



*Partial group of attendees during a break at the AGM held at the Royal Golf Club de Belgique.
Mr & Mrs Georg Kittel, John Hanna, Dius Lennon, Patrick Massion & Virginie Lemaire, Olaf Dudzus, Sara & Geert Nijs,
Teresia Medvejsek, Stéphane Filanovitch, Poul-Eric Jensen, JBK, Robin Bargmann, Boris Lietzow, Patrice Rajchenbach.*



Sara Nijs, Rose & Donald Cameron



Teresia & Hans Medvejsek



JBK, Huguette, Christiane Vanhems, Stéphane Filanovitch



Dius, Patrice, Huguette, John, Virginie, Patrick, Mr & Mrs Kittel



Michael, Huguette, Boris, X, Patrice, Olaf, Virginie, Britta, X, Iain, Gunar, Kuno, Perry, Ed, Christine, Philippe

golfika



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The front cover of Golfika Magazine n°13 is after a painting of one of our EAGHC fellow members, Viktor Cleve, Germany's leading golf painter. It is depicting Harry Vardon at Prestwick in 1914 *en route* for his 6th victory in the British Open; winning three shots ahead of Taylor. A centenarian commemoration. Viktor Cleve is a former art director he kindly designed the title page and donated it to us. You can see more of his work on www.cleve-golfart.com

Illustration credit: Authors, EAGHC. For Sasha Sosno, with courtesy of Junior / Bestimage and Galerie Pieters.

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President(s)' words

By JBK (Jean-Bernard Kazmierczak)



Dear Fellow EAGHC Members,

It is a great pleasure and an honour to take the presidency of the EAGHC for the second time. Before sharing with you my personal thoughts, I would like to forward a letter which we received from our friend Leif, end December.

From Leif Einarsson:

My two years as your President have now come to an end. It has been two very interesting years.

The peak for me was the AGM 2012, held in my old home town, Gothenburg. I am also proud to have been able to arrange the Inaugural European Hickory Championship with more than 60 players participating from eleven countries. Many thanks to Claes Olsson and his staff who made it a real success.

The re-erection of a beautiful stone on Massy's grave in Edinburgh is another highlight during my presidency; all credit goes to JBK and Douglas Seaton and to our very generous donors.

When I was elected I promised myself that our home page would come more alive although I have to confess I have failed. There is a light in the tunnel though. On our last Skype meeting we came to a solution, Stéphan Filanovitch has promised to take care of this in 2014. Thank You Stéphan!

I was very sad not being able to attend our AGM in Brussels due to a broken ankle, but I

heard that Patrick Massion and Virgine Lemaire made it a fantastic event.

Next AGM will be held in The Netherlands at The Royal Haagsche Golf & Country Club, another famous old Golf Club in the row of old clubs we have had the privilege to visit.

Last week someone asked me: "When did the custom start to buy a drink/champagne to the players or a round to all at the club house, when you made a Hole in One?" I couldn't answer. Please let me know! The first remark I have found is from 1935 in Nash's book "Letters to the Secretary of a Golf Club"

Thank you dear fellow members — both of the Board and in the Association. Good luck JBK for the next two years!

Leif

Time is really flying fast! I still have in mind the St-Cloud meeting in Paris, where the Board offered the Presidency of the EAGHC to Leif. This was already more than two years ago ...

Looking back in the mirror, I measure what Leif achieved and in the name of all the members, I would like to thank him so heartily. You did a great job Leif!

As Leif just wrote, last September we had a fantastic meeting in Brussels. Patrick Massion – a Board Member, who would have deserved to take the presidency of our Association if he does not preferred to help us in the shadow – and Virginie Massion both did an exceptional work.

It will be difficult in the future to approach the same level of perfection. Not only the organisation was great, but the welcome was always very warm. And nobody will never forget the informal dinner offered by Patrick (I still wonder how such a royal dinner can be called informal?) Here again, I would like to forward then the warm thanks from all the members of our Association.

During the Brussels meeting we also elected a new member of the Board: Stéphan Filanovitch – our editor. Welcome on board Stéphan! Please help him in his difficult task by sending papers, notes, comments, sharing your ideas, your thoughts. It could be historical information, or talking about collection or discussing on how to improve the magazine, the Association ...

I always claimed that the EAGHC is more a club made of friends who like sharing ideas, knowledge, collectibles, but before all sharing friendship. This is why I always considered that the quality of our members is more important than the quantity.

Exchanging and sharing is certainly one of the most critical points if we want to maintain our passion at the highest level. Not only to discover new information, unearthing forgotten facts, building better collection ... But also to grow the interest in golf history and collection.

So, I think that one key word should be, to paraphrase our dear friend Robin Bargmann, “serendipity”, or in a more pragmatic way, to increase diversity.

On my side, I’ll try, during the few next issues of Golfika-Magazine, to merge golf and various other topics. And, as one cannot be good everywhere - and I do not pretend to know everything but just a few beloved topics –I beg your pardon in advance.

I’ll try to explore – to discover – some other lands, which are often uncommon to me, trying to build some bridges between them and the game of golf. May be such an approach could generate additional interest among our readers. I hope that more knowledgeable members will jump into the discussion, correcting some points, specifying others or even creating new ways.

This time, it is sad news which gave me the opportunity to start. Sacha Sosno, an artist from

the so-called *Ecole de Nice*, recently passed away.

As Sacha was a keen golfer, some of his work was dedicated to the game. It was then an opportunity to pay him a tribute¹.

Next EAGHC meeting will be held in The Netherlands and Robin Bargmann is the key person for this organisation. Many thanks Robin for your help. And you know how difficult it is as you already organized the Kennemer meeting a few years ago. I’m sure all members present will enjoy The Hague as much as they enjoyed Kennemer.

Please note that the dates for The Hague are, this year slightly earlier than usually. Due to the conjunction of two facts, we moved the dates. First, this year we have the Ryder Cup and many members like to attend the competition or, at least, watch the matches live at the TV.

But the second reason is that we wanted to associate the European (EAGHC) Hickory Championship and the Dutch Hickory in order to attract more players.

So please save the dates: In September 2014, we shall start by an informal dinner-meeting on Tuesday 16th and have our main meeting on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th.

The hickory events (European and Dutch) will run over three and half days: Thursday afternoon, Friday 19th and the week-end (Saturday 20th and Sunday 21st).

The details will come soon, but we would like to thank extremely heartily the President of the *Koninklijke Haagsche* and the Board of the club for giving us the opportunity to organize our AGM in this very exceptional place.



¹ I also would like to thank his wife Mascha to her encouragement she provided me.

Editor's Corner

Stéphan Filanovitch



Dear EAGHC Members,

Time is flying! Six months already passed and we still have in mind the last AGM in Brussels and, once again, we would like to thank Patrick Massion and Virginie Lemaire for their great organisation.

As usual, we started with an informal gathering offered by Patrick in his beautiful house. So we could see a part of his immense collection. After the food for the mind, the walking dinner was another delicious moment.

The AGM proper was held at the Royal Golf Club de Belgique (at Tervuren) and all our members will keep a fantastic souvenir of these few days followed by the second edition of the European Hickory Championship of the EAGHC.

We are displaying only a few pictures on cover-page 2.

Also, this issue of Golfika-Magazine is a special one as we are printing 450 copies instead of the regular 200. The reason is that the Dutch Golf Federation and the NGA Early Golf will distribute and offer this issue to all Dutch golf clubs. This is a great honour for us, and we would like to thank Robin Bargmann and Iain Forrester for their continuous help and support.

Robin is also helping us for the organisation of the next EAGHC meeting. It will be held at the Royal Golf Club of The Hague (Koninklijke Haagsche). There is a small change in our habits: we shall start one day earlier.

On Tuesday 16th evening we are expecting to make an informal dinner and start the gathering.

The AGM proper will be set up on Wednesday 17th and Thursday 18th.

The European Hickory Championship will start just after as will be followed by the Dutch Hickory, finishing on the week-end.

The detailed information will follow soon via the newsletter. By the way, we changed the mailing system and if any of you are not receiving the newsletter, please drop an email to the editor (editor@golfika.com).

Last but not least, we would like to pay a special tribute to our friend member Viktor Cleve. You know him either directly – he attended a few annual meetings of our Association – or indirectly as he is designing for us a cover for each issue of Golfika-Magazine, since #4, summer 2009.

Each time, Viktor is offering us an art-work and in most of the cases, he painted a specific subject for us – depending on the content of our magazine. We would like to thank him publicly for this generous attitude. Many thanks Viktor!

Also, we would like to encourage our members to buy his art work. For as far as we know, all is work is oil on canvas of an exceptional quality. Please get in touch with him directly, or write to the editor if you are interested.

I couldn't conclude this editorial without having a thought to Leif Einarsson, our president for two years, thank you Leif for the job !

And of course, welcome to JBK, our new one.

Happy readings!

Golf in Holland

By Robin K. Bargmann



Notwithstanding the many claims by golf historians, most repeatedly by stubborn but joyful Dutchmen, that the game of golf originated from the Low Countries, we can safely state here that golf as it was introduced in the Netherlands was the actual game as it was played in Scotland. In the second half of the nineteenth century, following the introduction of the gutta percha ball, the modern game of golf continued to expand rapidly and finally reached the shores of the Netherlands in the early 1890's.



Teahouse on Clingendael, the first clubhouse of Hague Golf Club, members (and caddies) together with John Dunn at right.

The first formally instituted golf club was Hague Golf Club as it was initially named in British tradition (or Haagsche Golf Club in the Dutch language) in 1893. Quickly more clubs followed: in 1894 the Doornsche GC (near Utrecht) and in the following year 1895 both Roosendaelsche GC and Hilversumsche GC. It would take another fifteen years before the Kennemer GC was founded near Haarlem and

golf being organised in a more serious manner. This would eventually lead to the forming of the Nederlandsche Golf Comité (the forerunner of the present Nederlandse Golf Federatie) in 1914, now 100 years ago.

However, in the meantime there had been more initiatives to start new golf clubs and to build new courses. Most notably the golf pioneer Aalbrecht del Court van Krimpen energetically promoted the game.

With his brother-in-law Charles van de Poll he built a 9-hole course on the Prévinaire family resort Zwanenwater in Callantsoog. He also initiated the construction of a 9-hole course in Wijk aan Zee on the premises of the Badhotel near his family home Rooswijck in Velsen.

In Scheveningen at the seaside resort of the Netherlands residence The Hague the Oranje GC was founded in 1899 next door to the prestigious Oranje Hotel, where many visiting diplomats and prominent businessmen would stay. One notable guest was James Arthur Balfour, at the time prime minister of Great Britain and a gifted golf player himself. Behind the scenes: Jacob Theodoor Cremer, an influential Dutch politician and wealthy businessman, strongly supported Oranje GC. Unfortunately the golf course, a design by John Dunn (club professional of the Haagsche), was sacrificed due to the railway expansion in 1909.

The Haagsche GC, much more a private club of local aristocratic families, remained the only golf club in The Hague and would soon play a major role in the governing bodies of the game. Although the NGC was finally established in 1914 as a coordinating committee by four of the five then existing golf clubs there had been an

earlier aborted attempt. Ernst Cremers, as member by the committee of the Haagsche, had been assigned in 1903 to form the Centraal Inter-club Comité to coordinate matters of common interest of the then five existing golf clubs. Cremers was a very influential member of many national committees in sport and later became founder and president of the Nederlandse Corinthians, an elite group of prominent Dutch sportsmen. However, Aalbrecht del Court van Krimpen had different thoughts on this theme and rather kept matters under his control. He had recently moved to the Arnhem area and built a 9-hole course on his Delhuyzen estate. Rosendaelsche GC also moved to Delhuyzen, absorbing the newly established Arnhemsche GC, and Del Court became the club's new chairman. That year a delegation of the English Malvern GC visited the Netherlands with a touring team and arranged for an international competition between Malvern and an All-Holland team of selected players. Understandably Cremers felt that this was the responsibility of the newly established Inter-club committee. However, the president of the Haagsche GC J.P. Count van Limburg Stirum failed to support Cremers in this conflict and chose not to affront Del Court, considered an esteemed golf pioneer of the country, and Cremers subsequently resigned.

