

TRIANGUL[▲]AI[▲]D[®]



The natural way

● Bill Owens

Bill Owens

The natural way

© TRIANGULAID
Triangulaid Golf Center,
26 bis Rue des Peupliers
92100 Boulogne Billancourt
www.triangulaid.com
www.golfeducatif.org



Professional golfer Bill Owens moved to France in 1991. Shortly afterwards he created the Triangulaid method. Based on sensations, balance and co-ordination this approach allows everyone to find their natural swing and therefore to play golf very quickly.

I first met Bill in 1993. In 1995 I decide to leave my job as Director of Development for the Bistro Romain group in order to turn Pro. When Bill learnt of my intentions, he told me about his socio-educational project, based on civic and environmental education. Fascinated by his ultra pragmatic philosophy, I suddenly realised that golf (my lifelong passion) could be the answer to “our” lack of solutions!

In fact, it’s one of the best ways to teach moral and civic education (like all sports you might say!) although it is not a sport but a game, filled with values and virtues. This is what makes it accessible to everyone and not just to sportsmen. As a matter of fact, golf is probably “the” game for all sportsmen!

Playing helps to reconsolidate the rules, to stop war, and to recreate a social bond between different kinds of people.

Redefining the fundamental principles (for oneself and for the game) thanks to a personal instruction guide, will inevitably boost group behaviour. I believe it therefore essential to put the game back into our daily lives.

A lot has happened since this book was written in 1997. The project is called “Educational Golf” but it’s no longer a project! Each week, as part of their school syllabus, hundreds of children from 18 different towns teach themselves to play, replant trees on waste or uncultivated land and are proud of their actions. Some have even found employment in this new domain.

I’m sure that you’ll look at the game differently after reading this short story, which I hope you’ll go on to share with as many people as possible.

Ready to play?
How about Golf...?

Stéphane Bachoz
European Tour Golf Coach



In 24 hours I'd be on my way...

I'd heard so much about this new teaching concept that I knew I'd have to try it sooner or later. My friends, who'd already done the "*clinic*", had all improved their game. It's maddening to see the pleasure they take in playing now and although I'd tried to find out more about the "*Triangle*" by bribing them with drinks, none of them had told me anything. Guess they're all scared I'd play better than them!

In 24 hours...

I'd reserved four weeks ago. Four long weeks... they'd beaten me every time we'd played. I'd been laden down with work until now and this was the first opportunity I could find to go for the clinic. According to Gilles, one of my friends who followed the clinic, the first day would be hard going but if I could make it through both days, my life would change radically, as it had for them all. What a load of codswallop, although they are all playing better than me now! Patrick is a new man and even his wife has started playing, and Thierry had won all the tournaments since the beginning of the year. I absolutely had to do this clinic.

I'd reserved a room at the local hotel thanks to Anne-Cécile, the golf club's receptionist. Everything was planned. I'd arrive on Friday evening and would have time to read through some press articles on Bill (received from my

contacts in the media) to help me discern the character. The following weekend it would be my turn to beat my friends, thanks to my new natural swing. I know Thierry's playing well at the moment but my game is much stronger than the other two. I desperately needed to turn things around. "Bill has 2 days!"

For the last three years I'd tried to play this stupid sport. I'd never once played my handicap apart from when Gilles kindly changed the 12 I'd scored on the sixteenth hole to a 7 so that I could get my handicap. Well... isn't that what everyone does? Especially when you need a handicap in order to enter competitions, which I love doing, even though I haven't managed to improve my index as yet.

"Bill has 2 days!"

We began playing at the same time, Gilles, Patrick, Thierry and I, but now the 3 pains-in-the-neck, who did the clinic at the beginning of the year, have improved and Gilles has a 26 handicap, Patrick a 24 and Thierry, the creep, a 16. I'm still at 35 and whenever I arrive at the driving range they're fooling around and hitting balls as if they're from another planet! Why did I have so much going on this winter? While they were off doing the clinic, I was in Senegal with some diplomat talking about the weather. I can't even remember his name now.

"Bill has 2 days!" I'd said goodbye to my wife, driven across Paris, and arrived at the hotel at 7pm after three hours of traffic jams (what a nightmare journey). Enough time to eat early, clean my shoes and continue reading the articles on Bill. He who will save my golfing career! My friends told me not to pay too much attention to what he had to say about the future for fear that I'd try to stand for President! But that was the last thing I had in mind. I finished my glass of Bordeaux and went up to my room. This weekend was serious business, no more alcohol for me.

Bill's been living in France since early 1991, according to the golf magazine. Apparently one day on the course he had a "eureka" moment and ever since he's been trying to pass the "Triangle" on to everyone. There's that word again! Maybe we're off to Bermuda for the clinic or something!

He came here on a nine-month contract to teach for a Dutch organisation. Hidden away in a tiny club in the "Perche" countryside (west of Paris), his teaching method didn't attract much notice from golf magazines apart from one in May 1992 who headlined "The pro invents the Triangle". He remained in the "Perche" until the end of 1992, moving to a club closer to Paris in November. Like most clubs built at the end of the eighties there was nothing different about it. Not enough members, not enough visitors or green fees... the same old story!

While he was there he made a film, but apart from the club members no one ever saw it. No one would accept that he had apparently found a way to help everyone find his or her very own natural swing. Those with authority told him that it just wasn't possible, that a golf swing was extremely technical and difficult to master. I'd tried to see the film, but my "friends" who'd got hold of it, wouldn't let me. They convinced me that I had to do the clinic first. No problem. I'd buy the film myself during the weekend and use it afterwards. There would be no rest for me this weekend. I was here to concentrate so as to beat my "enemies" when I returned!

Bill left that golf club at the beginning of 1995, after numerous management changes and moved to Holland where he tried to promote his method, without success. In summer, back in France, he began running small clinics here and there, and little by little people started talking about him. Obviously I'd heard about him via other club members who'd had lessons with him and now I was on the verge of discovering my own natural swing, like a professional one. Honestly, if Gilles was capable then I definitely am!

I woke up in fine form, grabbed my things and went to the club to meet Pierre (Bill's assistant) who introduced me to the others doing the clinic over coffee and hot croissants.



We all moved on to the conference room, which had a spectacular view over the 18th hole and the putting green, where a few players were practicing before starting their round. There were about twenty people waiting to tee off at the first tee. The quaint and cosy clubhouse was typically British.

Anne-Cécile had told me that the clinic started at 9am on the first day, but with 18 people in the group it was more like 9.20am by the time everybody arrived. Florence, Parisian (who are known for being late), didn't seem to appreciate Bills' British humour when he announced that the last person to arrive had to buy a round of drinks for the group at lunch.

The **Triangulaid** phenomenon wasn't just a French thing. The group was truly international. Pierre presented the two-day programme and then asked us to introduce

ourselves, stating where we were from and our level of play. Bill soon understood that he was going to have to speak French and English, however it didn't seem to bother him. Even though his French was not perfect he seemed comfortable when speaking. He was obviously used to doing this!

When it was my turn I shared the story about the progress of my three friends and my frustration with it. It was really funny. Pierre remembered the three musketeers (well, who wouldn't!) and although Bill had difficulty in recalling their names he told us he was capable of remembering the faces and swings of all his students. We soon understood, from his short introduction, that he was not here to learn our names but to help us discover our natural swing. I could live with that. The most important thing, as far as I was concerned, is to learn what my friends learned and to be able to hit the balls with the same consistency as them. Just as Gilles had suggested, Bill told us that we had to give it two days in order to succeed otherwise we might as well leave right now. No one moved! We all remained in our seats around the table. Paper and pens, bottles of water and glasses. Smokers together, all was well. Despite the sunshine outside and a good weather forecast for the weekend, Bill thought it would rain the following morning. Who cared! I'd packed my waterproof trousers and my umbrella in my bag.



It was 11.30am by the time we headed for the driving range! During the two hours spent in the conference room, Bill had explained how we would find our natural swing and how he'd been trying to make **Triangulaid** known for the last 6½ years. He also said that it wasn't easy for him because on the one hand he was not French and on the other hand golf was not as big in France as it was in other countries. I knew exactly what he meant, as the club I belong to was in difficulty and urgently needed new members. Visibly fed up with everyone's reaction and after years of trying to get his message across Bill was leaving for another country, which was interested in helping him develop **Triangulaid**, and our group was one of his last ones. Thank goodness I'd reserved a while ago. I found myself smirking at the idea that others would now have to pay a fortune in travel fees to take Bill's clinic.

We'd entered the conference room holding our 6 irons. I rushed for my pen as soon as I saw that the others were busy noting down Bill's explanation on how to handle the grip. I didn't want to miss a thing and luckily I was able to watch and write simultaneously, thanks to my job. I was worried about my new set of clubs, which I had left outside the clubhouse, even though Pierre had tried to convince me that they were safe there and that all the others taking part in the clinic had left theirs there too. I decided that the next day I'd take my bag with me if we came back there!

We would see what happened.



Apart from one or two people who had difficulty in placing their hands correctly on the club (despite the time Pierre and Bill spent with them) the rest, including me, comfortably followed the instructions concerning the grip.

