly signalled the MCC's waning influence.

### Details

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