The year 1910 marked the beginning of the Kennemer GC, established on the property of Duin en Kruidberg, owned by the influential and powerful Jacob Cremer. After Oranje GC was forced to close its doors Cremer felt that golf in the Netherlands needed a new push in the right direction. His daughter Dora Cremer had married Gerard Frederik van Tets van Goidschalxoord, who at the time was Secretary of the Doornsche GC. She had taken a liking to golf. She had become a gifted player and multiple ladies champion.

Earlier in 1906 it was decided to organise the first ladies *Championaat* of the Netherlands at the Oranje GC, following the men's championship started in 1898. The ladies championship was won by Baroness Marguérite van Brienem (also known as Freule Daisy). She was a founding member of Oranje GC and at that time the best Dutch female player and a scratch golfer in her own right. The men's championship was won by Ernst Cremers.

An incident in 1912 would lead to renewed initiatives to form a governing body for organising national championships instead of

leaving this to individual clubs. The ladies championship was to be held at Rosendaelsche GC that year. However, Aalbrecht del Court van Krimpen, being president of the club, decided to cancel the championship because he felt that an insufficient number of players had entered the competition; This led to major protests by other clubs and players.



Gerard van Tets, portrait by Willem Matthijs Maris.

Gerard van Tets subsequently took the initiative on behalf of Doornsche GC to invite the five clubs in the Netherlands – Haagsche, Doornsche, Rosendaelsche, Hilversumsche and Kennemer – to form an inter-club committee with a proper statute and mandate to handle matters of common interest, such as handicapping, national championships, inter-club competitions, international team matches, etc.

This initiative finally led to the formation of the Centraal Golfcomité voor Nederland in 1914. The agreement was prepared by representatives of the invited clubs. Gerard van Tets for Doornsche GC, Aernout Snouck Hurgronje for Haagsche GC, Alexander Heldring for Hilversumsche and Jan Schorer for Kennemer GC. Prior to its first meeting the name was changed to Nederlandsche Golf Comité, q.q. chaired by C. Ridder van Rappard as president of Haagsche GC.

Aalbrecht del Court had decided that Rosendaelsche would not take part in the NGC. However, after Aalbrecht's son Gerry del Court took over the reign at Rosendaelsche GC the club joined NGC. Together with Aernout Snoeck Hurgronje, who as president of Haagsche GC would become the chairman of NGC, Gerry del Court, who without a doubt would become the finest amateur golf player in the Netherlands with many championships to his name, would form the day-to-day leadership of NGC as secretary/treasurer. Jointly Snouck and Del Court would leave a mark on the development of pre-war golf in the Netherlands. They would also take the initiative for the formation of the European Golf Association in 1937 in Luxembourg. In 1924 Aalbrecht del Court van Krimpen after all became the first appointed honorary chairman of NGC in recognition of his major achievements as pioneer of golf in the Netherlands.



Aalbrecht del Court van Krimpen, portrait by I. Spiridon

The Haagsche Golf Club was the first golf club to be founded in the Netherlands in 1893. In all fairness one can also state that the first golf club in the Netherlands was founded in 1872 in Batavia in the Dutch East Indies, part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands until 1948. The Batavia GC was clearly an initiative by British expats living in Java. The initiator was John Campbell, who as Secretary received

permission from the local City Council to institute the Batavia GC, listed by the R&A in its annual overview of golf clubs under the category 'East Indies'.

The first appointed President was A. Grey. Before the turn of the century two more golf clubs were established, in Semarang (Tjandi Sports Club) and in Soerabaja (Soerabaja Golf Club). These three clubs remained the only golf clubs in existence until 1917. Before the outbreak of WW II the number of golf clubs in the Dutch East Indies increased with another thirty one. It can be safely concluded that in the pre-war period more Dutchmen played golf in the East Indies than in Holland itself.

Strong personal interrelations and close friendships between the Brits and the Dutch in the East Indies and Europe were quite common at the time. It is not surprising that the Dutch very quickly adopted the new wave of British outdoor sports, such as football (rugby), hockey (bandy), cricket and tennis. Newly formed sports clubs in Holland were amongst the earliest in continental Europe. Golf inevitably followed suit and on the Clingendael estate of Baron van Bienen in the Hague the first five holes were cut on the sheep meadow by John Duncan Dunn, son of a famous Scottish golf dynasty of Musselburgh, probably the single most influential family in the history of golf.

The introduction of the game of golf is esoteric in a sense that the earliest clubs were not founded by British citizens living in Holland as they did in other European countries. Joining a golf club in the Netherlands was a privilege of the upper crust of society, the well-to-do aristocratic circles.

As stated before the first and oldest golf club be officially instituted was Hague Golf Club initiated by Baron Arnoud van Bienen van de Groote Lindt, a wealthy banker from The Hague, who owned the large estate Clingendael in the Hague. Although Van Bienen's major passion was equestrian he was convinced by his wife Mary van Tuyll van Serooskerken with other close friends and relatives to have a number of holes provisionally laid out on his estate. Mary was of Scottish decent through her mother and, undoubtedly, native golf genes had been passed through to their daughter Margu rite, better known as Freule Daisy. She was a passionate golfer and remained her whole

life closely involved in the further development and expansion of the Haagsche GC.



Marguërite Baroness van Brien (Freule Daisy).

Following the initial success of golf being played on the Schapenweide and the golfing instructions by John Duncan Dunn, Van Brien took the next step to form an official club. As President of the club to be, he invited a group of thirty enthusiasts to unfold plans and present proposals. He requested his good friend Sir Horace Rumbold, British ambassador in The Hague, to act as Honorary Chairman of the newly formed golf club. The experienced Charles de Graz, a diplomatic chargé d'affaires of the British legation, was appointed Secretary. Matters in the club took a serious turn. Although the golf club with its cosy old clubhouse initially remained a social gathering point for the young aristocratic elite, preferring frivolous flirtations on the green pastures above compulsory practice, a growing number did take the game seriously and would develop into players of international standing. The layout of the new 9-hole course by John Duncan Dunn was still rather primitive with fairways crossing one another. Wire fences were built to protect the green from cows and sheep grazing the fairways. A wooden constructed prefabricated cottage imported from England served as the new clubhouse from 1894 onwards replacing the old teahouse. This building still stands and is a symbol of golf heritage in the Netherlands. The club facilities were expanded with a croquet lawn and a clay pigeon shooting ground. John Dunn, a Scottish merchant working in The Hague and friend of John Duncan Dunn (confusingly with the same name), was appointed as club professional,

although his golfing qualities were not that great. Later he was joined by the English golf professional Albert Ife, a good player and instructor, who also was a good club maker in his own right. Ife would also spend time as a professional at Doornsche GC. It would take until 1920 before the club would develop plans to expand the course to 18 holes. Gerry del Court van Krimpen, the most knowledgeable committee member, invited J.F. Abercrombie to present a design for the new course. The official opening of the course and elegant new clubhouse Duinzicht (previously a homestead) in 1924 was performed by Daisy van Brien. The internationally renowned French golf professionals Arnaud Massy and Jean Gassiat were invited for an exhibition match against two of the best Dutch golf players, the multiple amateur champion Gerry del Court van Krimpen, and Jos van Dijk, club professional of the Doornsche GC, tutored in the game by the venerable club professional Henry Burrows from an early age.



Exhibition match between Arnaud Massy and Jean Gassiat vs Mr. Gerry del Court van Krimpen and Jos van Dijk on the occasion of the official opening of the new Abercrombie designed 18-hole golf course of Haagsche Golf Club in 1924.

Golf fever spread quickly and at the same time a similar initiative was taken by the owner of the estate Nieuw Sterkenburg in Doorn (near Utrecht) to cut a few holes as a first try-out, again promoted by the John Duncan Dunn. Following a general meeting in late 1893 it was decided to form an official golf club on the Heidesteijn properties in nearby Driebergen. John Duncan Dunn was contracted to design a 9-hole heather course and construct tees and greens. Dunn remained closely involved in the first few years of the club and was a popular personality with its members. The club was named Doornsche Golf Club in remembrance of

its early beginnings on Nieuw Sterkenburg and would stay on Heidesteijn until 1928, when it became time to look for new premises to build a modern 18-hole course.



John Duncan Dunn, photo portrait in traditional Scottish kilt (1892).

The club would eventually move to the Panbossen in Huis ter Heide near Utrecht and change its name to Utrechtsche Golf Club 'De Pan'*. The new course was designed by golf architect Harry Colt, who was already working on the new prestigious 18-hole golf course of the Kennemer GC on Zandvoortsch Duin. That first assignment of Colt would eventually lead him to design a total of nine golf courses during the pre-war period in the Netherlands, making Colt the most influential golf architect in the Netherlands.

Following the Haagsche en Doornsche another golf club was founded in the area of Arnhem, where many large private estates were held. Again as a try-out a few golf holes were provisionally cut, this time on the Rosendael estate of the Van Pallandt family. Together with his friend F.H. Ridder van Huysen Kattendijke the initiative was taken by W. Baron van Pallandt van Wilfort to invite an interested group of friends and relatives, including A.A. del Court van Krimpen, to start a new golf club and in 1895 Rosendaelsche GC was

formally instituted copying the regulations set by the Haagsche GC. In the area two other private golf courses were built on the Vrijland and Delhuyzen estates. All benefited from the extensive knowledge of course design and maintenance of golf pioneer Aalbrecht del Court. The golf professional Albert Iff, the first teaching professional of the Haagsche and Doornsche GC's in 1903, was invited too by the Rosendaelsche to improve the playing standards of its members. The club took the initiative to organise competitive golf matches between clubs and players. In 1896 the Challenge Cup between clubs was instituted (won by Haagsche GC) and in 1898 the first amateur *Championaat* was held (surprisingly won by the young sixteen year old Vincent Baron van Tuyll van Serooskerken of Haagsche GC). The Rosendaelsche went through a tough period, and also the terrain proved not to be quite fit. In 1908 the club finally moved to the Delhuyzen course owned by Del Court. It long remained a 9-hole course until 1977 when finally an expansion to 18 holes was decided.

The last golf club of the 'old four' to be founded was the Hilversumsche GC, also in 1895. The club's first 9-hole heather course had most probably been laid out by John Duncan Dunn on a primitive terrain near the gasworks of Hilversum. It was similar to the Doornsche at Heidesteijn but was heavily criticised by Aalbrecht del Court. The terrain was too hilly and water supply insufficient, completely drying out the course.



Hilversumsche GC, President Willem Boissevain and members at a garden luncheon (1896).

The club soon found a new more suitable location at Crailoo and moved to its new premises in 1912. The club had been run as a private society of friends by Willem Boissevain but was eventually incorporated as a club in 1910 due to the club's new leasehold contract

and member debenture issue. Hilversumsche GC would move to its present location at Kievitsdal in 1920, for which Henry Burrows, club professional of the Doornsche GC, had been invited to submit a design and do the layout of the 9-hole course under supervision of Gerry del Court. The old wooden clubhouse of Crailoo was transferred to Kievitsdal. The Hilversumsche Golf & CC* course was expanded and redesigned in 1928 by the renowned architect Harry Colt. Ed Hill remained club professional from 1912 until 1923 when he retired due to illness and was replaced by the English golf professional Douglas Monk. Monk would become the 'grand old man' of professional golfers in the Netherlands and played an important role in the founding of the Dutch PGA.

The last pre-WW I club to be founded was Kennemer GC near Haarlem in 1910. The founder and first president of the club was Gérard van der Vliet, who had been on the look out to find a suitable terrain for a while. He finally was invited by Jacob Theodoor Cremer of the prestigious Duin en Kruidberg estate to locate the club on his terrain. Again Aalbrecht del Court would be invited to do the design and layout of the new 9-hole course. The Huis te Velsen would serve as clubhouse.