It was easier than I had imagined. Standing helped me to appreciate the sensations in my toes, as they said it would, especially for someone who spends the majority of his time with his bum attached to his car seat. I did in fact have better balance in that part of my anatomy, especially (as my wife always tells me) when we were on the beach! Actually it was all her fault that I'd taken up this stupid sport, or should I now say "game" as Bill insisted. According to him this confusion could well have been the cause of its lack of popularity in France. If people referred to golf as a game there'd obviously be more golf players. Logical!

I did as we were told and took the club shaft loosely in my right hand, before positioning my left hand correctly on the grip. Keeping the club head at eye level and the leading-edge vertical (1), without



touching the end of the grip, I was able to coordinate the back of my left hand with the angle of the club face (2).

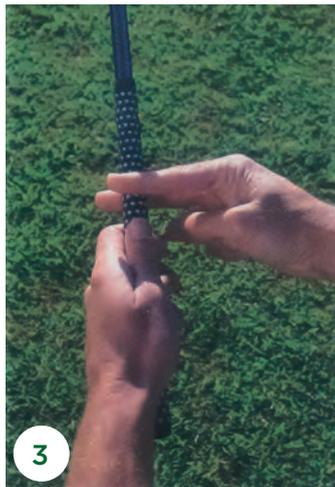
I was also fine with putting my thumb and index at the same level on the grip (3), which reduces tension in the left forearm.

Bill told us that the first error golfers make, was to place their left thumb beneath the index on the grip (for right-handers) (4).

Personally I'd always put the little finger of my right hand (5), in the small space between the index and middle finger of my left hand, with the grip in the fingers of my right hand (6).

I had no problems in hiding my left thumb with my right palm in order to make a "V" towards my chin with my right thumb and index (7).

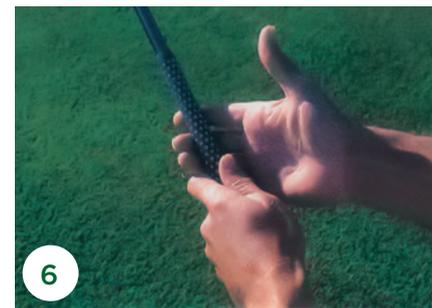
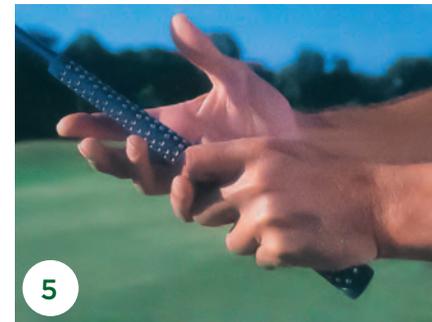
For a moment I thought this must be the "Triangle" that everyone was talking about, but I soon realised from what Pierre was saying, that



the explanation about the "Triangle" was planned for the next day.

The grip and all the indications were easy to understand, but how much pressure one should apply was less clear. Bill and Pierre therefore went round the group pushing and pulling on our club heads so that we could feel the lack of tension in our arms and shoulders, as well as in our facial expressions. In order for the golf club head to

play its role, we had to leave it to lead us and not try and direct it ourselves. This was repeated to us over and over again. The club was an extension of our arm and we should just feel our toes, the grip and the club head, nothing else! They also explained that in order to really appreciate the power of the material we should just imagine that we were walking. "Don't look up or down, just look straight in front of you". Bill cast an eye at us, and we all laughed when he said that since



living in Paris he was sometimes obliged to look down otherwise he'd spend his life treading in dog mess! As it happened, just last week I was walking along the Champs Elysees when...

But that was another story.

We repeatedly practiced the grip position. I actually think I was the first to feel at ease with it, for neither Bill nor Pierre looked my way nor had anything to say about the way I was holding my club. I was really proud when they presented my grip to the group as being a perfect example. There was no releasing my hands now! We headed off for the driving range. It wasn't easy going down the stairs gripping my club, but I relaxed when I saw my trolley, bag and clubs. I put my club in my bag and waited for Pierre's next instructions.

"You only need one club so leave the rest here", Pierre said. What? Leave my clubs here, alone all morning? However, with eighteen sets of clubs, even if some were half-sets and rented, the majority of our group had pro material. So I hid my trolley and golf bag as



best I could behind the others, hoping that if any clubs were to go missing the others would attract attention rather than mine.

I caught up with the group on the way to the driving range practicing my grip, which I'd lost in all the confusion. Peter a clergyman who would obviously have difficulty in playing on a Sunday was on my left, and Florence was on my right. Being that she was buying drinks at lunchtime I should probably introduce myself! Bill asked us to leave our balls on the practice mat and to join him on the driving range *"The way you finish is a thousand times more important than your actual swing"*, said Bill, who asked us to take up the positions



we practiced inside; moving straight to the finishing position without the swing (8). It took some of the group over ten minutes to feel comfortable enough to be able to continue like that all day. It was grip and finish, grip and finish! Us right-handers had to place the shaft on our left shoulder when finishing, by putting all our body weight on the left-hand side. Some of the group needed to position their left foot very wide open in order to find

their balance and a correct finishing position. Mine was almost 45° open in order to compensate for my lack of flexibility! (9). I found the position comfortable. Grip and finish, grip and finish! I had a tendency to release my grip too soon and Pierre told me to be careful, as it could become problematic.

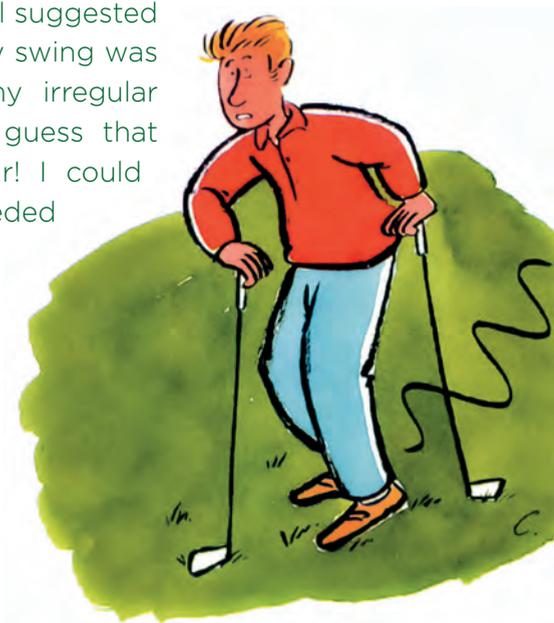
"You need to maintain the same pressure, as light as possible, from start to finish", Bill said. Apparently, if I let go before the end it was because I hold on too tight during impact. I needed to be careful. Ok, I'd work on it. Although I quietly reminded myself to maintain the same light pressure throughout, I still continued to let go slightly before the end each time.



I would beat this! *"Hold the finishing position seven seconds which corresponds with your ball's trajectory",* said Bill. Seven seconds! A lifetime! The longest ball I had ever hit stayed five seconds in the air and that was during my holiday last year when I played on the coast and my ball fell off a cliff...!

"Seven seconds, whether you hit the ball or not, seven seconds" as he'd already told us inside, the way we walk rhythms our swing. Apparently I could no longer walk slowly towards the ball and hit it like a maniac as I was used to doing.

After a few tries, Bill suggested that the pace of my swing was perhaps due to my irregular way of walking. I guess that was British humour! I could do this. I just needed to stop thinking about what I was doing. The rest of the group were busy working on their swing, particularly those who didn't care about the number of divots they turned up!



"Look straight ahead", said Bill, but since I'd hit the cement surrounding the practice mat with my old clubs two years ago I was always scared of hitting the ground too hard. The whole group had mastered their natural, fluid, elegant swing, and the dream finishing position, except for Florence and I.

"Now comes the hard part", Bill said.

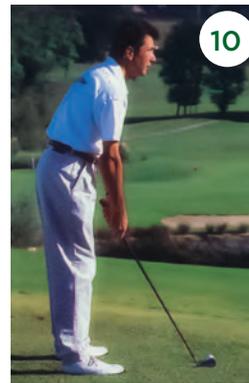


22

It's crazy how a small white rubber ball can change things. Insane! Since I started playing golf three years ago (if you can call it playing), I had always been told to watch the ball (logical) and now I had to remind myself not to watch it. How confusing! How come the others had grasped it and not me?

Oh, I forgot, Florence was having problems too!

We all watched Bill and Pierre's demonstration. They explained that we should listen to the sound of our club head hitting our ball (without watching the ball or closing our eyes) while looking straight ahead (10). *"Continue looking straight ahead when you make your back swing (11). Don't look back, and let your eyes and your head turn naturally forward thanks to the centrifugal force of the club head. Even if your club head doesn't hit the ball you must maintain the finishing position for seven seconds"* (12), Bill said.



23

That was easy for him to say, but I'd rather hit the ball. I just couldn't hit the ball when I wasn't watching it. I probably missed it by about 50cm each time. Pierre suggested that I stepped back 10cm from the ball, and off it soared! He promised me that it was my club that hit the ball, I didn't see it, but he did!

