

HIGHLIGHTS OF HER FIRST A/ASIA TOUR



The Gracie Fields' tour of Australia and New Zealand towards the end of the War is one of the great legends of show business.

Under direction of J. & N. Tait, Miss Fields drew capacity houses wherever she went, visited Armed Forces establishments and charity institutions, creating a tremendous wave of goodwill and contributing both directly and indirectly to the War Effort.

LEFT: Gracie climaxed her tour by packing the Sydney Show Ground at a special matinee performance—a box-office record for any single artist in Australian stage history.



One of the great human-interest pictures taken during Gracie's first tour. (Balmain Police Boys' Club.)



ABOVE: Gracie shows the boys how!

Gracie made such a hit with the Troops that when her jewellery was stolen the boys at Randwick Military Hospital clubbed together and raised £150 to buy her new ear-rings. (The jewellery was recovered and the money refunded.) At one concert, she auctioned the gown she wore and in all raised £800 from the audience for charity.