Exhibition match between Henry Burrows, Albert Iff and Ed Hill at Doornsche GC in 1911.

Ed Hill, fellow Englishman and friend of Henry Burrows, was invited to become the club's first golf professional, caddiemaster and greenkeeper. Hill was removed by the Kennemer a year later (having spent too much time in the local pubs) and would move on to Hilversumsche. He was replaced by fellow countryman Ernest Kettley. Kettley returned to

England in 1917 to join the army. He fortunately survived atrocious war conditions but would not return to Holland as golf professional. In 1928 Kennemer Golf & CC* moved to its new prestigious 18-hole Colt designed course in Zandvoort. It is recorded as the oldest 18-hole course (expanded to 27 in 1983) and oldest clubhouse in the Netherlands.

As it happened the Netherlands were not overrun by the German invasion and remained a neutral nation during the first World War. This led to quite a few of British officers being quartered in the Netherlands. A few of these were avid golfers and successfully competed in club matches and national championships. One notable Dutch Open winner in 1916 was Major Ch. Bryce.



Harry Shapland Colt.

After the Great War a number of new clubs saw the light of day. First was Domburgsche GC in 1914 followed by Noordwijksche GC in 1915, both seaside dune courses; GC Enghuizen and Twentsche GC, both in 1926; GC Toxandria* 1928; GC De Dommel* 1928; Eindhovensche GC* 1930; Hattemsche GC 1930; Rotterdamsche GC 1933; Sallandsche GC 1934; Amsterdamsche GC* 1934; and finally Wassenaarsche GC 'De Wildhoeve'* 1939. De Wildhoeve would become home of the Haagsche Golf & CC after the war.

In 1926 another new 18-hole club was established for resorting golfers from Rotterdam, Voornsche GC designed by Chuck Evans, club professional of nearby Zoute GC in Knokke Belgium. However, this club did not overcome the challenges of the economic crisis of the thirties and closed shop notwithstanding the club's ambitious plans and excellent professional Henry Burrows. There were also some private 9-hole courses built such as in Loenen (Gelderland) on the family estate of

Broese van Groenau (extinct) and on the Ullerberg estate of the Waller family in Ermelo (still in existence as an original heather course).



First (unofficial) Dutch Open championship in 1912 at Haagsche GC; standing from left Mr. Gerry del Court van Krimpen, Mr. André van de Poll, Henry Burrows (Doornsche GC), Mr. Willem Snouckaert, William Philpot, Mr. Kees Snouck Hurgronje, Ed Hill (Kennemer GC), John Dunn (Haagsche GC), caddie; below from left Jacob Oosterveer (Haagsche GC), Mr. Edgar Michiels van Verduynen, Mr. Arnout Snouck Hurgronje, Albert Ise (Haagsche GC), Charles Warren (GC Le Zoute), George Pannell (GC de Belgique) and winner.

The first (unofficial) Dutch Open Championship was held in 1912 at the Haagsche GC. It was originally intended as a championship competition of golf professionals only but last minute it was decided to invite the best Dutch professionals to join in. The 36 holes strokeplay championship was won by the English professional George Pannell of Royal GC de Belgique in Brussels and Oostende GC. In 1913 and 1914 no championship tournament was held as it was felt that this should be the responsibility of a pending governing body to organise. Following the inception of the Nederlandsche Golf Comité in 1914 a Championship for Golf Professionals was instituted in 1915. As amateurs again were allowed to compete the overall winner officially became known as the International Open Championship winner of the Netherlands, better known as the Dutch Open. There was no special trophy as yet for the overall winner of the Dutch Open. Remarkably amateur Gerry del Court would be overall winner this first official Dutch Open Championship in 1915.

(* Colt course design)

The best amateur would also be the winner of the national strokeplay championship. The men's *Championaat* would be converted from originally medal to a matchplay format in 1918.

The best professional would receive the Wisselbeker voor Golf-Professionals trophy presented by the NGC with modest prize money.

Henry Burrows won this trophy after a total five times outright. It should be noted that he was five times best professional but only three times overall winner of the Dutch Open championship.



Henry Burrows (1913), club professional of Doornsche GC and three times winner of the Dutch Open Championship.

The trophy was replaced with a new one by the NGC in 1924, but this time it was presented to the overall Dutch Open winner. This second trophy was immediately won three times in a row by the venerable English professional Aubrey Boomer and is now kept at the British Golf Museum in St Andrews. The third trophy, won for the first time by Aubrey's older brother Percy Boomer in 1927, is a now the permanent trophy and to this day presented to the winner of the Dutch Open.

Post scriptum: I would like to thank Arnout Janmaat, archivist of NGA Early Golf, for his help in collecting data and checking facts. RB

Dutch Golf Exhibition

By Iain Forrester



The Dutch golf federation (NGF) is celebrating its centenary in 2014, and one of the main events will be the exhibition “Nederland golft” which will be held at a prestigious museum in The Hague’s city center. The Haagsche historische museum, which overlooks the famous court pond and parliament buildings in the city, will host the exhibition from the 31st of May until the middle of October.



The Haagsche Historische Museum in The Hague city centre.

Dutch Golf Exhibition

It is no coincidence that The Hague was chosen, as this city was the birth place of Dutch golf in the early 1890’s. Golf was of course not the first ball and stick game played in the Netherlands, the middle age game of Kolf will also be under the spotlight in the exhibition. (But not under the context of being an early form of golf, but as a separate pastime, which shared a few links and materials with the Scottish game.)

The exhibition has 4 main parts; each section covers a distinct period in the development of the game, in Scotland, outside of Scotland and eventually in the Netherlands.

Section 1, Kolf Spel (the game of Kolf)

This typical Dutch game which was played both in fields and on ice was popular until it died out at the end of the 18th century. Dutch expert Robin Bargmann and other EAGHC members were involved with producing the early concepts for this section. The exhibition has been able to acquire major Kolf related works of art from some of the world’s most famous artists (Averkamp and Rembrandt amongst others). It will also have displays of unique kols clubs and balls (including the oldest ball known to exist from the late 16th century). Dutch Delftware, period Kolf clothing and other artifacts will complete this section. The HHM is

being supported by many of the Netherlands premier museums, including the Rijk's museum in Amsterdam, and private collectors from the Netherlands and the UK.

Section 2, Golf, in Scotland and abroad.

This section covers the growth of golf in Scotland and its eventual expansion around the world. This is such a massive subject that it was decided to illustrate it by using one extended family as an example. The Gourlay ball making family and the in-laws the Dunn's receive this honour. Examples of the Gourlay featheries will be amongst the exhibits along with clubs from every generation of the Dunn family. The help of the exhibition's official partner the British Golf Museum has been vital in being able to acquire several important pieces, and the advice of EAGHC member David Hamilton has been invaluable.



David Hamilton during a fact finding visit with staff of the Museum and President & Secretary of The Hague Golf and Country Club.

Other legendary figures cannot be overlooked; Tom Morris, Hugh Philip, Robert Forgan, John Gray and Charles Lees will all be represented. This section of the exhibition finishes by showing how the Dunn family was influential in expanding golf out of Scotland. Willie sr and Jamie (England), Willie jr (America), Tom (England and Europe), Seymour and May (America) and finally looking at John Duncan who before achieving fame and fortune in the States, became a key figure in the founding of golf in the Netherlands.

Section 3, Golf in the Netherlands (pre 1945)

Subjects covered in this section include, the typical character of early Dutch courses (heather fairways), early golf clubs (the first

being the Hague, 1893), and the oldest golf equipment known to have been used in the Netherlands. The foundation of the NGF in 1914, key figures in Dutch golf, the oldest documents and silverware, and the Harry Colt legacy in the Netherlands, are but a few of the subjects covered. This section also includes several audio visual and interactive exhibits.

Section 4, Post war golf through to the present day.

This section is being organized by staff of the Federation and a knowledgeable Dutch journal/historian. Topics include the expansion of golf to people outside of the ruling classes and the first public golf facilities. The Netherlands best golfers and greatest achievements in International competition, the Dutch international Open's and Dutch contributions to the devolvement of golf worldwide, (environmental policies, building courses on brown sites and on low lying ground.)

The phenomenon of Golf being the fastest growing sport in the Netherland and the success of the Federation's *committed to* programs (seniors, children, green etc.) are also looked at. Any EAGCH members who would like to visit the exhibition this year are welcome to contact me for more details. It is hoped that a visit to the exhibition will be part of the itinerary of this year annual meeting which is provisionally planned to be hosted by the Royal Hague GC Further information can be found at:

www.ngf.nl

www.haagshistorischmuseum.nl



One of the oldest clubs used in NL (ca.1893).

Information

EAGHC member Iain Forrester who works in the Netherlands and is archivist of the PGA Holland. He has been working on this project for 2 years, and is responsible for section 2 and 3 of the exhibition and works closely with the Golf Federation and the museum.

A present with a long history

By Geert & Sara Nijs



Some time ago we were given a present of ancient 'slofs' (plural of one 'slof') as they are called in the Netherlandish language. Slofs are the metal heads of colf clubs used in the ancient golf-related game of colf and mainly made of a lead-tin alloy, although also copper and bronze were used.

This game was played in the Low Countries between the 13th century and the end of the 17th century and is considered by some historians as a possible forerunner of the Scottish game of golf. There were two main periods in which the game of colf was played: in town and on land in the period between the 13th century and the end of the 16th century, and in the 17th century also on the ice of frozen canals, harbours, ponds, rivers, etc. during the Little Ice Age.

After 1700 the long game of colf was replaced by a short variant of the game as played on the ice but then played on small bordered courts. This short game called 'kolf' required much larger and heavier clubs (and balls).

There is no information about the locations where 'our' slofs were found or used, or about their age.



Sometimes metal detector hobbyists find such a precious trinket, but because they do not recognise the piece of metal as a colf slof they probably throw it away. What a shame!

After having a close look at the artefacts we concluded the following.

The larger slof, severely damaged possibly by a ploughing machine, is made of lead or a lead-tin alloy, most common in that period of time. The club head is 9 centimetres long, 3.5 centimetres high and weights 250 grams. The loft of the face is approximately 10° – 15°. The shaft probably made of ash is missing, completely mouldered after hundreds of years. The club head with the ash shaft was used by an adult who was right-handed. At the end of the slof near the connection to the shaft a small simple line-decoration is visible.

We suppose that the club was used around 1600, probably in the open fields somewhere in the County of Holland, part of the Low Countries, where the game was very popular.



This rather exceptional find of a small colf slof shows the opposite of what is often said: the game of colf was not played by boys and girls.

The little slof, also made of lead or a lead-tin alloy, measures only 6 centimetres and the height of the face is 2 centimetres. The weight of the 'mini' slof is 75 grams. Here also the ash shaft has completely mouldered away. The loft of the slof is very upright, nearly as a 'putter' in golf. At the back of the little slof a simple decoration is visible.

It is clear that the slof when fixed to the shaft was used by a right-handed child. It could be that playing colf by children was limited to a kind of 'putting game', or that the boy or girl played on the ice where it was common to play a low ball. By examining the slof it cannot be concluded if it was used on land or on the ice, so the age of the slof cannot be defined exactly. The find of this little slof shows that colf was not only played by adults, but also by boys and girls.



An all wooden colf club as toy for the youngest children, from the 17th century. Already at a very young age children started to learn how to hit a ball with a colf club. – By courtesy of Schaatsmuseum, Hindeloopen, The Netherlands

Till the beginning of the 18th century the game of colf has been very popular in the Low Countries. This is shown by regular finds of such metal club heads during archaeological excavations and by people who are looking for metal objects in the fields with their metal detectors.

If you want to know more about club and balls used in the ancient game of colf and in the game of kolf, why don't you pay a visit to the Web Museum of the KNKB (Royal Netherlandish Kolf Union) on www.colf-kolf.nl? Take your time; it is a very big museum.



