

Baker Street Elementary
& The Victorian Web

Presents
"The Life and Times in Victorian London"



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The Life and Times in Victorian London
067 - Victorian Games and Toys - 09/10/2018



Welcome to topic number 67... Victorian Games and Toys... Thanks so much to AboutBritain.com for use of their summary text for this lesson...



Whatever do children and adults do for play and to fill leisure time before television, computers, cell phones, and video games will be created?



*Is it boring to live in
Victorian Britain,
with nothing to do
but sit around the
house all day?*



The Victorians are quite creative when it comes to play time.

Not just children, but adults participate in Victorian games during the evenings.



*Card games are especially popular
with the grown-ups.*

*Whist and Bridge provide hours of
after-dinner entertainment for the
older set.*



For both adults and youngsters, Skittles (on the order of bowling) and Charades, a Victorian game which will still be played in the 21st century, is enjoyed by all generations.



Billiards have grown in popularity.

Although starting out as a 'manly' sport, both sexes are now enjoying the game.



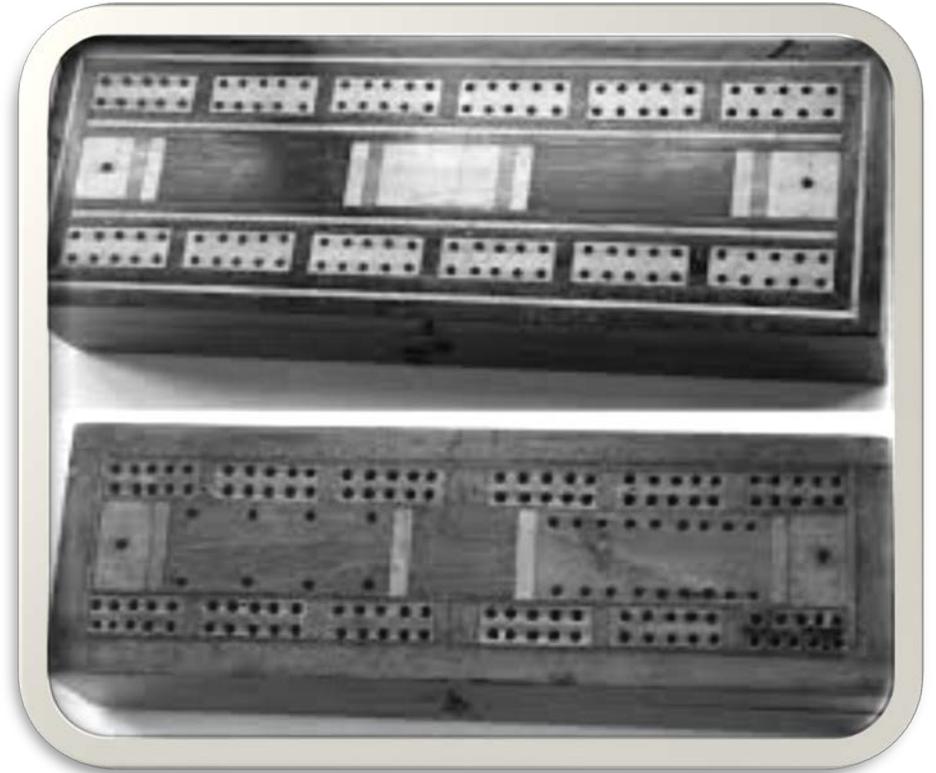
Blindman's Bluff is always guaranteed to bring a smile to a face, and could be quite tiring with people running away so as not to be caught.

