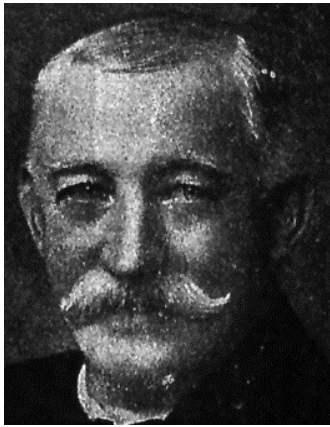


WILLIAM LACEY



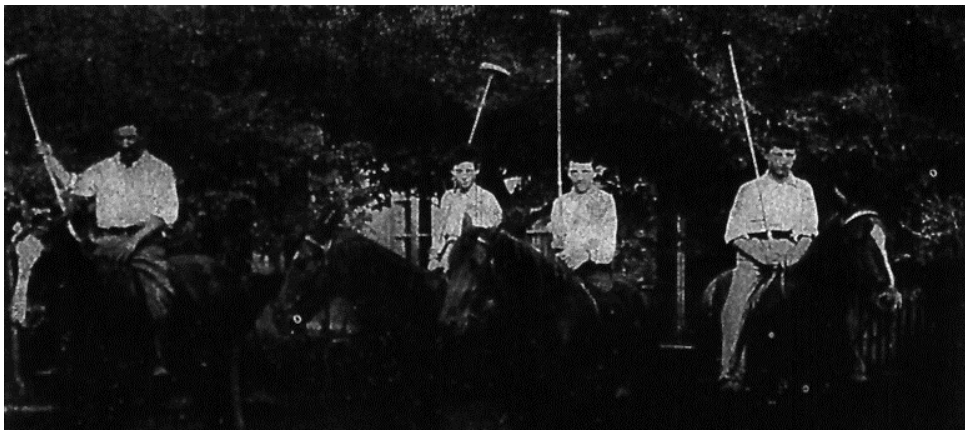
William, nickname 'Rake' was born 1861 into a family of framework knitters in Keyworth the son of George and Sarah Lacey and became only the fifth ever batsman to score a century for Keyworth CC in 1906 and received a call to play for the Notts Colts against the County XI in 1882. He turned professional to play in the Lancashire League and with Grantham CC and was the 'professional' at Oundle School before moving with his family in 1887 to Montreal in Canada to coach and play. When he was 28 years old, William was appointed to the post of Manager/Coach at the newly formed Hurlingham Sports Club in Buenos Aires, Argentina (named after the London club) and he became very influential in the development of the club as a premier place of sport in the city

and William played in the very first cricket match at Hurlingham on 5 January 1890 and made the top score of 22 not out against a Buenos Aires CC XI.

William became known as the "Wizard of Hurlingham", an architect, builder, organizer supreme, instigator of improvements, manager and sportsman. He was a friend to everybody in good and bad times and frequently consulted by all who lived in the area. His energy, enthusiasm and capacity for organization were legendary and embodied the true spirit of the Hurlingham Club with his example of how to win and lose and most importantly how to play the game, so said the Argentine-English language newspaper 'The Standard'.

At the forefront of the development of Argentine Polo, he became a more than competent polo player himself but was eventually outshone by his son Lewis who went on to become one of Argentina's greatest ever Polo players and together they founded a renowned sports shop known as Lacey & Sons and became relatively wealthy.

An adventurous man of great ability, the Hurlingham Club of Argentina honours William in their history and his son Lewis Lacey (pictured right) was recently added to the USA Museum of Polo fame - he was also the first person ever to market and sell polo shirts with a polo player logo - through the family sports shop which was opened in 1920 and 52 years before Ralph Lauren launched their shirt & logo. William is (pictured below) with his three sons, ready to play polo.



WILLIAM LACEY continued

Lewis, or 'Luis' as he was better known in Argentine and Polo circles, born 17 February 1887 in Montreal, Canada, returned to fight in WWI and served in the King Edward Horse Cavalry regiment in France and Belgium rising to the rank of Captain. Lewis mixed in 'society' circles (photo right) and when he married in August 1925, HRH Prince Edward, the Prince of Wales attended his reception at the Hurlingham Club in Buenos Aires. Lewis always remained a Canadian citizen and died in 1966, he played a couple of games for KCC during the 1907 season.



William George Lacey the second son was born in Argentina and also came back to the UK to serve as a pilot in the RAF and was decorated with the Military Cross. He was reported missing in action one week before Armistice was signed in November 1918 believed to have been shot down, the third son was Charles.

In the 'History of the Hurlingham Club of Buenos Aires' (founded 1888) it is recorded that William Lacey designed the first ever Golf Course in Argentina, 9 holes at the Hurlingham Club inaugurated in 1892.

William Lacey played football at wing half back between 1882 & 1885 for Keyworth FC as they were known then. In those teams were William 'Dick' Attewell the legendary Keyworth, Nottinghamshire CCC & England bowler who was also a good enough footballer to be chosen to represent the Notts FA in those times and Arthur Pike, wicket keeper for Keyworth & Nottinghamshire CCC who also played football for Nottingham Forest FC. William's brothers, Samuel (born 1857) and Alfred (born 1859) both played cricket and football for Keyworth.

William retired from Buenos Aires in 1925 and moved back to England and initially lived in West Bridgford before buying a house in Debdale Lane, Keyworth which he had built and named 'Hurlingham Lodge', He was a Vice President of Keyworth Cricket Club (1924-29).

William died 14 December 1932 and the event was recorded with stories of his extraordinary life in local Nottingham newspapers.

William Lacey's Keyworth career statistics...

	Mat	Inns	NO	HS	Runs	Ave	6's	Ovrs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts	Ave	Ct	St
1 st XI	50	45	7	101*	606	15.95		39	12	97	7	13.86	4	2
2 nd XI	4	4	0	19	30	7.50							2	2
Youth XI	2	3	0	6	9	3.00		3	0	17	1	17.00		
CAREER	56	52	7	101*	645	14.33		42	12	114	8	14.25	6	4