The colf and kolf museum is built by Do Smit, member of the 700 years old Saint Eloy Blacksmith Guild of Utrecht and member of the oldest (300 years) still existing Kolf Society Saint Eloy in Utrecht. The virtual museum contains the most extensive collection of documents, publications, drawings, paintings, tiles, equipment and collectables ever put together about the history of the long game of colf and its successor the short game of kolf.

An extensive research on clubs used in the ancient games of colf, crosse, golf and mail and on remarkable nautical colf findings will be included in our book 'Games for Kings & Commoners Part II', to be published in the course of 2014.

You are also kindly invited to pay a visit to our website www.ancientgolf.dse.nl, a virtual information and documentation centre about the four related games colf/kolf, crosse/crossage, golf, jeu de mail/pall mall and other kindred games.



The Freemantles and the growth of golf in Europe

By Donald Cameron



A LADY PROFESSIONAL.

Golf Coaching as a profession for ladies seems to be coming into favour. Mrs. Gordon Robertson has for some years acted as Professional to the Prince's (Mitcham) Ladies' Club; and the latest convert to the profession is Miss Lily Freemantle, who has just been appointed Coach to the Ladies' Club at Sunningdale. Miss Freemantle is the daughter of the Professional at the Costebelle Club, Hyeres. We publish photos showing her swing, and also her method of coaching. The photos are by Sports and General.



MISS LILY FREEMANTLE, PROFESSIONAL TO THE SUNNINGDALE LADIES' CLUB.

The story of the Freemantle family's involvement in golf is not entirely clear. William Freemantle was born in Bishop Waltham in 1862 – the son of a farm labourer or a timber carter. In 1862 the family lived in a golfing desert. Although some golf had been played in Southampton in 1857 the course was a temporary one. Similarly a game played over the Twyford Downs by Robert Mansfield and A A Vansittart in 1866 was a passing phenomena. Other ephemeral events occurred in Hampshire over the next few years, but it wasn't until the formation of the Hayling Island course in 1883 that golf became an established and enduring part of the landscape in the area where the Freemantle family lived.

William, and his younger brother Sam, lived at Bishop Waltham and the golfing events at

Hayling Island were just over ten miles away. In 1881 William was still living with his parents at Bishops Waltham and was described as a 'labourer.' The exact circumstances of the start point of William's involvement in golf is not recorded. We can only surmise that the golf enthusiasts at Hayling Island started the employ him as a caddie and that this provided a stimulus for William to get more involved with golfing matters. In 1883 the club 'engaged the services of Joseph Lloyd, well known on the Hoylake links and at the Pau as "the General", who will be on the spot to instruct neotypes into the mysteries of this ancient and royal sport.'²

² *The Field*, 4th August, 1883, p160

We can only guess that William got involved with the Hayling Island Golf Club as a caddie or some other role.



Freemantle (Reginald or Rene) enjoying a golf lesson to the Prince of Liechtenstein at Etretat.

The first concrete evidence of his involvement with golf appears in the 1891 issue of *The Golfing Annual* where it is noted that William Freemantle and H Harris were the greenkeepers at Dinard. The entry from Dinard further commented that ‘Freemantle, our groundsman, would, we fancy, be rather surprised if anyone playing on it did not consider it equal to many more pretentious grounds at home.’³ It has to be assumed that the offer of the job at Dinard followed some training in the care of golf courses and then would seem to indicate the Freemantle had some training in green-keeping. The initial training Freemantle would have received may have come from Joseph Lloyd.

On that assumption we must guess that the jump across the Channel followed some training as a green keeper – albeit after limited training under Joseph Lloyd. The Freemantle family records note that William ‘had learned about golf with Tom Morris at St A.’⁴, but offers no further details. However, in late 1892 *Golf* magazine reported that ‘Freemantle, the pro, has been away at St Andrews for a time picking up a few wrinkles from old Tom Morris’⁵. The misspelling of Freemantle should not be seen as a reference to another person! A year or two later this connection with learning from Tom Morris was confirmed with the comment that

³ *The Golfing Annual*, 1890-1, edited by David Duncan Scott, p93

⁴ *The ancestry.co.uk* entry by the Freemantle family states that William ‘learned about golf with Tom Morris at St Andrews’ but gives no details of the dates of this apprenticeship.

⁵ *Golf*, 23rd December, 1892, p231 - note different spelling of ‘Freemantle’ with one ‘e’ not two.

‘although his earlier days were devoted to cricket, is a strong player, with a regular St A swing, and an exceedingly patient and painstaking coach.’⁶

Another factor in Freemantle accepting a job in France may have arise out of the influence of Joseph Lloyd who spend his winter months in Pau in the south of France. William may have been encouraged to extend the season of his golfing employment – that job at Dinard was he first venture overseas.

After a number of years at Dinard, William Freemantle seems to have started work at Hyeres – in the south of France – in the winter months. The first mention of this appeared in *Golf* magazine in November 1897 with the cryptic entry:

‘Hyerer GC Season 1897-8 –The course is greatly enlarged, and will open from Nov. 1st. An open competition is held weekly.
Pro: – W Freemantle, late of Dinard.’⁷

This move south is confirmed by a report from Dieppe Golf Club in *Golf* a couple of years later in 1899 that stated that

‘The committee have engaged William Freemantle, pro to the Hyeres Club and previously pro during seven years to the Dinard Golf Club.’⁸



W. Freemantle on left of row of men standing up with Mr Gannon, Col. Walker and his son'-in-law B S Callaway at other end of row of standing players at Engadine.

This employment was confirmed by *The Golfing Annual*, 1899-1900 that indicated that

⁶ *Golf*, 25th January, 1895, p338

⁷ *Golf*, 5th November, 1897, p164

⁸ *Golf*, 12th May, 1899, p247

the Dieppe Golf Club had been instituted in January 1897 and that 'W Freemantle' was indeed the professional there. However, the same publication also indicated that another Freemantle was employed on the Continent - the entry for Thun Golf Club in Switzerland stated that 'T Freemantle' was the resident professional there!

The mystery gets more confusing as *Golf Illustrated* reported on the Thun Golf Club with the information that 'There is a resident professional, T Freemantle, who is qualified to repair clubs and give instruction.'⁹ The problem is that the Freemantle family did not have a 'T Freemantle.' A couple of years later in 1902 the entry for Thun Golf Club stated that W Freemantle was the professional at the club – this would seem to confirm that the 'T Freemantle' in the earlier entries was a typing error and that William Freemantle had been at Thun Golf Club for a number of years. His connection with Costebelle remained for many years – even during the War years the golfers moved from the south of France in the spring and move into Switzerland for the summer. In an article on The American Golfer, Henry Leach mentions Costebelle with the comment that 'the hotel and accommodation is better there than it was, while Freemantle, the professional, has got the course into an excellent state.'¹⁰ In that same year, 1915, Freemantle was issued with a passport at Zurich which allowed him to spend the summer months at the Zurich Golf Club.



Morris and William working on a bunker at the Zurich Golf Club, 1914

William Freemantle may have set the precedent, but his younger brother Sam was also on the

move south. In 1900 *Golf Illustrated* magazine reported from Valescure with the information that

'The Golf links on the Riviera have recently received an important addition in the recently- opened course of nine-holes at Valescure.

[...]

Within three months, S Freemantle, our able and energetic professional has succeeded in laying out a nine-hole course which cannot fail to please all who play over it.

[...]

Freemantle, the professional, has generally two or more men working with him, and we are confident he will before long realize his ambition to provide Valescure with the best links on the Mediterranean.'¹¹

This was appears to be the first mention of Sam Freemantle in the golfing columns of the English newspapers and magazines. However a couple of years later in 1903 *Golf Illustrated* revealed that

'new links at Ostend are now in capital order, thanks to the care lavished upon them by Sam Freemantle, who has been playing and imparting instruction at Cannes, Hyeres, Dinard, Interlaken, St Moritz etc. during the past twelve years'¹²

From this we may deduce that Sam had been working alongside his elder brother for some years before striking out on his own. Both brothers followed the same annual pattern of employment – the Mediterranean coastal resorts in the winter months and the newly formed golf clubs in Switzerland for the summer months.

The high season for the golfers in the south of France was the winter months. This meant that during the summer months the golf courses were less busy and the professionals in the clubs in the south of France were under-employed or unemployed. For some this meant that they could move from the south to the north of France or to the new clubs opening up in Switzerland. The Swiss hotel owners were busy during the skiing season, but the large hotels were under-used in the summer months.

⁹ *Golf Illustrated*, 8th December, 1899, p250

¹⁰ *The American Golfer*, 10th February, 1915, p423

¹¹ *Golf Illustrated*, 23rd February, 1900, p183

¹² *Golf Illustrated*, 25th September, 1903, p241

The two brothers – William and Sam – seem to have had a positive influence on the next generation of the Freemantle family in that a significant number of them were drawn into the golfing world. William's eldest child was Elsie Eva. In 1906 Elsie married Bernard S Callaway who was a professional at the Cannes Golf Club with his brother Christopher. The brothers had been born on the Isle of Wight and started their golfing careers at the Royal Isle of Wight Golf Club as caddies – just across the water from the Hayling Island club in Hampshire. Over the next decade or two the Callaways and the Freemantles seem to have crossed paths regularly. While William Freemantle was employed at Hyeres in the winter months Christopher Callaway was at the Cannes club and during the summer the Callaways and the Freemantles were in neighbouring clubs in Switzerland - William Freemantle at St Moritz and C Callaway at Samaden. However Elsie Eva appears not to have entered into a career in golf.

After Elsie Eva the next oldest member of the Freemantle family was Mabel, but she never appears not to have been a golfer. However, the next in line was Lily Louisa Freemantle and she was a professional golfer. In 1906 she married a golf professional – Henry R Turnball. In 1911 *Golf Illustrated* contained a small piece on Lily that commented

‘Golf Coaching as a profession for ladies seems to be coming into favour. Mrs Gordon Robertson has for some years acted as professional to the Prince's (Mitcham) Ladies Club: and the latest convert to the profession is Miss Lily Freemantle, who has just been appointed Coach to the Ladies Club at Sunningdale. Miss Freemantle is the daughter of the professional at the Costebelle Club, Hyeres. We publish photos showing her swing and also her method of coaching.’¹³

The Freemantle family resources on ancestry.co.uk contain photographs of Lily at Crans-Sur-Sierre in 1911ish. It would seem that Lily spent more time abroad than in England.

The third eldest child of William and Louisa was Morris Freemantle. He was born in Hampshire in 1893 and was, we may

conjecture, named after Tom Morris – the man who taught his father the intricacies of the game of golf. Morris Freemantle first appearance in the golf records seems to be when he was the professional at Granville in Brittany in 1925. A couple of years later ‘M Freemantle’ appears as the professional at Lausanne and remains there for some time. In 1935 he's still shown as the professional, but with the added title of ‘green keeper’.



Maurice Freemantle and George Grisoni sitting on a platform at Lucern, 1930

Unlike some of the other golf professionals Morris, or Maurice, seemed to stay in Switzerland in the summer months. According to a report in the Bognor Regis local paper on his retirement in 1964 Morris had played in the Swiss championships and won the event in 1935. The same source also quotes Morris as saying “The Aga Khan and I often used to play golf. He was a 12 handicap man, and really enjoyed the game.” From that newspaper account it also indicates that in the winter months Morris was attached to the Cannes club.’ Here he would have worked alongside his brother-in-law Bernard Callaway. He came back to England at the beginning of World War II and was appointed head greenkeeper at the Bognor Regis Golf Club – where he stayed until retiring. He was the father of seven children, but only the eldest – Alfred – followed his father in the golf world.

