



Antique Patent Handle Cricket Bat, Nicolls  
Gray-Nicolls

Sold



REF: 28740

Height: 87 cm (34.3")

Width: 11 cm (4.3")

Depth: 6 cm (2.4")

## Description

Vintage Nicolls Patent Handle Cricket Bat.

A good Nicolls willow cricket bat 'Patent Automatic Handle'. The writing on the two shoulders reads: 'NICOLLS', whilst on the blade 'Patent Automatic Handle', 'Selected'. 'The Automatic Bat Handle' was patented by LJ Nicolls in the late 1880's, a novel method of making a bat handle by using a curve profile to join two halves of the handles.

A good looking bat with nice patina and cord grip.

L.J. Nicolls, a carpenter by trade, started making bats in 1875 in his workshop in East Sussex (Robertsbridge). These hand made bats were of good quality wood and were well made, quickly making a reputation for himself, from this small beginning the bat factory came to life. Nicolls supplied W.G. Grace with his record-breaking bat with which he scored his 100th century and made 1000 runs in May 1894. From 1926 to 1939 the Nicolls Bat Factory continued to flourish and was famous for its bats all over the world of cricket, but the second World War (WWII) brought changes and the firm merged with H.J. Gray and Sons Ltd and thus became Gray-Nicolls Ltd.