



Antique Sunday Golf Club, Walking Stick

Sold



REF: 29367

Height: 92.5 cm (36.4")

Width: 6.5 cm (2.6")

Depth: 3.5 cm (1.4")

Description

Antique Golf Club Walking Stick, Sunday Club, Forrester of Elie.

A desirable walking cane with the handle in the shape of a golf club head. The gentleman's walking stick is made by the renowned Scottish clubmaker, George Forrester of Earlsferry and Elie. The well made persimmon club head has a pegged horn insert and a lead weight to the rear. The socket head is attached to a hickory shaft with ivory collar and brass ferrule end. The club head stamped with Forrester's details.

The ban on golfing on the Sabbath, Sunday, had the effect of the club makers producing walking sticks for canny golfers. They fashioned the canes with a golf club head as a handle and they became known as 'Sunday Clubs' or 'Sabbath sticks'. It is said that on the Sabbath a Sunday Club owner, when nobody was looking, could still enjoy a crafty putt or swing.

George Forrester was one of Scotland's most innovative club makers of the 1890's. He was originally a stonemason and had spent some time in the United States looking for work as a stone cutter. With no job, in 1871 he returned home and tried his hand at clubmaking at the age of 34. His lack of reputation made his early days difficult and it was not until the 1890's before he became established as one of the masters. In 1903 he was joined by his son, James, and the firm was renamed George Forrester & Son. James opened a London retail outlet and later joined his father as a professional at the Golf House Club, Elie. Forrester produced the first real socket head wood, patented as number 269,117, the unbreakable drilled neck driver in 1898, he died in 1930.