¹³ *Golf Illustrated*, 12th May, 1911, p141



W. Freemantle at Villars, 1930

Reginald Freemantle was a four years younger than Lily and two years younger than Morris. According to a handwritten note attached to one of the photographs downloaded and, thus, published on ancestry.co.uk says 'From the time 'Rene Freemantle was 17 he gave golf lessons in the wintertime at the Golf of Mandelieu – La Napoule till 1942.' This is one of the earliest references to Reginald Freemantle going by the 'new' name of Rene.

The Freemantle family also downloaded a picture of Rene with Begur Aga Khan. But this is not dated. Another photograph shows Rene standing alongside 'the wife of the Aga Khan at Cannes in 1935' according to hand written note underneath the photo. These photos would have been taken during the golf season in Cannes that occurred in the early months of the year – before the golfers began to find the heat in the south of France too much to bear. A photograph labeled August 1937 shows Rene in Deauville with the Aga Khan and his wife Princess Andre – his clients and Rene ended up on the north coast of France after spending the winter months on the south coast. . So Rene moved about with the seasons and some of his clients met up with him again. Is this a case of the

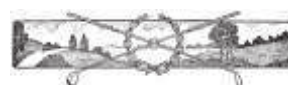
customers following the golfing master or the golf pro following his customers?

The first indication that Rene was following in his father footsteps was when he started work as the professional at the Etretat Golf Club on the north coast of France in the late 1920s. No precise date is given in the club history, but we must assume that he into his early twenties when he took up the post. *The Golfers Handbook* for 1925 shows in position as the professional at Etretat.¹⁴

Last in the line of the Fremantle golf professionals seems to have been Morris Freemantle's son - Alfred Freemantle. He was born in Cannes, France in 1917 and a rather creased photograph of him swinging a club would appear to have been taken outside the clubhouse there. He looks about four years old. A further picture showing a young man swinging the club in front of the local girls at Lausanne golf club confirms the record that show he was working as a golf professional in the 1930s. He moved to England in the late 1930s and took up a job as professional to the Blackmore Golf Club in Hampshire. During the 2nd World war the served in the RAF and in the 1950s he return to work at the Blackmore Golf Club – about 35 miles and over ninety years from there this family's golfing story started at Hayling Island.



Rene Freemantle teaching Rita Hayworth at Deauville in 1950



¹⁴ *The Golfers Handbook*, 1925, p947

Hans Samek – Germany first golfing hero

By Olaf Dudzus



It was only seven years after the end of the Great War, that the organizers of the British Amateur Championship had invited a German participant to Westward Ho! Hans Samek's appearance should be remembered by the golfing world as it gave him popularity and international contacts, which he later knew to use in the interest of German golf.

Obviously the echo in the international press was much larger than the importance of the sporting event that there was to comment. The comments of "Golfing" as reprinted by the New Zealand Times in August 1925 proved to be typically British:

"The 'Golfing' writing up the Amateur Championship, says: – Among the personalities of the championship must be included Herr Hans Samek, of Hamburg, the one scratch golfer in Germany. Herr Samek was pleased to regard the acceptance of his entry as a proof of England's willingness to forgive and forget. Perhaps it is. But although we may forgive the torpedoing of Lusitania, we are not quite sure that we are prepared to forgive a man who turns up to a championship in a red and blue plaid pull-over, a green tie, plus four – and spats. And the gods of golf indubitably will not forgive a player who stands on the tee with the ball actually outside his left foot, and lurches on to it like a cricketer playing forward."

But who was Hans Samek?

He was definitely not a Hamburger, even though this was probably easier to bear for a British reader than a Berliner. Browsing through ship papers of well-travelled Hans Samek between 1928 and 1956 there is evidence of a man of German, Austrian, Hungarian, Czechoslovak, Jewish and finally American nationality. None of this is wrong, at the same time it corresponds to the political and

personal changes that the Samek's should go through during a span of almost thirty years.

Hans Heinrich Samek is born in 1882 as youngest of seven children of Jacob and Sophie Samek in Brünn.

At this time, Brünn (today Brno, Czech Republic) was an important industrial city in Southern Moravia right in the heart of the Austro-Hungarian Empire.



*Samek loses 4 & 3 against Cyril Tolley
(British Amateur Champion 1920 and 1928)*

Almost 20 years earlier, Jacob, Albert and Johann Leopold Samek had become self-employed sheep wool manufacturers and

bringing their company quickly to a large bloom. Since 1867 their products were regularly awarded prizes awarded at the World Exhibition. Around the turn of the century, the products made from the finest sheep's wool were sold worldwide through a network of independent agents in North and South America.

In 1907 Hans and his elder brother Karl became partners in the company. In the same year Hans moved from Brno to Berlin as a representative of "Brüder Samek, Wollwarenfabrik Brünn".

Most certainly not only economic, but also personal factors played a role, as in September Hans became engaged to Else Margarethe Neumann. Else's father ran a specialty shop for gloves, knitwear and other textiles in Leipziger Straße 51-53 in the immediate vicinity of Hermann Tietz department store.

In 1908 Else and Hans moved into a rented semi-detached house in Platanenallee 16, Berlin-Westend. Already one year later Hans bought the property expanding the entire top floor of the building for his private purposes, while the underlying apartments are rented out. That same year the only son Stephan Ulrich whom we also mention later in this article is born.

Jägerstrasse in the centre of Berlin remained Hans Samek's business address for a period of almost 30 years.

We do not know exactly when Hans, who together with his brother Karl was a keen rower in his native Brno, started to play golf. From the biography of the American dentist and early German Hockey Champion, Charles Hartley, we do however know that he should have been the one who introduced Samek to golf. Maybe it played a role that Samek had purchased his new home in Berlin from the architect of the house, court architect Rudolph Zahn, whose name can be found in the 1910 result lists of Berlin Golf Club.

By 1919 Hans's golf skills were already so advanced that he wins the "Squiers Cup", played out in 1896 for the first time. He is the first German to do so disregarding the Austro-Hungarian diplomat Count Alexander Hoyos.

In 1913 Samek Brothers celebrated the company's 50th anniversary when a full page in

Brno daily paper was devoted to the company and its owners.

In 1919 the Versailles Treaty constitutes a sustainable change in Europe's political map. As a result of the fall of the Austro-Hungarian Dual Monarchy, Brno suddenly finds itself in an independent state of Czechoslovakia, cobbled together by the Allies, where the eviction of the German momentum becomes more dynamic.



Whereas at the beginning of the 20th century the German population was still dominant in Brno they were already a minority at the end of the twenties.

During the following years Hans not only worked on a better golf swing, the one for which "Golfing" had hardly found any words of praise, but he also tried to bring German golf forward. Here not only his quality as a player, but also his organizational skills and his engaging personality, which others could hardly escape, were doing a good job. Between 1920 and 1930 Hans Samek repeatedly wrote articles about the game of golf in general and hip golf destinations such as Brioni, a dream island off the Istrian coast, in glossy magazines such as "Sport im Bild", "Die Dame" and "STYL-Blätter für Mode und die angenehmen Dinge des Lebens".

In 1930 he described the development of German golf in an article published by "Golf Illustrated" where he expressed his hope that the country would quickly catch up with the international golfing forefront. All his articles are impressing with a profound knowledge of golf sport and are giving the reader the feeling that you are missing some-thing in life, if you do not pick up the game of golf.

Between 1922 and 1928 Hans played 6 times for the German national team and became a two-time runner-up at the National Amateur Championship of Germany in 1923 and 1924.

Between 1922 and 1933 he served on the board of Germany's oldest Golf- und Land-Club Berlin-Wannsee (previously named Berlin Golf

Club until 1913 and Golf Club Berlin between 1913 and 1925). In 1928 during the presidential term of Herbert Gutmann at the German Golf Union Hans became a member of the federation's technical committee.

Below, from Golf Illustrated, December 1928



A GREAT ARRAY OF CHAMPIONS AT THE SPRING HAVEN CLUB, CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA
Leo Diegel, Canadian Open champion; Maureen Orcutt, Metropolitan champion; Helen Meehan, three times winner, Dixon and Wilbur Cup; Johnny Farrell, National Open champion; Walter Hagen, British Open champion; Dr. Hans Samek, German Amateur champion; Helen Payson, Canadian Women's champion; Glenna Collett, National Women's champion; Bill Mehlhorn

The year 1929 brought a true sporting highlight to the golf club at Berlin-Wannsee never matched again in later years by any other golfing event.

Preparing this memorable event of 1929 Hans Samek travelled to the U.S. in 1928 and played golf with some of the greatest players of the time i.e. at the Spring Haven Club in Chester, Pennsylvania.

During his visit in the U.S. Samek made an agreement Walter Hagen that the American Ryder Cup team would also visit Berlin in connection with the matches held against the British selection under Captain George Duncan at Moortown Golf Club, Leeds, in April 1929.

By today's figures the agreed upon amount of 6,000 Reichsmark seems very little, but at that time it represented 5 annual salaries of a skilled worker in Germany.

And indeed, end of May 1929 Walter Hagen, Ed Dudley, Joe Turnesa, Jonny Farrell and

Horton Smith are actually turning up in Wannsee to play the German Open Championship.

21 year-old Horton Smith played a course record 69 in the second round going into final Sunday, May 26th 1929, with a narrow lead. On that day six leading players were still in view of the title. A hitherto unknown number of spectators in German Golf witnessed a most exciting finale with Ed Dudley vs. Walter Hagen, Jonny Farrell vs. Aubrey Boomer and finally Percy Alliss vs. Horton Smith. In the end local hero and club professional Percy Alliss took the title prevailing with two strokes most probably also due to his local course knowledge

In today's golfing world it is hard to imagine the professional even of a leading German golf club like Berlin-Wannsee being in a position to beat Hagen's worthy successors such as Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus or Tiger Woods at a German Open Championship!

Smith, Farrell, Hagen and Dudley finished second to fifth, while Turnesa ended up on 8th place before Roberts (Sweden) and Cyril Tolley (England, amateur) and German professional Bruno Jersombeck, who however finished already 29 strokes behind the winner.



Walter Hagen putting the 18th green at Berlin-Wannsee

When in January 1929 "Golf", the official organ of the German Golf Union (DGV), published a ranking of the best German amateur players, the two top players, Hans Samek and Count Reichenbach were not to be found on this list as they were both not German nationals. This is somehow surprising when considering that only a few years before one was reading that Hans Samek carried the German colours in Westward Ho! and also considering he had 6 appearances with the German national amateur team. At third place however we find Stefan Samek, who already as a 19-year-old is one of the glooming talents of German golf.

While in 1929 no German amateur player had made it into the final round of the German Open, it was Stefan Samek, who in 1931 competed for the title in the illustrious company of René Goliás, the eventual winner, Marcel Dallemagne and Joe Kirkwood.

In the end his 325 strokes will not match the results of the professional star players, but not only had he finished as best local player, but also as second-best amateur of the tournament.

During the years 1928 to 1932 Stefan Samek played country matches against Sweden and Hungary. Teaming up with Bernhard von Limburger he became Foursomes Champion of Hungary in 1928. His career highlight will always remain the title International Amateur Champion of Czechoslovakia, a tournament Stefan won when it was played out for the first time in Prague in 1932.

A year later he was runner-up, as he only had to concede defeat to young Hano Tonder who is

already Czechoslovakia's leading amateur player.

The year 1933 will be the turning point in the life of the whole Samek family. Being part of the high-society in Berlin regularly meeting up with stage and film artists but also with the crown prince, a keen golfer himself, they gradually became outcasts.

A year earlier, Stefan had just participated in his first UFA film starring Willy Fritsch and Camilla Horn.

For the movie "The rascal" (Der Frechdachs) Stefan composed the music whereas the famous Rudolf Bernauer supplied the texts. Even eighty years later the film music conveys the spirit of a time that should go down into history as a golden age.



And when the Nazis came into power everything happened very quickly. Famous directors, actors, musicians and writers cannot continue their work because as Jews respectively so-called "non-Aryans" they are denied access to the newly created but mandatory Reichsfilmkammer. Many of those emigrate; Stefan Samek leaves Berlin to go back to his father's home at Brno after his "Empire League-Film GmbH" had to declare bankruptcy.