The sound of the clubs hitting the balls resembled a military firing range... apart from Florence's and mine! Even though we managed to hit one or two, coordination didn't seem to be our major asset. Michel-Ange, three practice mats down from me, was having a whale

of a time!! All his balls were perfect and a couple of people had stopped to watch him. Why did black people have better rhythm than white people?

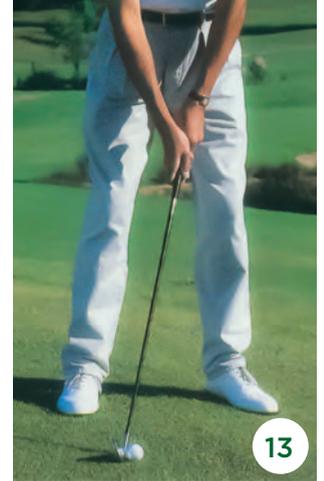
It intrigued me.



We carried on for about ten minutes then Pierre and Bill asked us to regroup and relax. They explained the correct address positions for a "pitching wedge" through to a 5 iron. The ball position for right-handers was opposite the inside of the right knee! (13).

That was a novelty for me as I'd always played with the ball opposite the inside of my left heel. That was probably why they put the rubber tees in the right holes on the practice mats!

The golf shot they were teaching us was the natural "draw".

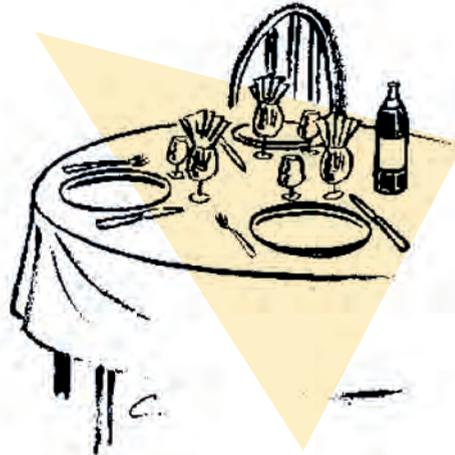




It wasn't going to be as easy as I thought it would be back in the conference room when I did my demonstration. I'd taken a big step backwards... Just my luck! I remained quite sceptical because I'm only capable of slicing. They advised us to keep our eye on the ball and take five steps back from it (like preparing for a penalty kick), whilst remaining in alignment with the "ball - to target". We should use the grip that they showed us earlier and walk towards the ball, just watching it. Right foot, left foot, right foot, left foot, then club-head presentation at the same time as the right foot (14). From my first step, my pace was irregular, which Florence seemed to find funny.



Michel-Ange was having problems but he was not the only one! It seemed that those who hit the ball well without looking at it had difficulty when they did, and vice-versa... Michel-Ange decided to continue practicing without looking at the ball, while Florence and I started getting a few encouraging results. After a few balls we went back to the Clubhouse, feeling quite relaxed. We all started chatting, pleased with what we'd done that morning. I'd still not let go of my grip!



Two tables had been reserved for our lunch and I found myself sitting next to my partner of the weekend (who didn't end up buying the drinks!).

Claude and Paule, the only couple in the group, were opposite me and Pierre was at the end of the table. Boris was talking to Jennifer, the American. Bill was sitting at the other table with Michel-Ange and some others. I asked Pierre why everyone was making such a fuss about Bill's ideas for the future, as personally I wasn't shocked by the idea of getting everyone playing golf. However, his reply shook me when he stressed that "everyone" was with a capital "E"...



We only needed about 100 members to keep our club going. Any more than that and we would need security guards to keep things under control. *“Exactly”* Pierre said *“Bill will soon be in a position to plead his case. Make sure to enrol your friends as soon as you get back, before it’s too late and everywhere’s full”*. His words increased my curiosity.

I’d buy Bill a pre-dinner drink that evening and ask him to explain why he wanted to get everyone playing golf. A friendly atmosphere settled around the table, especially after the wine was served. After her first glass, Jennifer, who was sitting to my right, became quite chilled-out, (which probably explained the great balls she hit in the afternoon!) An hour and a half later we climbed the stairs to the conference room and took up our seats. Ready for the afternoon’s talk.

“Until you are regularly able to hit 9 out of 10 balls there is no point in going on the course, except for your own pleasure,” Bill said. Florence and I who had trouble in hitting two out of ten imagined spending a miserable summer only practicing.

Technique! I’m sick of technique! I had all the books, all the videos; I’ve even got the T-shirts!

They actually called me *“Mr Technique”* at the club!



"Those who are struggling in feeling the club-head will work with those who can this afternoon", Bill said. Adding: "Someone is bound to have the same style and way of walking as you. Use them to find your solution. Watch their pace, observe their rhythm".

I'd been next to Florence since the beginning of the clinic, and it was the right time to change, but how could I be next to Michel-Ange without losing face? Florence and I headed for the practice practically hand in hand, and resumed the exact same positions as that morning!

"This afternoon, bring all your gear", Pierre said.

"You'll have the opportunity to use your woods later-on." The three beginners of the group, Jean-François, his son Tony, and Bruce the Australian were impatient to learn how we'd use them. Seeing how they hit their balls in the morning, I was convinced this method was reserved for beginners. They already hit the ball as well as my three golfing friends. Three years. I'd wasted three years!



I couldn't wait for the putting session. Revenge!

We continued practicing like we had that morning. Not looking at the ball until we had actually hit it. Finding our own pace by taking five steps and changing clubs if required.

"The back of your left hand must correspond with the angle of the club face between the pitching wedge and the 5 iron" Bill advised. "Yes but what about with the 3 & 4 irons or with my favourite 5 wood?" I asked.

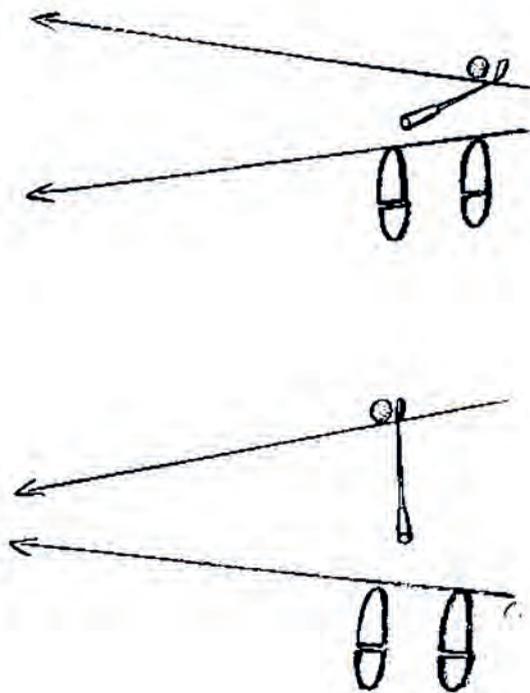


"Don't say yes but", Pierre said "Bill is fed up with people saying yes but".

I decided to keep my 6 iron so as not to create any more hassle for myself, and to keep to my plan of returning to the basics and not looking at the ball, but I had yet to feel the club head.

I went to watch the others in order to loosen up a bit, but it didn't help! I got the impression that it was only Florence and I who were in trouble. Jean-François, an army general, and his son had taken two days off to come on the clinic and they were doing great. Their military background surely helped the tempo with which they walked towards the ball. One, two, three, four, five, backswing and "whoosh" went the ball! A sense of competitiveness was felt amongst members of the group. I needed to distance myself from Florence!

"Focus on your finishing position when using clubs between the pitching wedge and the 5 iron", Bill said. "From the 4 iron onwards, that's to say for the longer clubs, if you move the ball towards your left foot, your grip strength and physical involvement increase. They correspond to the way you hold the club."



With the driver, use all your strength and only concentrate on the point of impact between the club and the ball".

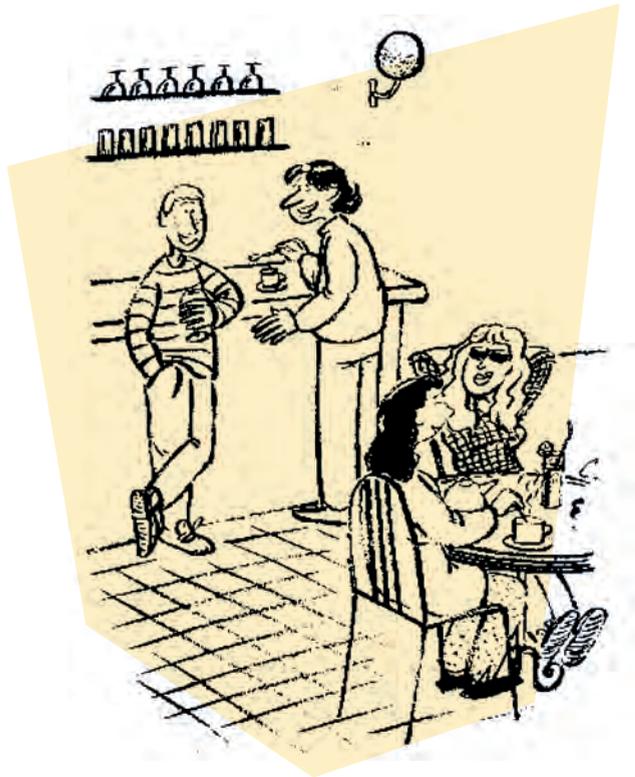


Understood!
I'd ask Pierre to go through it again with me later!

