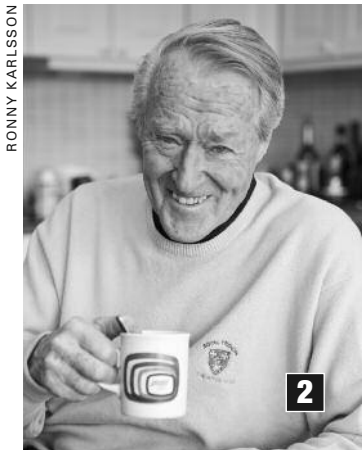




# YEARBOOK 2018

A summary of Årsskrift 2018.  
Published by The Swedish Society of Golf Historians.



1. Henrik Stenson, who was made honorary member of our Society after his 2016 Open triumph, received his diploma last summer. 2. Our Committee proposes writer and TV commentator Göran Zachrisson to be our next honorary member. 3. Henrik and Göran met for a drink at Troon in 2016.

## We honour a player and a storyteller

**Göran Zachrisson, veteran golf writer and TV commentator, is proposed to be our next honorary member.**

"He is a golf storyteller", says our Committee in its proposal to the Society's annual general meeting in June.

Göran stumbled into golf reporting in the early 1960s and soon became the voice of golf in Swedish television. He is the

President of the Association of Golf Writers.

He has developed his own style in writing and commenting, often silent and never telling the viewers what they themselves can see.

"This is great fun and I am lucky to have this work", says Göran.

From time to time he has helped promote the Society. During the final holes of the 130th

Open Championship in 2001 Göran interrupted his TV commentary and instead gave a detailed report on the outcome of the fourth Swedish Hickory Championship.

In 2016 Göran got his hands on The Claret Jug after Henrik Stenson had won it and offered drinks all around.

Henrik became honorary member after his triumph and received his diploma last summer.

**The Swedish Society of Golf Historians.** Please visit our website: [www.golfhistoriska.se](http://www.golfhistoriska.se). There you will find *Hickorykalender 2017* (under *Kalender*) with information about hickory golf tournaments in Sweden. President of the Society: Georg Kittel, email: [kittel.georg@gmail.com](mailto:kittel.georg@gmail.com).

## How Chick Evans' caddie instruction found its way to Tage at Kevinge



Chick. Ted. Tage.

Ted Roberts, who came as professional to Stockholms Golfklubb in 1914 and stayed all his life, carried for Chick Evans at Hoylake in 1911. This piece of golf history has been confirmed this winter.

In 1915 Chick Evans wrote in the Chicago Examiner about the Råsunda course in Stockholm, based on a letter from the Chicago golfer O. J. Frances.

"To show what a little world this is, Mr. Frances mentions that the professional at the Stockholm Golfklubb is E. Roberts, a Scotchman, who caddied for me at Hoylake, England."

Interesting, but is it true? *Chick Evans Golf Book* does not mention any play at Hoylake during his trip in 1911.

John Fischer found the answer in the Chicago Tribune of 23 May 1911. O. J. Frances reported that Chick's first rounds in England were two 76s over Hoylake.

This must have been rounds to remember for the 17-year-old Ted. Did he perhaps sometimes mention his rounds with Chick after he came to Stockholm? Yes he did, says Tage Svedestig, one of Ted's caddies on the Kevinge course in Stockholm in the 1930s.

"Ted said that Chick had told him strictly not to stand behind his player on the line of a putt."

Ted took this instruction seriously and passed it on to his own caddies.

Footnote: Ted Roberts was raised near Hoylake. He was not a Scotsman.



Robert Sager's clubs, found in a closet, are pictured here in front of the English cottage at the Ryfors estate. This was Robert's house. One of the clubs is a W. Park bulger driver.



## Early clubs came out of the closet

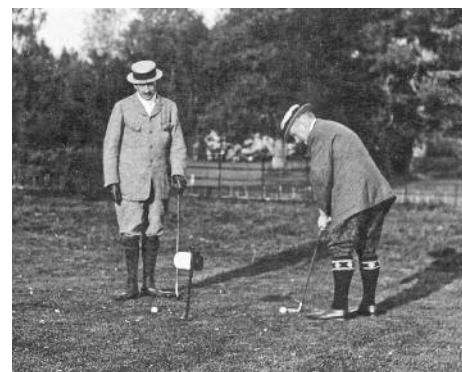
**This year's cover story is about one of Sweden's oldest sets of clubs, found in a closet next to the Hoover. The clubs once belonged to Robert Sager. He and his brother Edvard built a golf course and started playing at about the time play started in the US.**

The Sagers were one of Sweden's wealthiest families around the turn of 20th century. They built the Sager house in Stockholm, which is now the residence of Sweden's Prime Minister.

The brothers Edvard and Robert owned the Ryfors estate in southwestern Sweden. They had an English park and a golf course laid out and play started in 1888.

Edvard was keener on golf than his brother. He was one of the founders of Stockholms Golfklubb in 1904. Robert also played although not as much. His newly found clubs are in nearly mint condition.

His clubs came to light after Society member Leif Einarsson met Count Adam Moltke-Huitfeldt, owner of the Margretelund estate, next to Ryfors. Margretelund used to belong to Robert Sager. Leif asked Adam if he had seen any traces of golf in the house. Adam soon called back and said, yes,



Two new early golf photographs have also been found in Ryfors. This picture, from 1910, shows Edvard Sager (right) putting on the home green, right next to the English cottage (in the picture above). The player to the left is unknown.

there are some clubs here in a closet under the stairs.

The most interesting clubs in the bag are a W. Park bulger driver, a W. Park offset blade putter and three smooth-faced irons, two from W. Park and one from Anderson of Anstruther. David Kirkwood helped us date the clubs from about 1885 to 1895. So some of them are a few years younger than the golf course.

When Adam realized the importance of the clubs he kindly agreed to lend them to the Swedish Golf Museum, where they now reside.