There is of course no exception for the outlawing of all Jewish life in Golf. Already in April 1933 many golf clubs in Germany communicated to their members that Jews are no longer desired members. In early 1937 the club presidents were reporting to the head of German Sport, Reichssportführer Tschammer von Osten, that the golf clubs were "free of Jewish elements"

While the German Jewish elite of bankers, doctors, lawyers and officials were immediately exposed to the harassments of the Nazis also after the adoption of the "Law for the Restoration of the Professional Civil Service" in April 1933, the Sameks as commercials of foreign nationality were probably able to carry on with normal life a little longer. But no later than 1936, however, preparations were made by the family to leave Germany. Surely they were unaware that it would be a farewell from Germany forever. Several trips to the U.S. seem to proof to us to suppose that the emigration of the Samek family was prepared long hand before. Just in time before the entry of Germany into Czechoslovakia, Hans, Else and Stefan Samek departed permanently for America.

In 1938 they began their new life in the United States. Brothers and sisters, nephews and nieces of Hans - all those who had remained in Czechoslovakia and Austria - later fell victim to the Nazis.

Brother Charles was initially transported to Theresienstadt in 1941 from where he was later to be deported to the Riga ghetto, the sisters Laura and Marie (Mimi) died in the ghettos of Lodz and Theresienstadt. Stefan's aunt Beatrice, who had been living as an artist ("Countess Triangi") died in Vienna, so did his cousin Lydia after the "Anschluss" under conditions not entirely clear.

Here it might also played a role that those relatives living in Vienna and Czechoslovakia came into early attention of the Nazi press through Hans nephew Viktor Oliver's marriage, as all of a sudden the Sameks now had relatives in the UK, whose most prominent representative was one of the Nazis favourite enemies.

Vic Oliver, who was a sort of black sheep of the family, had made a career as a comedian in the U.S. and later in England. With "Hi Gang!" he

not only had his own radio show, but he also played on the British stage and shot a few movies.

In 1936 he met Sarah in London and they both fall in love instantly.

Sarah's father is "really not amused". His letter to Vic's future mother in law, written during a session of the House of Commons, clearly stated:

February 21st, 1936

My darling,

The interview took place on Sat'noon. He professed himself quite ready to give the name & address of his mother & sister. (...) He did not impress me with being a bad man; but common as dirt: an Austrian citizen, a resident in the U.S. & and here on license & an American passport: twice divorced: 36 so he says: a horrible mouth: a foul Austro-Yankee drawl. (...)

With innumerable kisses & tender love,
Your loving & devoted husband

Neither Sir Winston nor Sarah's mother were able to prevent that the marriage succeeded. When the marriage actually broke up in 1941, Winston Churchill, who had come to terms with the Misalliance of his daughter, commented as follows:

[...] *"I am an old and weary man. I feel exhausted"* Churchill commented.

Clementine tried to cheer her husband up by remarking, "But think what Mussolini and Hitler feel like", to which Churchill replied, "Ah, but at least Mussolini has had the satisfaction of murdering his son-in-law".

This reference to the recent shooting of Count Ciano on charges of treason, and the prospect of Vic Oliver [...] sharing the same fate "so pleased him", that Churchill went for a walk and appeared to revive [...].

The marriage was finally divorced in 1945.

In 1939 "Der Stürmer", the notorious agitation magazine of Julius Streicher used the story as an opportunity to title on the quite colourful personality of Aunt Beatrice, who had come to title and money through several not awkward marriages as follows:

"Ministers and Jew. Related souls are finding themselves..../ The Jewish Countess Triangi and Marine Minister Churchill"



The fact that Sir Winston at the end played an essential role to force the Nazis to surrender was certainly a delayed gratification for the survivor, for many and those that were killed the defeat of the Nazis came too late.

While permanently in the US from 1938 on Hans did what he knew best to do, both in the US and England. His obituary in the New York Times from March 1966 indicates that he is the owner of three textile trading companies. In addition to the "British Samek Inc." he also owns "World Weavers Ltd" as well as today's Belgian Scabal Group subsidiary "Wain Shiell & Son, Inc." based in London.

In his new adopted homeland Hans had restarted professionally again always following his grandmother's slogan which most probably helped:

"Anything worth doing is worth doing well"

Stanley Marcus, for decades on the board of the American department store chain Neiman Marcus describes his encounter with Hans Samek in his memoirs published in 2001 ("Minding the store") in any event, as follows:

A textile salesman taught me a very valuable lesson. His name was Hans Samek, a Czechoslovakian refugee who came to the United States during the war to sell top-quality British fabrics. I had met many good and great salesmen up to that time, but never had I seen a man show his line with such vigor, extol his products with such enthusiasm, sell with such urgency. He approached every sale as if it were the last sale he'd ever make. His spirit was infectious, and before he was through, you wanted to buy as if it were the last chance you'd ever have to purchase such fine cloths. After one such session I turned to him and said, "Mr. Samek, you approach business with such a great sense of urgency. Do you brush your teeth with that same attitude?" "Why, of course," he replied, "I do brush my teeth urgently, as I do anything in life that's worth doing at all." I amended my grandmother's early advice of "Anything worth doing is worth doing well" by substituting the word "urgently" for "well."

In his own life motto Hans had replaced the word "good" by "urgent".

„Anything worth doing is worth doing urgently“

Hans Samek's path of life and his success in life seem to prove that everything he did was not only done urgently, but also with highest quality.

He died in Los Angeles in 1966 and was survived by his wife Else by eight years.

After the war Stefan Samek worked for OSS, the Office of Strategic Services, the first American foreign intelligence service, from which CIA emerged later. Together with other immigrants he wrote texts for propaganda radio broadcasts. Later he also worked as an auditor.

The Samek's found their new home in the United States of America. Significantly one of Stefan's compositions from 1940 bears the title:

"My home is USA"

Stefan died in 1996 in Atlantic Beach, Florida.

His only daughter Stefanie is a successful advertising manager and author of several books on cats. She lives in upstate New York.

Text kindly translated by Christoph N. Meister



Writing to the Editor



This space is dedicated to exchanging between members. Please write to the editor at the following address: editor@golfika.com

Erratum. – Our new member Neil Millar, a specialist of the Rules – see also his paper in this issue of Golfika-Magazine – kindly informed us of a mistake we made in our paper. We wrote that Mariassy was not referring to the rules of golf in his seminal work. In reality both

the first and second edition are both dedicating a full chapter on golf rules. Nevertheless the first edition was in 1894 and the second in 1895. Both were later published, compared to the Williams document. Many thanks Neil!

In the previous issue (Golfika-Magazine #12), in our paper on “Early Rules in French” we presented the **Williams catalogues** and stated that the first one was issued in 1906. Our new member Dominique Rabet sent us interesting information as he got one from 1905 – with a different design. Here are the scans of the front and back cover.



Also, about the **Williams** company, it worth to note that their address was “1, rue Caumartin” until probably end 1905 (see the scan sent by D. Rabet). On the 1906 catalogue, the address is becoming “1 & 3, rue Caumartin”.

In addition we were referring to a collaboration with “Little Frères” in the 20’s – as this name appears on the catalogue at that time. Nevertheless, we just found an invoice from November 1913 already bearing this name in the design of their letter.

Cécilia Lyon is writing us: I am currently writing a book on the history of Golf de **Valescure (Saint-Raphael)**. My text is nearly completed but there are still gaps that I would like to fill in before the book goes to press. I am looking for the following information:

- The names of the Presidents: 1913 until 1924
- The names of the Captains: 1907 until WW2
- The names of the Honorary Secretaries: 1915 until 1924
- The names of the Committee members: 1900 until 1925.

Also, I am also looking for newspaper articles or any information related to:

- Announcement of future extension to 18 holes (July 1909 until December 1909)
- Official inauguration of the extension (around 1st March 1910).
- (Le) Cheva(l)lier, the local professional at Valescure in 1906-1909
- Who was professional at Valescure between 1915 and 1923?

Many thanks, C.L.

Christoph Meister is answering a question asked by Stéphan Filanowitch in Golfika-Magazine #12.



The “**Why Not**” golfball you bought is a rubber-cored bramble pattern golf ball produced by Henley’s Tyre & Rubber Co. Ltd between 1906 and 1919 ca.

Golf Illustrated dating March 21, 1913 states: “We learn that the ball that was causing so much concern was the 1913 bramble “Why Not” (purple dot). It will be on sale at many leading clubs by Easters.

The makers claim that it is “the longest driving ball in the world””.

Kind regards, C.M.

Hickory Tournament News

From Christoph Meister

Berlin Hickory Open Championship

Golf- und Land-Club Berlin-Wannsee

Berlin, Germany

Friday May 30, 2014

Tournament Information

Olaf Dudzus has arranged for the 4th Berlin Hickory Championship to be played on Friday, May 30, 2014, at Golf- und Land- Club Berlin-Wannsee where we also had many international players in the past. The tournament is open to both professional and amateur players. The amateurs in the Berlin Hickory Open play for the Percy-Alliss Memorial Trophy. This is one of the fine events on the European hickory tour. Don't miss it should travel and opportunity place you in the neighborhood at the right time.

Anyone interested to attend, please contact me for registration or further information:

CNMeister@t-online.de

German Hickory Championship

Kiel-Kitzeberg Golf Club

Kitzeberg, Germany

8/9/2014 - 8/10/2014

Tournament Information

The 6th German Hickory Championship will be played on the weekend following the Swedish Hickory Championship (August 2./3., 2014 at Bro-Balsta – contact Dr. Patric Andersen on

hickory.bbgk@telia.com

on August 9/10, 2014, at Kiel-Kitzeberg GC on the shores of the Baltic Sea opposite Denmark. We will be playing a 112-year old golf club using their historic nine holes and the old, normally defunct, clubhouse on top of a hill overlooking the course. Both amateur and professional players are welcome. Kiel is an attractive venue for anyone coming over from Scandinavia and if players want to come by

ferry without cars we can certainly arrange transport to/from the golf course.
For information and registration, please contact Christoph Meister at cnmeister@t-online.de.



Danish Hickory Open Championship

Royal Copenhagen Golf Club

Copenhagen, , Denmark

September 6, 2014

Tournament Information

The annual Danish Hickory Open will again be played in the queen's hunting grounds at Denmark's oldest golf course, the Royal Copenhagen Golf Klub.

For information, click on:

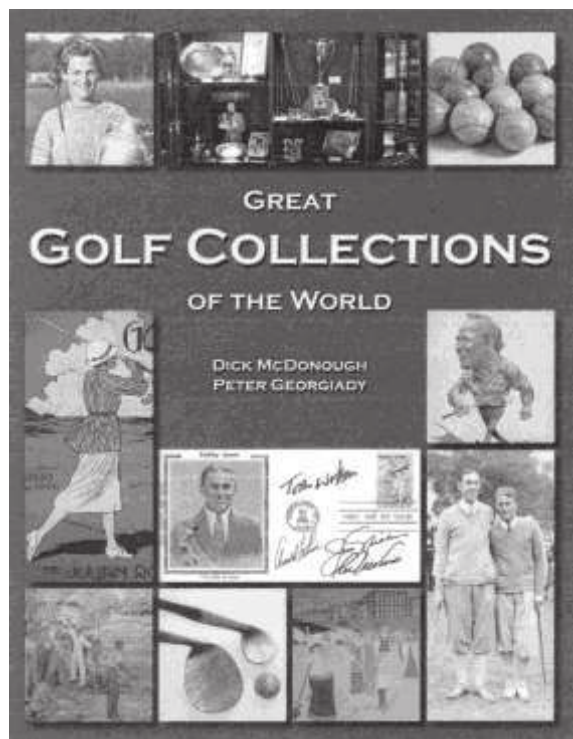
www.danishhickory.com or

e-mail Christian Juel at: cj@sv-juel.dk

Our readers are also reading ...