I didn't want to interrupt with a "Yes but" again, as Bill reacted quite violently to anyone who responded like that. It was better to say "yes" or "no", as opposed to doubting his word. Pierre concentrated on Florence and me, especially on our grip and finish.



At that moment, a few group members decided to go and play a couple of holes. Already? The day had flown by. Towards the end, tired, I realised that it was no longer my body in command but the club head and I slowly sensed a change in the trajectory of my ball, which managed to remain 5 seconds in the air. I needed to beat my record or I'd be doomed to playing off a cliff for life!



Florence suggested it was time for a drink and we headed off with some other group members to appreciate the warm atmosphere of the Clubhouse. Bill was more relaxed at the bar. Taking advantage of his proximity, I asked Peter and Florence if they'd heard Pierre talking at lunch about Bill's will to get the whole world playing golf. Bill took the bait and said: "We are all concerned about the future, and not just short term!" before adding that golf teaches us three fundamentals:

RESPECT, ETIQUETTE AND HUMILITY.



"Firstly, respect for nature, for others, for the environment and the evolution of technology. Secondly, etiquette towards our golfing partners and life's little rules and thirdly humility because you can't beat golf.

You can't beat nature and above all you can't fight with yourself. Effectively, no one can play eighteen holes in one out of eighteen holes!!"

He repeatedly talked about the necessity to plant trees and build golf courses wherever possible thus improving the environment. Doing as such would actually help fight against water and air pollution, as well as global warming.

"We live in a society whose population is concerned for the future of their children, grand-children and all future generations" Bill said. "My golf method is based on opposites. One day, thanks to the development of **Triangulaid**, I will be able to speak openly about these opposites and the world will find a better way to use the land, to create employment and finally have hope for the future!" That got all our attention! Jean-Francois and Tony came back from the putting green and Bill continued talking as we nursed drinks in our hands.



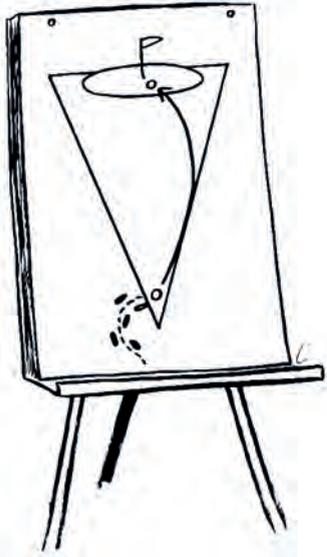
He'd started **Triangulaid** at a club near Paris and gained a number of media and political contacts. He'd also had a fantastic reaction from a famous Tour Operator to whom he had recently proposed his clinics. But Bill found it hard to adapt to the mentality of the French "system", which is why he was leaving France to spread his word in other countries. I could obviously help him, but I needed to know more. It was already half-past seven! The whole group were back at the clubhouse. René had played a couple of holes with Michel-Ange, Anikka and Bruce. Listening to them talk about what great balls they'd hit frustrated me. After all, I was there to play golf. Bill left and I stayed on with the rest of the group.



Three beers later it was time to leave. Luckily the hotel was close by and I could leave my car in the Golf club's car park. I took my 6 iron, left the rest of the clubs with the caddy master and headed for my room. I intended to practice my grip without thinking too much about the opposites. Dinner, two glasses of Bordeaux, a slice of cheese and I was in bed. I didn't have coffee so as

not to have trouble sleeping. I needed to be on form for the “triangle” the following day. With all the excitement of the day I couldn’t remember falling asleep, but

it must have been pretty quick as I woke up still in my T-shirt with my 6 iron next to me! Oh dear! I’d forgotten to call my wife... It was too early to call so I’d do it from the clubhouse later. The first thing that came to mind when eating my breakfast was the “opposites”. My hands were sore but that’s normal. I’d never hit as many balls in one day as I did yesterday .

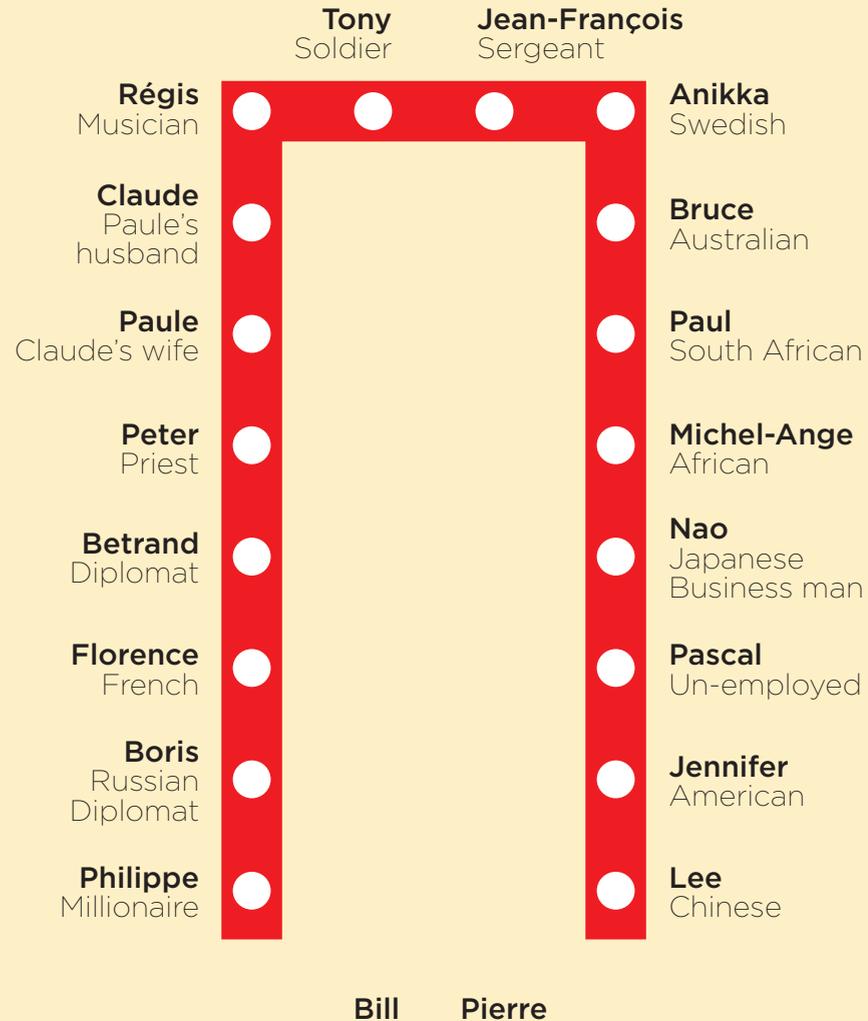


Outside it was raining but it seemed to be clearing. The weather forecast was good but Bill had his doubts.

We all met up in the conference room. Florence was late again, although only by ten minutes, and everyone clapped when she arrived. She blushed and sat down. Pierre continued:

“When you’re behind your ball, you need to calculate a margin of error around your target, depending on your level of play”, he explained whilst drawing a diagram of two axes on the paperboard. We all copied it down.

Conference Room



Driving Range



ANIKKA



BERTRAND



BORIS



REGIS



FLORENCE



JEAN-FRANÇOIS



NAO



PAUL



PAULE & CLAUDE

Philippe

Claude

Paule

Michel-Ange

Boris

Peter

Bertrand

Florence

Régis

Lee

Tony

Anikka

Bruce

Paul

Jean-François

Jennifer

Pascal

Nao



LEE



MICHELANGE



PASCAL



PETER



PHILIPPE



BRUCE

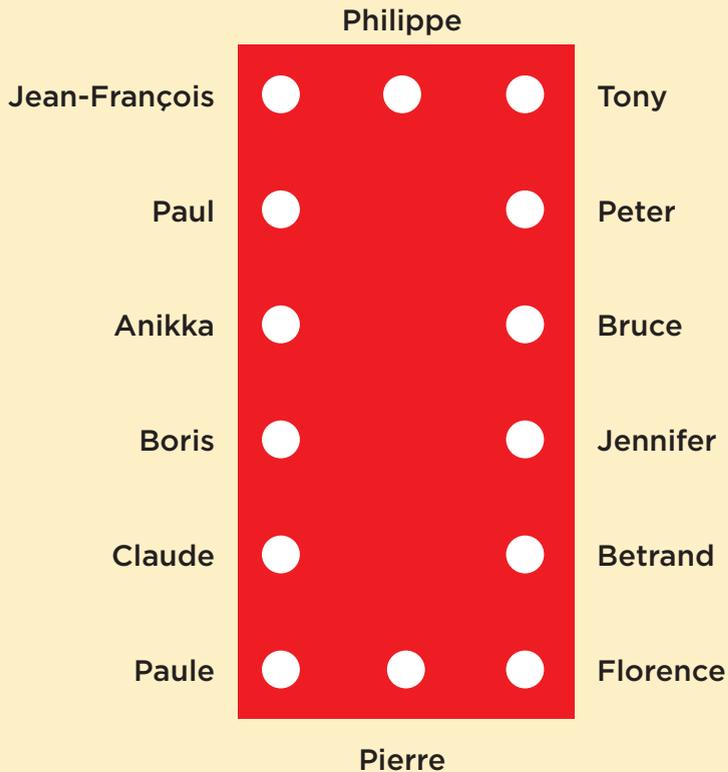
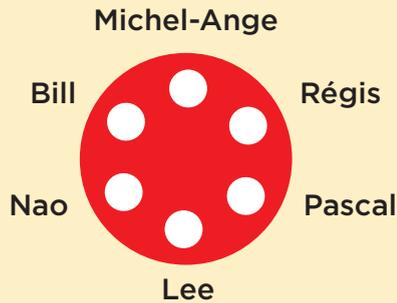


TONY



JENNIFER

Lunch table plan



“The left hand side of your triangle (for right hand-ers’) corresponds to the alignment of your body, the right hand side to your swingplane”. (15)



They laid two clubs on the floor and explained that our toes, knees, hips and shoulders (16) should be parallel with the left side...



and that the movement made by the club head (17), that’s to say your swingplane, with the right side.