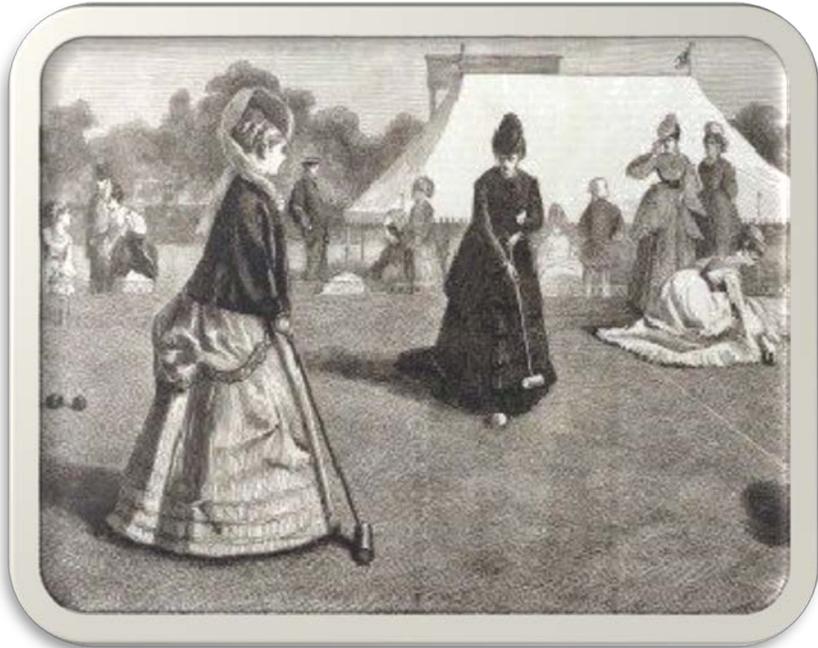


On the quieter side, "I'm Thinking of Something" is quite similar to the game of "Twenty Questions", which will be played into the next century.

