



Vintage, Sunbeam Golf Ball Dimple Rubber Core.

Sold



REF: 27355

Diameter: 4 cm (1.6")

## Description

'Sunbeam' Dimple Golf Ball.

A good example of an early dimple patterned rubber core golf ball. The golf ball is in good condition and is manufactured by Capon Heaton & Co., Ltd., Birmingham, England. The ball is marked 'Sunbeam' on both poles and is with a deep dimple pattern.

The ball is approximately 1 11/16 inch in diameter (4.3 cm).

The rubber core ball (the ancestor of the modern ball) began its life in the late 1890's. The first mass produced rubber core ball was by Coburn Haskell of Cleveland, Ohio. The first core balls were hand wound with elastic thread with a Gutta-percha cover, moulded with the raised square mesh pattern of their predecessor. The slight irregularities in the early wound balls made them quite lively, it was not until the invention of the automatic winding machine by John Gammeter (an engineer at Goodrich) and the change of pattern from mesh to bramble that the balls became more consistent and predictable.

Capon Heaton & Co., Ltd., Hazelwell Rubber Mills, Birmingham, England, Established 1835. Hazelwell Mill was established in the late 17th century to grind corn for the sub-manor of Hazelwell in Kings Norton. In about the mid 18th century it was converted to the boring of gun barrels. The boring and grinding of gun barrels continued into the latter half of the 19th century.

1892 Partnership dissolved, Capon, Heaton and Co, india rubber goods manufacturer.

1892 Harry Heaton junior gained a patent for pneumatic or hollow elastic tyres for cycles, etc.

Presumably around this time formed a joint venture Tubeless Pneumatic Tyre and Capon Heaton Ltd.

1895 Capon Heaton moved from the second mill at Lifford and extended the buildings considerably.

By 1904 the earlier watermill had been demolished.

1937 British Industries Fair Advert as Manufacturers of Moulded, Mechanical and other Rubber Goods.

Special technical advice available for any unusual applications of rubber required by customer.

1964 Company acquired by Avon India Rubber Co.

Taken from Grace's Guide To British Industrial History.