“Parallel lines do not exist”, Bill said.

“No-one is capable of creating a swing in which the club head remains on the ball to target line”. His explanation on the parallel line theory, combined with a vertical movement, means that everything we’ve read about that until now was inaccurate, and far from the truth. Except perhaps for robots!

“With a natural swing, the spin made when the face of the club hits the ball creates a trajectory which is called a “draw”.



“As in football, tennis, rugby, basketball or any other sport that uses a projectile, over and above a certain distance, the spin is more important than anything else”.

Jean-Francois confirmed that the same applied to bullets where spin's concerned; otherwise they'd end up off target. We concentrated on the opposites, which are natural for all of us.

The alignment of our body must be left of target, which would incite us to swing the club more to the right. *“We need to forget about the target”.* Body to the left, swing to the right. Really



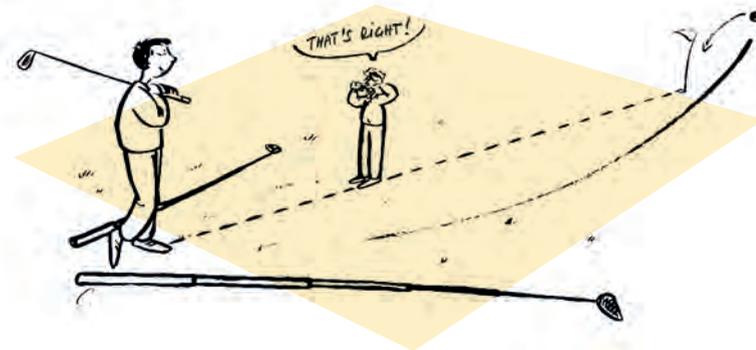
simple and easy to understand but would it work? In order to see the ball on a TV screen, with a natural swing, the cameraman needs to be behind the player, the target far ahead of him. At last I get

it! What really annoys me is when TV presenters say that a player hit the ball directly towards the target, when in fact it has only happened once in a lifetime!



Was this it? I was expecting something a bit more technical about the *“Triangle”*, but it was just body to the left, swing to the right! Florence and Lee, the Chinese lady, needed more plasters than anyone else but Pierre told us that Bill and he always needed to play doctor on the second day as well!

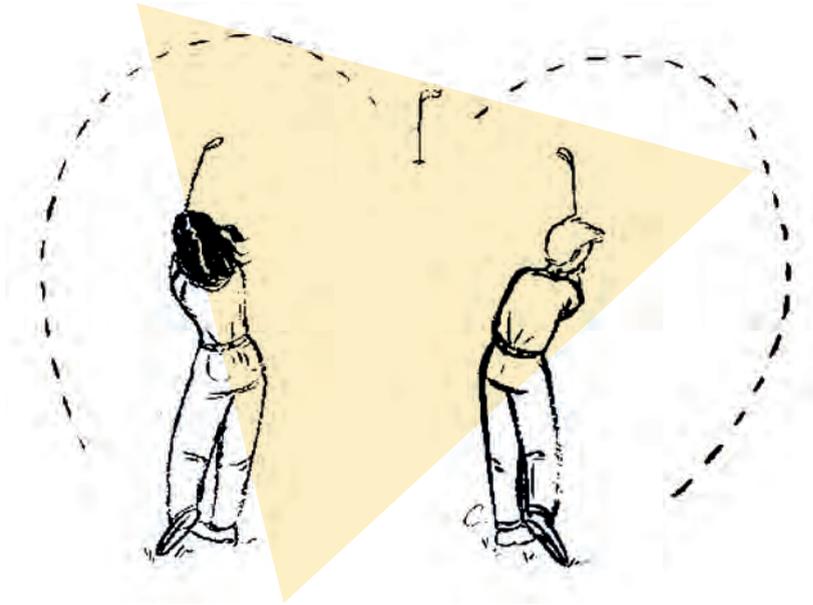
We practiced the same as we did on the first day. Grip and finish. Except for Michel-Ange who performed draw upon draw before I was even in position! Boris didn't quite get it, but he wasn't the only one. Bill and Pierre gathered us together to try and explain the *“Triangle”* principle once again.



Standing five metres in front of Pierre, on the ball-to-target line, Bill explained.

Pierre lined up to the left, made a swing to the right and the ball soared up, semi-circled Bill and landed perfectly behind him. Impressive! Would he be has confident standing there like that when it was my turn?

Along with the rest of the group, I started to picture the “draw”. The advice about not hitting the ball straight towards the target explained why amateurs had difficulty in finishing. My balls flew longer through the air



and I began to understand why the seven seconds were capital. Claude and Bruce, both left handers, managed superbly. The left-handed swing is so much more elegant than our right-handed ones!

Bill claimed that we drove on the wrong side of the road on this continent because of Napoleon, his British humour again!



His leading-eye theory was convincing and I had to accept his demonstration on how in France we showed more aptitude to overtaking on the inside lane rather than on the outside. Being that all right-handers were naturally balanced on the left, he couldn't be that wrong!

His respect for tradition and his explanation concerning the technical evolution of equipment today made it easier for us all to understand. Bill said *“It’s because technology has overtaken man today, that we are able to find our natural swing. By letting the equipment do its job we can create an almost professional swing. That’s also why previously players weren’t able to rely on their natural swings. Over the last fifteen years it’s hi-tech equipment that has allowed us to appreciate the benefits of a natural swing. Thanks to the new aerodynamics of the balls and the improved balance of larger club heads, we can now let the equipment play golf while we enjoy walking, competition and nature”.*



The fact that golf was an excellent way for younger generations to perform an outdoor activity, rather than remain in front of a screen all day, appealed to Claude and Paule. Their children preferred playing on the computer and lacked fresh air and nature, so they intended to get them playing golf as soon as they could. They were convinced that in the future their children would play golf instead of remaining glued to a computer screen.

Five hundred balls later, Florence was as happy as can be and pleased with the consistency and trajectory that her balls were taking. I however, was still struggling! With Pierre on one side of me and Michel-Ange on the



other, I couldn't go wrong! I'd watched them hit every one of their balls, but when I hit mine they looked the other way! I was improving though and beginning to feel my swing. My rhythm and pace were slower (I can always increase speed later on) and even though I'd lost a bit on length, my regularity had improved 100%.

"Forget the distance". "Just concentrate on your ball's trajectory". I was beginning to grasp his orders. We'd all found our natural swing. Pascal, whose clubs weren't right for him, was using mine supervised by Pierre.



Michel-Ange lived next to the golf club where I was a member and we'd arranged to play together next Wednesday. The atmosphere was wonderful as we all helped each other with our grips, finishing positions, address and the "Triangle". Amazing! Pierre filmed our work that morning and unfortunately his camera had a zoom. I thought about the afternoon activities and decided to concentrate a bit harder as I didn't want the others to notice my bad



habits. Boris exchanged with Jennifer and Peter while Paule and Peter discussed god knows what! She was probably preparing a mission to South Africa.

We all took the same seats as before at lunch, except for Bill, who changed places with Pierre. By the time Michel-Ange, Lee and I returned from getting a "Pastis", Bill and Florence were in deep conversation. We weren't aware that she worked for a publisher and that she had been commissioned to write a story on Bill and **Triangulaid**. Intrigued, I tried to eavesdrop.