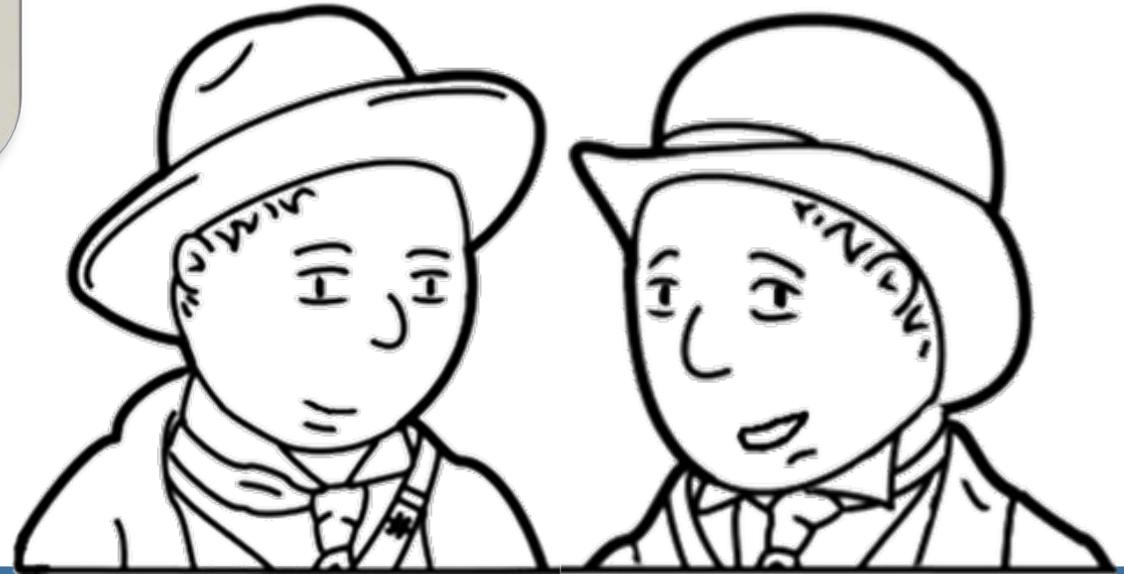


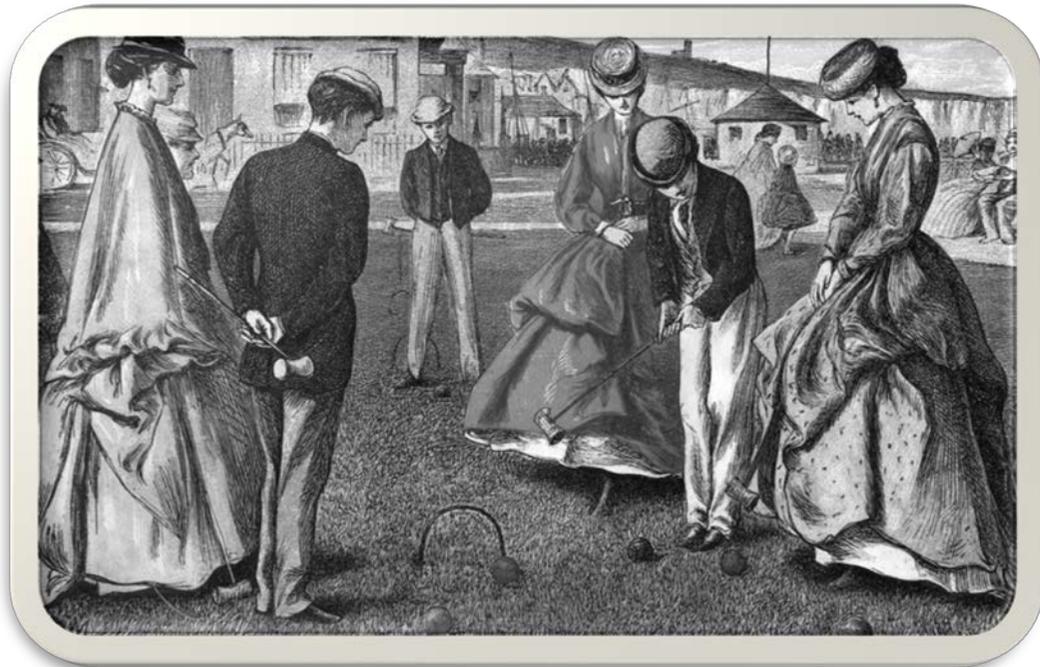
For the Victorians, games like Checkers, Chess, Backgammon, and Cribbage are always easy to reach from the shelf.





Introduced in the mid-1800's, Croquet is quite a genteel outdoor game for women.





As it doesn't require great strength, it is felt that this game is appropriate for 'the weaker sex'.

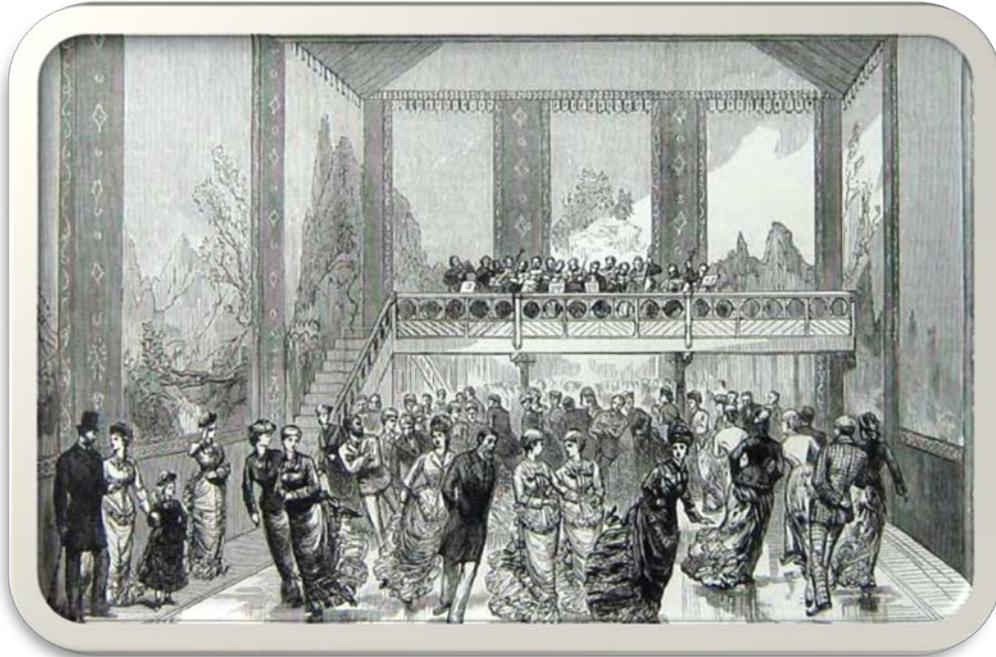


Ice Skating is an approved winter-time sport for ladies.

In 1876, however, it is finally not necessary to wait for cold weather in which to skate.



The first artificially refrigerated ice rink is crafted in Chelsea, London.



Horseback riding is often learned at an early age while some women go for grander outdoor exploits...



... mountain climbing! Imagine clambering around in a corset and bustle as is the style for Victorian clothes!



Victorian toys and games such as marbles are enjoyed by both boys and girls.



*Victorian marbles are usually
made of glass or clay,
although wealthier players
have marbles made out of
real marble!*



Tops and Jacks are Victorian games and toys that can be played either in a group, or just solo.



