



YEARBOOK 2013

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ALFRED B NILSON



Princess Margareta in a photograph from 1905.

RONNY KARLSSON



Peter Nordwall, who rediscovered the Råsunda golf course, showed the resurfaced clubs at the centenary celebration last autumn.

Margareta's clubs from Lyllywhite's found their way to the Golf Museum



RONNY KARLSSON

Prince Daniel hit the opening shot at the Råsunda centenary celebration. He used the mashie that Princess Margareta most likely used right here when she lost the final in the 1914 Swedish Championship.

Margareta was the mother of the father of the father of the mother of Prince Daniel's daughter Estelle, born in 2012.

Margareta from England was Sweden's Princess of Golf. She came to Sweden in 1905 after she had married Gustaf Adolf, at that time number two in line to the Swedish throne.

Before Margareta left for Sweden she seems to have taken her fiancée to Lillywhite's in London to buy a new set of clubs. Last year these clubs resurfaced and now reside in the Swedish Golf museum.

Margareta's father was Arthur, Duke of Connaught and son of Queen Victoria.

Margareta was raised with golf and she made her prince take up the game. They sometimes played at the Råsunda course, laid out by Stockholms Golfklubb in 1912. This is where the Princess reached the final of the Swedish Championship in 1914. Princess Margareta died in 1920.

Georg Kittel, president of the Swedish Society of Golf Historians, was last year contacted by the son of a veteran golfer, Ove Kristersson, who had recently passed away. The son gave Georg a bag with five clubs. Georg has been able to trace the clubs back to Margareta.

It appeared that Prince Gustaf Adolf gave the clubs to a friend after Margareta's death. The friend gave the clubs to his daughter, who had a summer house next door to Ove Kristersson. Then in 1985 the daughter gave the clubs to Ove Kristersson.

"The more facts that have come to light, the more convinced I am that these are Margareta's clubs", says Georg.

Prince Daniel, husband of Crown Princess Victoria, used the mashie out of the bag when he opened the Råsunda centenary last autumn (see back page).



Players leaving Råsunda's third green during the centenary celebration.



The third fairway is always crowded on 6 June, Sweden's national day.



Chick Evans carried a report from Råsunda in 1915 in his column in *The Chicago Examiner*, a Hearst newspaper.

Golfers took a stroll in the park

Råsunda golf course, just outside Stockholm, was brought back to life for one day on 1st September. Stockholms Golfklubb and The Swedish Society of Golf Historians celebrated the centenary of the opening of the course in 1912.

Where the course was laid out, there is now a public park, named The Golf Meadows. The course had ten holes. Six of them were open for play for the centenary.

Guests of honour played seven foursomes and the Club beat the Society in a team match.

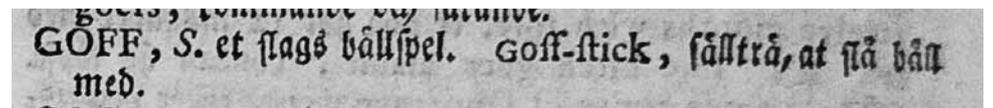
Golf was played at Råsunda until 1926, when Stockholms Golfklubb moved to the island of Lidingö. During this time six Swedish Championships were played here.

The most feared hazards on the course were several stinking ditches, "probably paved with balls", a magazine wrote in 1916.



Jörgen Mårtensson found goff in his new old dictionary.

Jörgen found Goff in Sweden in 1734



The 1734 dictionary gave this translation of GOFF: A kind of ballgame. Goff-stick, bat for hitting a ball.

When Jörgen Mårtensson, former curator of the Swedish Golf Museum, went to a rural auction, he found evidence that the history of golf in Sweden started 62 years earlier than previously known.

The evidence is in an English-Swedish dictionary from 1734. Among the words translated are

goff and goff-stick. The dictionary was compiled by Jacob Serenius, minister at the Swedish Church in London.

Before Jörgen's find the earliest known printed mention of golf in Sweden was in a German book about games for youth. It was published in 1796 and read in Sweden.

Hickory Championships in the South

The 16th Swedish Hickory Championship will be played on 3-4 August at Landskrona Golfklubb, also home of the Swedish Golf Museum. Please

visit the Championship's website at <http://shm2013.se/en/>. The match play Championship will be played at Ljunghusens Golfklubb on 15-16 June.

The Swedish Society of Golf Historians. Please visit our website: <http://golfhistoriska.golf.se>. There you will find Sveriges Hickorykalender with information about hickory golf tournaments in Sweden. President: Georg Kittel, georg.kittel@home.se. Hon Secretary: Hans Grandin, hans.grandin@gmail.com. Editor of the yearbook: Pehr Thermaenius, pehr.thermaenius@gmail.com.