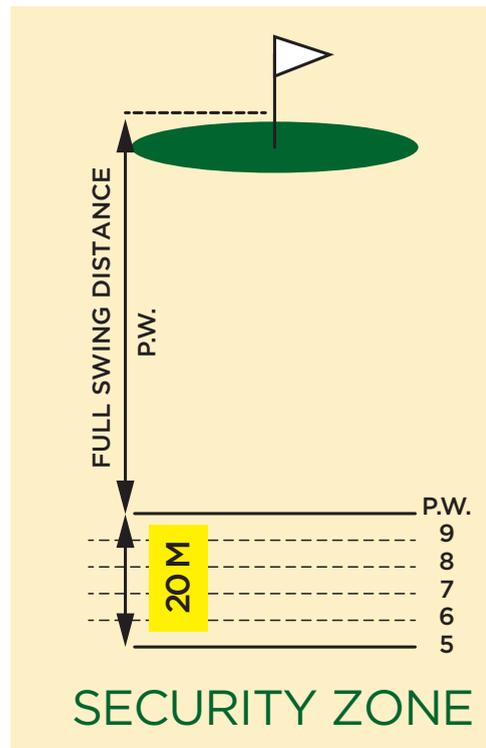
Everyone was talking about Bill's goal of getting the whole world playing golf. Why didn't Florence buy that round of drinks? It wouldn't have cost her anything. She was obviously on expenses! To my right Boris and Jennifer seemed to make the ideal couple. To my left, the discussion between Bill and Florence seemed serious so I decided to talk to Claude and Paule who were sitting opposite. Claude, a teacher, had decided to send a letter to the Minister of Education in order to promote and integrate **Triangulaid** in schools. Paule couldn't wait to get home to teach her children.

After our meal we took our coffee up to the conference room where we met Eric, a golf professional who had been working with Bill for two years. He'd come to explain the strategy behind playing correctly: breathing, speed, the before's and the after's, the weather, our personalities (based on how we reacted when sat in a traffic-jam), when to start, which ball to use... Aiming for a hole in the sky and watching the ball soar through the air.

What a lesson!



"Eliminate the short game", he told us with conviction. We'd already eliminated our bodies and our target, so why not eliminate the short game? Ok, understood! Leave a full swing from the pitching wedge to the 5 iron for the green. That meant that we all had our own security zone (perfectly explained by the drawings on the paperboard) and that we needed to be in this zone for our final-stroke. "You can always reach the green with a full swing, which isn't the case with a small shot", Eric said (this was why the players' divots are always in the same place during professional tournaments on TV).

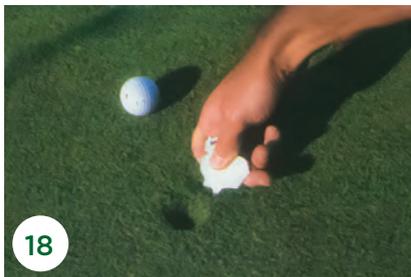


we needed to be in this zone for our final-stroke. "You can always reach the green with a full swing, which isn't the case with a small shot", Eric said (this was why the players' divots are always in the same place during professional tournaments on TV).

The strategy did it for me. All of a sudden I understood how my mates progressed so fast. I now appreciated why they played their short shots on the fair-

way while I used my 5 wood to try and get two hundred metres to the front of the green.

Finally, I understood why they had so much pride and fun repairing their “pitch marks” on the green (18). I always thought it was the worms that made the holes during the night! I’d no longer complain about the green keepers, that’s for sure, and guys... watch out, I’m back!!



After a short stop at the driving range we headed off to play three holes. I made two “pars” and a “bogey”. Michel-Ange had putting problems. Three putts per hole, although he reached the three greens in regulation each time (I wouldn’t be giving him any putts on Wednesday!) Boris played a couple of holes with Jennifer, while Peter, Paul, Jean-Francois and Tony played a six-hole game called “scramble” (what a name for a soldier!). The father and son won, but by the skin of their

teeth. I went to play with Claude, Paul and Pascal, who shared my clubs. I got the impression he really liked my material. Nao played with Philippe, the two businessmen, together. They probably discussed buying the golf



course! Michel-Ange was happy talking “Rhythm and Blues” and “Soul music” with Lee and Regis. The dream team, Annika and Bruce, scored three “birdies” while making small talk.

Florence, Bill and Eric left the course to talk about **Triangulaid**. I was convinced I’d miss some of their conversation while I played my three holes, but when I got back the three of them were there, busy hitting ball after ball (with a light draw) on the driving range. Pierre had gone back to the clubhouse to prepare the film and cocktail party.

“It’s better to practice on the driving range after your round of golf and not before”, Eric said.

“You don’t want to lose all your good shots before you start playing, otherwise it’s not worth going on the course!”

He explained that our pace and rhythm could be disrupted by the person playing before or after us, or by



our partner playing too slowly or too fast, or by a ball lost in the rough or by having to open an umbrella due to rain, adding *"That's also why it's better to train afterwards. It will help you regain your tempo for the next round. If you play badly, go straight to the driving range to retrieve your rhythm. However, if you play well, go straight to the 19th hole and annoy the other players!"*

The group were eager to get to the nineteenth hole, not to talk about their good balls but to talk about their extraordinary balls! No one remembered the bad ones. We went upstairs for the last time. Pascal told me that he really liked my clubs and that he was going to put some money away each week in order to buy the same ones. He offered to buy me a beer to thank me. I had misjudged him! While watching the film, cocktail in hand, we soon realised that Pierre had been discretely filming us since the very first morning. What a transformation!

Bill, Eric and Pierre asked me to make a swing and the round of applause I received gave me goose pimples. Over these two days we'd become friends for life.



We unanimously decided that Boris and Jennifer should take a holiday and think about a future together!

Funnily enough, Annika and Bruce had decided to create a new generation of golfers together!!



Bill and his team cracked open the champagne.

"Everything is based on opposites", Bill said. *"North - south, east - west, up - down, inside - outside, left - right, young - old, rich - poor, weak - strong, black - white (to which Michel-Ange added that we're not opposites but just different colours!), happy - sad, hot - cold..."* We all agreed that the list is endless. Thanks to his method we had all found our natural swings. **"Triangulaid** *is also based on opposites"*, Bill continued. *"One day this method will be recognised and I'll have the opportunity of speaking about it. Big - small, earth - water, war - peace"*. Florence scribbled continuously, despairing every time she missed a word.



"All the world's leaders are fighting for peace", Bill said. "But what does it take to create peace? In war we fight and destroy. For peace we have to play and build. We need to build something that develops humility, encouraging harmony with nature. If you can walk, then you can play golf (he wanted all future golf infrastructures to create facilities for the disabled), and that's until you die. Golf courses will help the environment, which is why we need to create more, just plant trees and nature will return. If we create more golf courses, it WILL rain!"



Bruce agreed and said that the fact that Australia had invested in golf courses allowed people to work the land and settle outside of the main cities.

Jean-François, who desperately wanted to take part in the conversation, asked "What do you have in plan for all the soldiers and the armies?"

According to Bill, "In the future, the people the most apt to create and maintain the development of new courses are in fact the military themselves, because discipline, respect and order are all part of the military structure".

Tony, a true military disciple asked "What about the weapons, the tanks, the battle ships, the fighter planes, the guns and the bullets?"



Bill replied: *"Thanks to foundries we can recycle all the artillery into golfing equipment. Thanks to current technology, today's scientists are able to focus on the development of the environment and to space research".*

"What about my job?" laughed Jean-François.

"Thanks to your rigour, you are the ideal candidate for managing the Clubs and the best architect needed to create future courses", replied Bill. Philippe and Nao wondered who would finance the programme, to which Bill replied:



"It's for the rich and major international companies to invest in the future. It would improve their image and lending their name to the project would permit future generations to appreciate their contribution".



Nao was on the phone, presumably to his company, presenting the idea of building golf courses. Well, nobody really understood what he was saying in Japanese but we had a pretty good idea! *"The retired generation of employees would have the opportunity of sharing their experiences with the new generation over a round of golf",* Bill insisted.



Bruce explained that the government in Australia had opted for the recycling of military materials. *"Let people fight on the golf course and the course would always win. The game is an activity where we fight both nature and ourselves".*

Claude and Paule imagined their children and grandchildren playing golf together. That would also be the ideal scenario for my kids, but probably a source for problems!! *"Of course we need to do something about the future",* Bill said in telepathy with me. *"By communicating we can pass on our ideas to them and then*

BEWARE, WORK IN PROGRESS



hopefully they'll choose the right path. Obviously there'll be a few obstacles along the way!"

Lee imagined the potential in his country, China, whilst Michel-Ange visualised peace between Blacks and Whites. Bill went even further and saw unions between Northern and

Southern and Eastern and Western civilisations, between the young and old. He was off on his "opposites" trip again! Regis suggested creating a musical golf course to help players find their natural rhythm. Bill agreed, believing it would be easy to develop musical driving ranges. Jennifer wanted to join the discussion but didn't have much to say. 12% of the American population already played golf and that number grows each day. Bill really appreciated the United States' "golfing state of mind".



Their professionals had understood that it was their job to create players.

Paul, the South-African, said that in his country it was the same and that he was interested in teaching the **Triangulaid**

method over there. In fact everyone had understood, but how could we pass on the message?

Boris thought that evolution would be slow in his country, Russia, despite the fact that today's generation were eager to find a solution. Bill believed that the USA, Russia and China had enormous potential.