Great Golf Collections of the World, by Dick McDonough & Peter Georgiady.



Melbourne Golf Club. Many of the extremely rare and historical items photographed and described in the book are housed in private collections not accessible to the public such as those of the late Ralph Livingston III, Arnold Palmer, Dr. Michael Hurdzan, Alastair Johnston, Pete Georgiady, Peter Crabtree, Tim Smartt and Philip Truett. It captures golfs rich heritage through a variety of collectibles: ancient oil and watercolour paintings, ceramics, posters, medals and trophies, postcards, golf clubs and balls and much more.

Written by Richard McDonough III and Pete Georgiady, the authors have included nine private golf club collections, twenty-four private collections, three museum collections and topical golf issues in the book which took over five years of research, interviews, photography and editing and includes important collections in the USA, Scotland, England and Australia.

This coffee table book showcases over six hundred colour images of golfiana from 36 world class collections including those of The Royal Sydney Golf Club and The Royal

You can order your copy by emailing Dick McDonough at ramcd3@aol.com

Reviewed by John Lovell

How many cleek marks and clubs do you recognise?

A quiz kindly offered by Ed Leenders
(Answers in next Golfika-Magazine)



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)



(5)



(6)



(7)



(8)



(9)



(10)



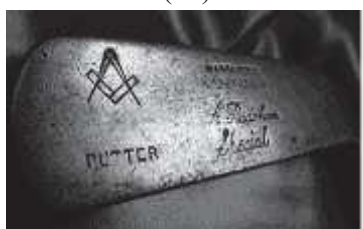
(11)



(12)



(13)



(14)



(15)

Do not refer to your books (at first). Try to identify the cleek marks from top of your mind.

A French translation of the 1888 Rules of Golf

By Neil S. Millar



I was very interested to read an article published in the Summer 2013 edition of *Golfika*, in which Jean-Bernard Kazmierczak reported the discovery of a French translation of the Rules of Golf dating from 1893¹⁵ (Figure 1). As was explained by Jean-Bernard in his article, the document is a lithographically printed reproduction of a hand-written translation of the Rules of Golf. It is a 9-page document (approximately 18 × 23 cm) that was distributed by the Paris-based sporting goods company Williams & Co. The primary evidence indicating this document dates from 1893 is an ink stamp, present on both the front and back pages, that contains the company name together with the date 1st May 93 (*1- MAI 93*).



Fig. 1 - The 1893 French translation of the Rules of Golf, together with a copy of the R&A 1888 Rules.¹⁵

Prior to the establishment of a Rules of Golf Committee by the Royal and Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews (R&A) in 1897, there was no universally accepted code of golf rules. Instead, golf clubs frequently adopted and published their own rules for playing golf, although by the 1880s most clubs had adopted the rules that

were published by the R&A. In the introduction to the 1893 French translation of the rules, entitled *Le Jeu de Golf*, the author makes it clear that the translation is based upon the R&A's rules (*nous les empruntons au Royal & Ancien Club de Golf de St Andrews (Ecosse)*). Given that the French translation is dated 1893, one might expect that it would be a translation of the R&A's most recently published set of rules (the 1891 Rules of Golf). However, from a comparison of the French translation with various early R&A editions of the Rules of Golf, it is clear that the 1893 document is a translation of an earlier set of rules that was published by the R&A in 1888¹⁶. It is probably the earliest translation of the Rules of Golf into another language.

The 1888 R&A Rules of Golf contain 45 general rules for Match Play and an additional nine 'Special Rules for Medal Play'. In contrast, the 1893 French translation contains only 40 rules. It omits five of the Match Play rules, as well as omitting all nine of the Medal Play rules. However, this is consistent with a

¹⁵ Williams & Co and the first rules of golf in French – 1893, by JBK (Jean-Bernard Kazmierczak), *Golfika*, issue 12, Summer 2013, pp. 27-35

¹⁶ There are a number of differences between the R&A's 1888 and 1891 Rules that help to confirm which code was the basis for the French translation. For example, a player was permitted to search for a lost ball for ten minutes in the 1888 Rules (and also in the 1893 French translation), whereas this was reduced to five minutes in the 1891 Rules.

comment that is made in the introduction to the 1893 translation, in which it is stated that the translated rules are ‘slightly abbreviated’ (*un peu abrégées*).

Errors in translation

Whereas the modern-day Rules of Golf are written in very precise language, this was not necessarily the case in the nineteenth century. As a consequence, it is perhaps not unexpected that a nineteenth century French translation of a rather imprecise English-language text might contain some inaccuracies and errors. A couple of examples are provided below.

A clear alteration of the intended meaning of the R&A rules can be found in the translation of a rule concerning the flagstick (Rule 36 of the 1888 R&A Rules and Rule 32 in the French translation). This rule in the R&A’s 1888 code states that ‘either party is entitled to have the flag-stick removed when approaching the hole’. In contrast, the 1893 French translation states that ‘one cannot remove the flagstick before approaching the hole’ (*on ne peut enlever le support avant d’approcher le trou*).

A more subtle change in meaning occurs in the translation of Rule 18 of the 1888 R&A rules (Rule 17 in the French translation). The original R&A rule states that ‘a ball stuck fast in wet ground or sand may be taken out and replaced loosely in the hole it has made’. The French translation seemingly provides greater latitude to the golfer by stating that the ball may be ‘released and repositioned slightly’ (*dégagée et replacée légèrement*).

Distances are quoted in imperial units (i.e. yards and inches) in the R&A rules and it is not surprising that these would be converted into metric units in a French translation. For example, the ‘stymie’ distance of 6 inches is converted to 15 cm in the 1893 translation. However, an error appears to have occurred when defining the size of the putting green in the 1893 French translation. In the 1888 R&A rules, the putting green is defined as being the area within 20 yards of a hole¹⁷. This is

¹⁷ The putting green continued to be defined as being an area within 20 yards of a hole (excluding hazards) until the introduction of the first jointly-agreed R&A and USGA Rules of 1952. In 1952, the

equivalent to a distance of approximately 18 metres. However, in the 1893 French translation, the putting green is defined as being an area of just 8 metres (*La partie du terrain d’environ 8 mètres*). It seems likely that this is an error, rather than an expectation that the French would be required to play on smaller putting greens than golfers elsewhere¹⁸.

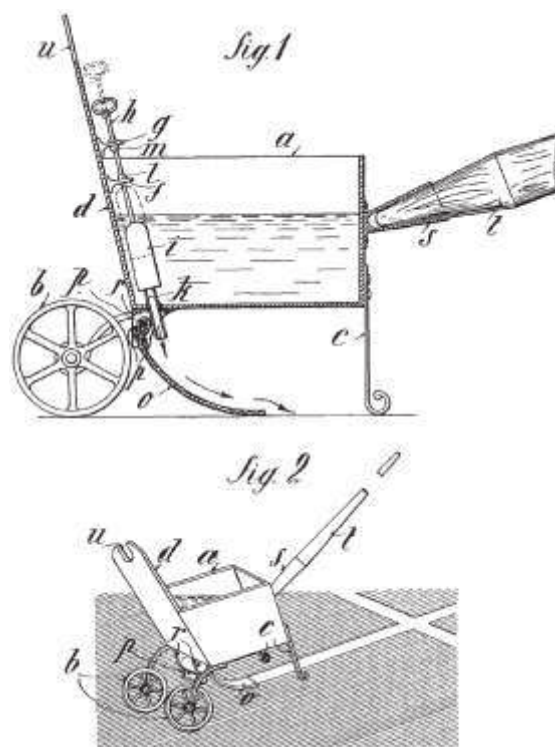


Fig 2. - Apparatus for marking out courses for outdoor games (*Appareil marqueur pour tracer les cours des jeux de plein air*). French Patent No. 328049 (filed on 5 August 1903).

George Henry Shepherd

Jean-Bernard mentions in his *Golfika* article that the lithographic document containing the French translation of the Rules of Golf was

putting green was defined simply as ‘ground specially prepared for putting’.

¹⁸ Later French translations of the Rules of Golf define the putting green as being an area of 20 metres (rather than 20 yards). The putting green is defined as being an area within 20 metres (20 mètres, les hazards exceptés) in both the first edition (c.1894) and second edition (1895) of *Le Golf en Angleterre* by Frédéric William Mariassy. Both editions of the book contain a French translation of the 1891 R&A Rules. The putting green continues to be defined as being an area of 20 metres in *Les Sports Modernes Illustrés* (1905), which contains a French translation of the 1902 R&A Rules.

distributed by Williams & Co. Jean-Bernard also points out that Williams & Co may have been connected to an earlier company that was associated with G.H. Shepherd. This is supported by the fact that the first and last pages of the French translation of the Rules of Golf each contain two ink stamps. One identifies the retailer/publisher as *Williams & Co., 1^o Rue Caumartin, Paris*, whereas the second bears the mark *Shepherd & Brown Suc^{rs}*. As far as I am aware, little is known about G. H. Shepherd and it is unclear whether he had any involvement in producing what is probably the earliest translation of the Rules of Golf. However, details of his life and his interests would appear to support the possibility that he may have been responsible for producing this early French translation.

George Henry Shepherd was a prolific inventor and an entrepreneur. He is named as being the inventor of several patents concerning sporting goods that were issued in the period 1898-1909. His patented inventions include items such as an apparatus used for marking out lines on the ground for games such as tennis (Figure 2), dumb-bells used for exercising (Figure 3) and a rather complicated 'combined apparatus for exercising by massaging by friction' (Figure 4). On several of these Patent documents Shepherd's address is identified as being 1 Rue Caumartin, Paris, which is also the address of Williams & Co. In addition, on some of his patent applications, as well as giving his address in Paris, Shepherd describes himself as being 'a citizen of the Kingdom of Great Britain'.

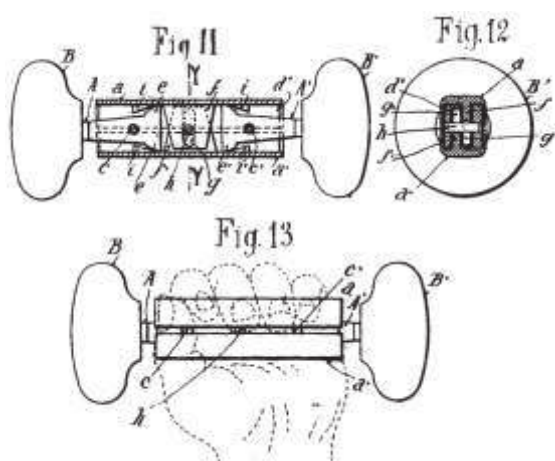


Fig. 3 - Improvements in dumb-bells. British Patent No. 190401000 (filed on 4 January 1904),

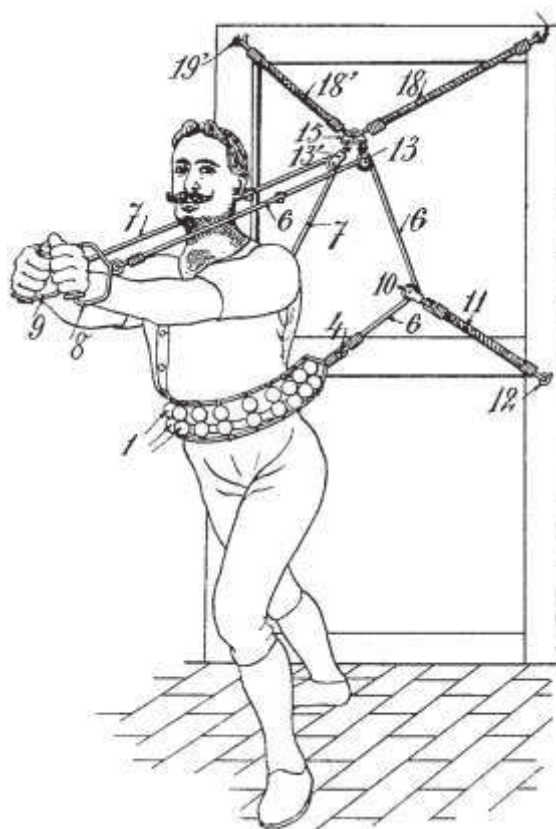


Fig. 4 – Combined apparatus for exercising and massaging by friction. United States Patent No. 781,683 (filed on 30 September 1904),

It appears that George Henry Shepherd moved back to England sometime around 1909. He spent the last years of his life living in Brighton, where he died in 1934. In addition to being a merchant and an inventor, he was a man with diverse interests. Shortly before his death in 1934, Shepherd published two leaflets that mark him out as being radical thinker. In these leaflets, both printed in Brighton in the early 1930s, Shepherd proposed the decimalisation of the British currency¹⁹ and also a reformation of the Gregorian calendar²⁰. In his leaflet *Decimalising the Pound Sterling*, perhaps influenced by the time that he had spent in France, Shepherd argued that decimalisation of the pound would facilitate British foreign trade. Rather than the pound being divided into 20 shillings, each of which contained 12 pence,

¹⁹ *Decimalising the Pound Sterling*. Published by George Henry Shepherd, 4 Temple Gardens, Brighton. 9th May 1932. Printed by Pell (Brighton) Ltd.