It was merely a question of investing in land. Faced with our sniggering, Bill insisted that although it would take time, especially in France, it was the right time to start saying “*But yes!*” and “*Now!*” instead of “*Yes But*” and “*In the future.*”

Meanwhile, Florence was busy writing everything down. Every time someone asked a question, Bill had an answer ready.

Annika began to speak about the problem of snow in her country but Bill cut her short saying that everything was possible if you really want it. That it was possible to create courses on snow, and if they did it, her coun-

try would have a high level of professional players. The business, the employment and the atmosphere generated by golf added dynamism to a community on a global scale, and if one day problems arose, they could be solved on the course. 70% of the world's business was done on the golf course.



Everyone in the group agreed saying that they knew at least one person in a managerial position who played golf on a working day! “*Maybe if they could play with a natural swing they would work and have fun at the same time. They could build golf courses in their name and then have no excuse not to play!*” Bill added.



Peter was thinking how he could get involved in the conversation and the role religion could play, but Bill simply said that all religions had a commitment to nature. Michel-Ange suggested that different religions could compete against each other. If anyone in the group was going to organise anything, it would definitely be him!

Bill suggested that all the world leaders, religious or political, presidents, kings and queens should sign a treaty for the new millennium. Nothing would stop him from spreading his method and because his teaching style didn't exist anywhere else, his ideas for the future would develop at the same time. He'd thought it all out a long time ago!

There were a few questions about the environment, the homeless, the sick, the disabled and the unemployed. I asked about the Defence budget but he'd already answered my question when we'd discussed the need for soldiers, weapons, Generals. What a lot of funds to distribute to schools, hospitals and charity! "On top of all that, we'd plant trees. Each new player would be obliged to plant a tree in their name", Bruce added.

We all agreed with Bill. Thanks to today's technology we'd be able to play golf at a good level our entire lives. That technology had overtaken man was undeniable but we had to ensure that it didn't overtake nature. The senior tour would inevitably be the largest in the world in the future.

"It's like that back home", said Jennifer "People love to watch seniors play. They're a pleasure to watch. Magic!"

The day was nearly over.

Everyone around the table was deep in thought.

Could anyone find a down side?

"I could".

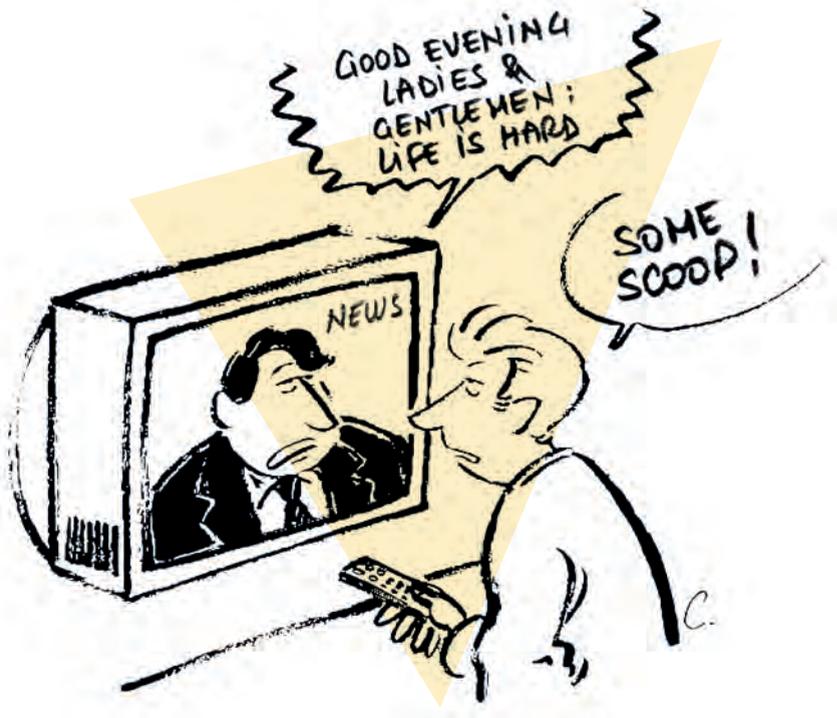
"Terrorism?"

Bill didn't waiver.

"They act like they do because they've got nothing to lose. Let them exchange their arms for clubs. They also want a better future. Give them the choice between something good or something bad, fighting or play-

ing and they'll more than likely choose the something good. Let them create terroristic-style golf courses where they can play together”.

Michel-Ange suggested that they could play against the Police, but I think we'd heard enough. Florence put her pen down, exhausted.



We were all concerned with Bill's situation and wondered how we could spread his philosophy media-wise. "Every time I pick up a newspaper there's only bad news. It would be nice to have this good piece of news spread outside France". Florence said.

"Don't worry", Bill said. "I've been trying for a long time to get this in the media and politics. Fortunately everyone in my clinics always agrees with my way of thinking. It's not about the past but the future. The more clinics I give, the more people I meet and the more I notice how everyone is concerned about the future for themselves, their children and for generations to come. Golf teaches us respect, etiquette and humility; fundamental values for all".

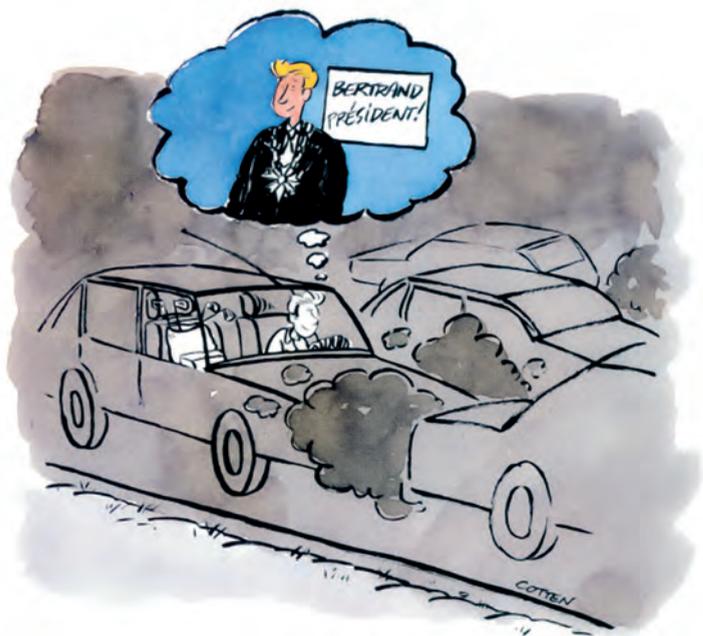
"But we must help you", she said, crying. "You've already done that", replied Bill with compassion. "It will get through in the end. Don't worry. **Triangulaid** will help me, and I hope you will all think about the future now".

As I mentioned earlier, lifelong friendships had formed over the weekend. Bill told us that before he leaves France he'd like to be on a live TV show to try and get his message across.

Thus far, no one had ever given him the opportunity. Who could I talk to about it?

Driving through Paris in my car that night I thought about the reaction that **Triangulaid** could provoke. If we believe the statistics, 80% of the population live in 20% of the worlds' territory. In seven years it will be even worse.

Maybe I should stand for the next presidential elections...?



Important dates in the history of golf

- 1296** - The Dutch play a game called colf on what's called a colf course
- 1297** - The first golf match to be recorded (26 December)
- 1360** - The council of Brussels bans the game of colf with a fine of 20 Shillings
- 1457** - Golf, along with football, is banned by the Scots Parliament of James II to preserve the skills of archery. Golf is prohibited on Sundays because it has interfered with military training for the wars against the English
- 1470** - The ban on golf is reaffirmed by the Parliament of James III
- 1491** - The golf ban is affirmed again by Parliament, this time under James IV
- 1735** - The Royal Burgess Golfing Society of Edinburgh is formed
- 1744** - The first set of golf rules is introduced by the Honourable Company of Edinburgh (Scotland) Golfers
- 1754** - The Society of St. Andrews Golfers is formed
- 1764** - A round at St. Andrews is reduced from 22 holes to 18, the number that would become the worldwide standard
- 1810** - Earliest recorded reference to a women's competition at Musselburgh
- 1829** - The first golf club outside of Europe is formed in Calcutta
- 1832** - James Edward Ransome invents the first lawn mower
- 1848** - Invention of the "guttie," the gutta-percha ball. It flies farther than the feathery and is much less expensive to make. It contributes greatly to the expansion of the game
- 1856** - Pau Golf Club in France is founded, the first on the Continent
- 1860** - Willie Park wins the first British Open at Prestwick in Scotland
- 1867** - The Ladies' Golf Club at St. Andrews is founded, the first golf club for women
- 1879** - The first golf bag is introduced
- 1894** - The United States Golf Association is founded by David Foulis, inventor of the "mashie - niblick"
- 1896** - The first golf club is formed in the suburbs of Paris at Marly le Roi
- 1899** - The first monthly magazine "Golf Illustrated" is published in London
- 1901** - The PGA - Professional Golfers' Association (Great Britain & Ireland) is established. Marly le Roi golf course closes and La Boulie is formed
- 1912** - The "Union des Golfs de France" is created on 24th November
- 1916** - The PGA of America is formed and the US PGA Championship is played for the first time at Siwanoy Country Club in New York
- 1920** - The end of wooden shafts
- 1927** - The inaugural Ryder Cup Matches are played between Britain and the United States
- 1930** - The first grand slam is attributed to Bobby Jones
- 1933** - The "Union des Golfs de France" becomes the "Fédération Française de Golf"
- 1935** - Gene Sarazen's double eagle makes history
- 1939** - The production of conventional golf balls ceases

- 1947** - Golf is televised for the first time
- 1971** - Alan Shepard (Apollo 14) hits two golf balls on the lunar surface, becoming the first and only person to play golf anywhere other than Earth
- 1974** - The use of the bigger golf ball (1.68in) is made compulsory
- 1980's** - Metal woods made of stainless steel are introduced
- 1984** - Fastest speed recorded for 18 holes: 15'38"
- 1986** - Jack Nicklaus wins his 3rd Masters and his 18th professional major championship at the age of 46
- 1991** - Triangulaid is founded by Bill Owens, at the Golf du Perche in France
- 1994** - The Evian Masters Ladies Golf Tournament is played for the first time at Evian Les Bains in France
- 1997** - The "Golf as an Education" association is founded
- 2000's** - Materials such as graphite, titanium, carbon fibre and tungsten are used to manufacture golf clubs
- 2003** - The World Amateur Golf Council becomes the International Golf Federation
- 2009** - The International Olympic Committee (IOC) votes in favour of golf returning to the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro
- 2010** - The 150th Open Championship is played on the Old Course of St Andrews
- 2010** - Philip Golding is the 1st player on the British and European tour to be coached by Stéphane Bachoz using the Triangulaid method
- 2013** - Philip Golding wins Welsh Open
- 2014** - Philip Golding wins French Riviera Masters
- 2016** - Golf will be played at the Olympics in Rio de Janeiro for the first time in 112 years

Dictionary

A

ADDRESS

The position that the player assumes when preparing to make a stroke, according to the Rules of Golf a player has addressed the ball when the club has been grounded in front of or behind the ball, regardless of whether or not the stance has been taken

APPROACH

A shot intended to reach the green

B

BACKSWING

The backward movement of the body and club (away from the ball and target) in the golf swing in preparation for the downswing

BIRDIE

A score of one under (less than) par for a hole

BOGEY

A score of one over (more than) par for a hole

BRASSIE

Archaic term for a 2 wood

BUNKER

A depression in the ground usually (but not always) filled with sand

C

CHIP

A shot that is designed to roll (run) farther than it flies (usually, but not always, from near the green) also "chip shot, chip and run, chip and roll, bump and run"

CLUB

An instrument used by a player to hit a golf ball. A player is allowed to carry up to fourteen (14) clubs during a round of golf

COURSE

A designated area of land on which golf is played through a normal succession from hole #1 to the last hole

D

- DIVOT** A portion of turf that is ripped out of the ground
- DOWNSWING** The portion of the swing that starts from the top, or end, of the backswing (or transition) and reverses movement and momentum back in the direction of the ball and target
- DRAW** A shot that curves gently from right to left (right-handed player)
- DRIVER** The 1-wood, or driver, is the lowest-lofted, longest, and often lightest club in a player's bag, and is meant to launch the ball the longest distance of any club
- DRIVING RANGE** An area, separate from the golf course, designated for hitting practice balls

E

- EAGLE** A score of 2 under (less than) par for a hole
- ETIQUETTE** Rules of behaviour, propriety, decorum, manners, etc

F

- FACE**
1. The striking surface of the club head
2. The sloped surface of a bunker that is (usually) toward the player
- FADE** A gently curving shot from left to right (right-handed player)
- FAIRWAY** The closely mown area between the tee and green
- FINISH** The last position, or end, of the swing
- FLAG** Usually, but not always, a fabric banner atop the pin or flagstick to make the location of the hole visible

FORE

A warning shout given when there is a chance that the ball may hit other players or spectators

G

- GREEN** The most closely mown and smooth (hopefully) area on the course, which is specifically prepared for putting and on which the hole is placed
- GREENKEEPER** An older term for an individual involved in maintaining and caring for a golf course and grounds
- GRIP**
1. The handle of a golf club (usually covered with rubber, leather, etc.)
2. The holding, or method of holding, a golf club

H

- HANDICAP** The average difference between a player's scores and a set standard, as calculated by specified procedures and formulas
- HOLE**
1. A $4\frac{1}{4}$ inch diameter hole in the ground into which the ball is to be played
2. The entire length of the playing area and immediate vicinity from the teeing ground to the putting green (all inclusive)
3. To play the ball into the hole
- HOOK** A shot that travels from right to left (right-handed player) - more severe than a draw

I

- IRON** A club with a head made of steel or iron and a relatively narrow sole (usually somewhere between 16° and 65° and numbered 1 through a variety of "wedges")

M

MASHIE Archaic term for a 5 iron

N

NIBLICK Archaic term for a 9 iron

NINETEENTH The bar or lounge after a round of golf

P

PAR 1. The standard number of strokes in which a scratch player would be expected to complete a hole or course
2. To score par on a course, or the state of being at that score during or at the conclusion of play

PAR 3 Length of hole from tee to pin ranges from 90–230 m

PAR 4 Length of hole from tee to pin ranges from 230–430 m

PAR 5 Length of hole from tee to pin ranges from 430–550 m

PITCH A relatively short, lofted shot designed to land softly and not roll much (differs from a chip in its trajectory and amount of roll)

PRO A professional golfer or person who plays or teaches golf for financial reward. They may work as a touring pro in professional competitions or as a teaching pro (Also called a club pro)

PUTT A shot (generally, but not necessarily hit with a putter) that is intended to make the ball roll (usually, but not exclusively, on or just off the putting green)

PUTTER A club with a fairly straight face (very little loft) used for putting, or rolling the ball on the ground

PUTTING GREEN The most closely mown and smooth (hopefully) area on the course, which is specifically prepared for putting and on which the hole is placed

R

REGULATION Conforming to regulations, official (e.g., the specified number of holes for a competition, or a club that conforms to the rules of golf)

ROUGH Longer grass adjacent to the fairways, greens and perhaps tees

ROYAL & ANCIENT GOLF CLUB The club in St Andrews, Scotland was founded in 1754 with the first Challenge for the Silver Club and is the home of Golf

S

SAND WEDGE A lofted club with a flange specifically designed for (but not limited to) use in the sand

SCRAMBLE 1. A tournament format in which all players in a group (foursome or otherwise) hit a shot from the tee, and each subsequent location, always playing from the position of the best or preferred ball until the ball is holed (more on tournament formats)
2. To extricate oneself from trouble, or recover, after an errant shot well enough to salvage a decent score

SHORT PLAY Shots that take place on or near the green. Putting, chipping, pitching, and green-side bunker play are all aspects of the short game

SLICE A wildly curving shot from left to right for a right-handed player (scourge of many a beginner)

STANCE	Placing one's feet in preparation for a stroke (sometimes used loosely to include the entire set-up, e.g., alignment, posture, etc.)
T	
TEE	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A small (usually, but not always, wooden) device for setting the ball up above the ground 2. The act of placing the ball on a tee 3. The starting point of each hole, the area designated as the teeing ground
TEMPO	The smooth change of the speed of a player's swing from first movement, through the ball strike, to the follow-through
TROLLEY	Term mainly used in Europe for wheeled golf carts, either for pulling by hand, motorized, or driven/ridden in
W	
WEDGE	A short iron with significant loft mainly for playing shorter, more lofted shots (the amount of loft can vary widely, from a pitching wedge that ranges somewhere between 47° and 52° to a lob wedge that can range from 58° up to 65°); wedges come in a huge variety of styles, shapes and names, depending on their purpose and manufacturer
WOOD	Originally a club with a wooden-head, relatively little loft and a long handle used for driving the ball and/or hitting long shots (now most "woods" are metal!)

The three characteristics of golf:

THE GAME

Full swing between the Pitching wedge and the 5 Iron

THE SPORT

Full swing between the 4 Iron and the Driver

THE BUSINESS

Small shots and putting.

The four essential steps to achieving a "natural swing":

I. FEEL THE GRIP

« Open your eyes »

II. FEEL THE CLUBHEAD

« Close your eyes »

III. FEEL THE BALL

« Open your ears »

IV. FEEL THE ELEMENTS

« Watch the ball »

Triangulaid will donate all benefits derived from the sale of this book to the “Golf as an Education” association.



This new edition was managed and translated in to English by Dee Perryman.

Lay out by DECLINAISONS
based on the original by François Maillé

Original illustrations by Yves Cotten
and photographs by Patrick Guis

Thanks to Mr Shiba at the Feucherolles Golf club
and extra special thanks to Sin May
for her participation in the production of this book.

Printed in February 2016

Original version printed in November 1997 © Bill Owens

In 24 hours I'd be on my way. I'd heard so much about this new teaching concept that I knew I'd have to try it sooner or later. My friends, who'd already done the "clinic", had all improved their game. It's maddening to see the pleasure they take in playing now and although I'd tried to find out more about the "Triangle" by bribing them with drinks, none of them had told me anything.