²⁰ *G. H. Shepherd's Reformed Calendar*. Published by G. H. Shepherd, Temple Gardens, Brighton. c. 1931. Printed by Hadlow & Sons, Ltd., Brighton.

Shepherd proposed that the British pound should be divided into four 'sterling dollars', each of 100 cents. His proposed reformation of the calendar was even more radical. In his leaflet '*G. H. Shepherd's Reformed Calendar*' (Figure 5), he proposed a system in which every week and every month would begin with a Sunday. A consequence of this would be that all months would contain either five full weeks (35 days) or four full weeks (28 days). There would be 364 days in a year but with an additional day, called a 'Shepherd Day', that would not count in the calendar but would be placed between the months of June and July. Some 40 years after Shepherd's death, the British currency *was* decimalized, albeit not along the lines that had been proposed by Shepherd in 1932. In contrast, his proposals for the introduction of a 'Shepherd's Reformed Calendar' and for a 'Shepherd's Day' have yet to be adopted.

There is little doubt that George Henry Shepherd, who in the late 1800s and early 1900s lived at 1 Rue Caumartin, Paris (the address of Williams & Co), was the same person who lived in Brighton from about 1909 until his death in 1934 (the evidence supporting this conclusion is presented in a footnote²¹).

²¹ The conclusion that George Henry Shepherd of Paris and of Brighton are one and the same person is supported by several pieces of evidence. The French 1893 translation of the Rules of Golf contains two ink stamps; one refers to 'Shepherd & Brown Suc^{rs}', whereas the other gives the address of the Parisian sporting goods store (Williams & Co.) as '1 Rue Caumartin, Paris'. George Henry Shepherd was granted several patents (between 1898-1904, generally for sports-related inventions) in which he gives his address as '1 Rue Caumartin, Paris'. In addition, in several of these patents he also describes himself as being 'a citizen of the Kingdom of Great Britain'. George Henry Shepherd was married in England in 1873 and is described on his wedding certificate as being a 'Merchant' who was a resident of 'City of Paris'. George Henry Shepherd filed a further sports-related patent application in 1909 in which he gave his address as 4 Temple Gardens, Brighton. This patent application, containing his Brighton address, lists the same patent agent that Shepherd had used for some of the earlier applications that had been filed with an address in Paris. George Henry Shepherd died in Brighton on 6th December 1934. According to *The London Gazette* of 22 November 1935, he is described as having been a resident of 4 Temple Gardens, Brighton (this was also the address that is

George Henry Shepherd appears to have been something of a polymath – he was a merchant, an inventor and an advocate for reformation of the Gregorian calendar and of British currency. It is clear that Shepherd was an entrepreneurial British businessman who lived in France and who was closely connected with a major Parisian sporting goods company. On this basis, it seems reasonable to think that George Henry Shepherd may have been the person who was responsible for the first translation of the Rules of Golf into another language.

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my thanks to Jean-Bernard Kazmierczak for providing a copy of the 1893 French translation of the Rules of Golf. I would also like to thank Sylvia Millar for her assistance with genealogical research relating to George Henry Shepherd.

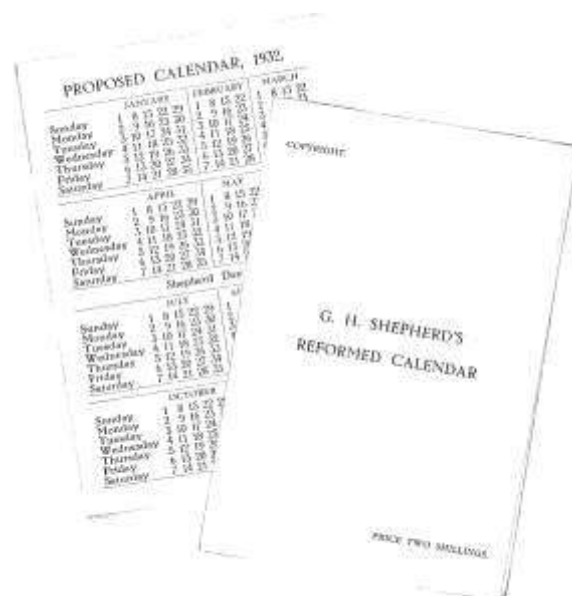


Fig. 5 – G. H. Shepherd's Reformed Calendar. George Henry Shepherd (c. 1932).

listed on the two leaflets published by Shepherd in Brighton in 1931-1932). When reporting Shepherd's death in 1935, *The London Gazette* identified one of the executors of George Henry Shepherd's will as being Thomas Donald Little. Significantly, a 'Thomas D. Little' is listed as being a witness on one of Shepherd's patent applications (dated 1899) in which he describes himself as being 'a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Paris, France'.

A tribute to Sacha Sosno An artist from the “Ecole de Nice”

JBK (Jean-Bernard Kazmierczak)



On Tuesday December 3rd, at about 8:30 pm, Alexandre Joseph Sosnowsky better known as Sacha Sosno, passed away at the Hospital Princesse Grace de Monaco at the age of 76. He was, with Arman, Yves Klein and Martial Raysse and a few others, one of the recognised artists of the so called “Ecole de Nice”. Less than one month earlier, we visited his shed on the highs of Nice, at a driving distance of the vineyards of Bellet – which he appreciated so much – to discover his golfing work. We would like, in this modest paper to pay him a short tribute.

The “*Nouveau Réalisme*” and the “*Ecole de Nice*”.

In 1960, Pierre Restany and his friend Yves Klein founded an artistic movement called: “*le Nouveau Réalisme*” (new realism). But it is fair to consider that this group was also constituted by other famous artists who joined extremely soon, such as Arman, Martial Raysse, Jean Tinguely, Ben (Benjamin Vautier). In 1961 the sculptor Cesar also joined the group as well as did Niki de Saint-Phalle and a few others.

It was sometimes described as a variant of the American Pop Art, and after the death of the iconic figure of Yves Klein in 1962, the movement was becoming less and less active.

It seems that it is during an important exhibition in Miami, in 1967, that Sosno was the first one using the name of “Ecole de Nice” (school of Nice) to name the group of artists of the Nice section from “Nouveaux Réalistes”. And if the mother group was finally dissolved in 1970, the “Ecole de Nice” is still active nowadays – may be because it was the most vivid section of the movement.

Sacha Sosno, when introducing the so-called “Ecole de Nice” was often saying that, truly

speaking, there was no such a school, but that it was rather a climate created by a group of artists who exchanged their ideas and their views.

Many writers and art-critics tried to define more precisely how could this movement be characterized, and they often agreed on a few criteria. An artist from the “Ecole de Nice” must be a leading one who keeps himself far from academicism and to whom, strength of expression is a key driver. Also, a significant part of his work should have been conceived in the city of Nice or its close surroundings – nevertheless, this later point seen more due to the fact that these artists need to share, to exchange their views... and most were living in this region.

Sacha Sosno.

Was born in Marseille on March 18th, 1937, from a Baltic father and a mother from Nice, Sacha Sosno spent his childhood between Riga and Nice. It is in this later city where he discovered painting by chance as he was living in a flat next to Matisse.

In 1956 he met Arman and Yves Klein and after discovering the monochromatic painting from

Klein, Sosno destroyed all his previous work – burning all his paintings. In 1961 he founded a magazine “Sud Communication” where he presented for the first time a theory of the “Ecole de Nice”.

In 1967 he tried a new way, dramatically changing his mind and becoming a war journalist. But soon after, he returned back to painting, introducing the concept of “obliteration” which could be defined as “masking some parts of a picture in order to seeing it better”

During his last 20 years, he was interested in the link between sculpture and architecture – especially urban architecture. Several of his works could be seen on the French Riviera and a well-known and impressive work of his is the “square head”, 28 meters high, which hosts the regional library of Nice, inaugurated in June 2002.

Sosno and golf.

Sacha Sosno was also a great fan of golf and this is certainly explaining that he made several works related to the game.

We are not an art-critic but just a modest amateur and we are not pretending to give here an exhaustive listing of all Sosno’s work on golf. From our knowledge, it seems that the first one was a bronze sculpture, dated 1991 (40 x 18 x 12 cm) and called “Mais où est la balle ?” (“Where is the ball?”).

One extremely well known work could be seen on the Monte-Carlo course, on hole #6. It is made of a large red cut-steel (picture 2 – 3rd cover page) and called “Swing in the Green” (130 x 205 cm). It was designed in 1995 and represents a golfer at the top of backswing. A variant was edited the next year, with a similar shape but silhouette type and of higher size (120 x 230 cm), named “Birdie”.

In 2001, Sosno took a different position of the swing. Here again, two similar variants exists. On the 3rd cover page, we are featuring the one with red shape silhouette, called “A good finish” (cut steel, 92 x 61 cm). The other one (2 meters high) in red plain cut-steel is named “A good swing”.

In 2003 he presented a third design. Again, we can find two versions: one plain and one silhouette-type of almost same size (200 x 110 and 210 x 96). The plain version could be seen at the Valberg Golf Club – which he sponsored and, it is said, which he suggested the location (see picture 4)

It could be noted that at that period he was also inspired by two other sports (discus throw and javelin throw).

We also know two works on cardboard, edited at 50 copies each. One is featuring a golfer driving with his head “obliterated” by the ball (painted in red) and the second one which we are presenting on the back cover is even more interesting as it shows a bunker shot, the golfer being “obliterated” by an application of sand glued on the cardboard – which also makes each of the 50 copies “one of a kind”, in a certain way.

More valuable information can be found on the official web-site: sosno.com

The bibliography is pretty long, and in English we can list here: “*The School of Nice and its Movements, Taipei Fine Arts Museum, 1990*” and “*Art and Visual Culture on the French Riviera, 1956-1971: The Ecole de Nice*” by Rosemary O’Neill.

3rd cover illustrations
(See also text above)

1	2
3	4

1 – Sacha Sosno at Monte-Carlo Golf Club for the 100 anniversary of the club. August 27th, 2011.
Picture with courtesy of Junior / Bestimage (Paris).

2 – “Swing on the Green” Monte-Carlo Golf Club, Hole #6 (cut steel; 3 x 1.3 m; 1995) – *Postcard by In Folio Nice. Photo. François Fernandez (JBK coll.)*

3 – “Birdie” in “*Sosno*” – Galerie Guy Pieters. (cut steel; 92 x 61 x 40 cm; 2001).
Picture with courtesy of Galerie Pieters.

4 – Sosno art work at Valberg Golf Course.

Back cover: “Bunker shot” (cardboard and sand; 46 x 62 cm; 2012). JBK’s collection.



Sosno 12.





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