The first rules for Badminton are written in India in 1873, and this game hasn't much changed.





*Formerly known as "Hit and
Scream", this contest
becomes quite the rage for
people of all ages.*

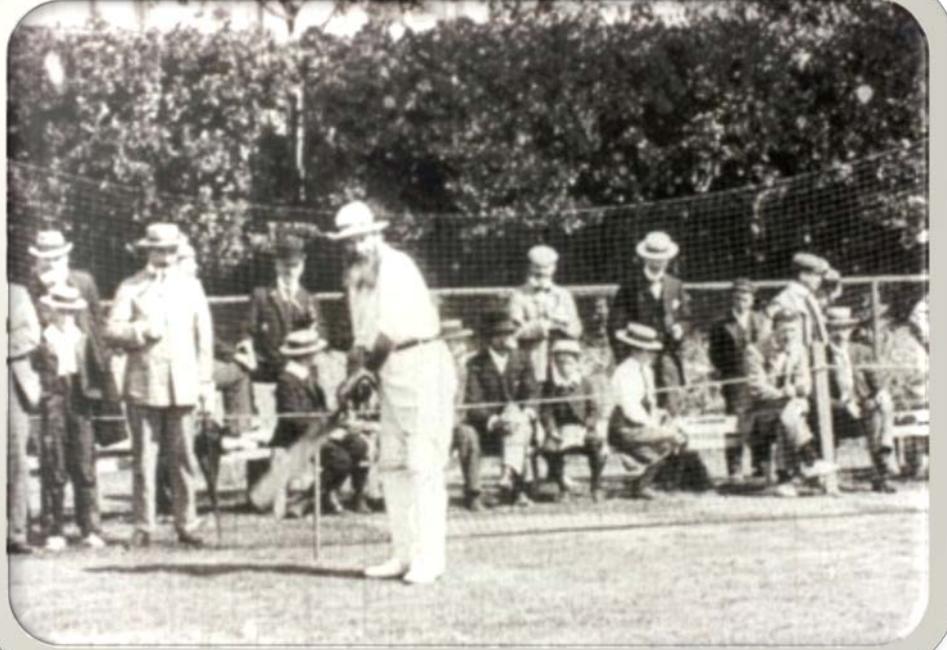


*The Victorian game of cricket
is organized for county
championships in 1873.*

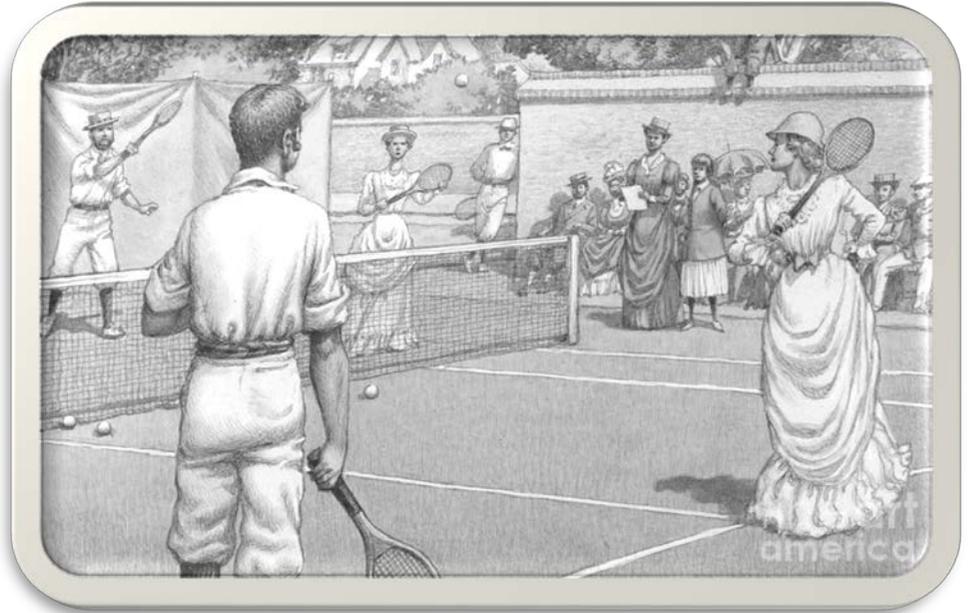
*The bat which is used to this
day is invented in 1853.*



During the Victorian period, cricket is very much a wealthy man's sport.



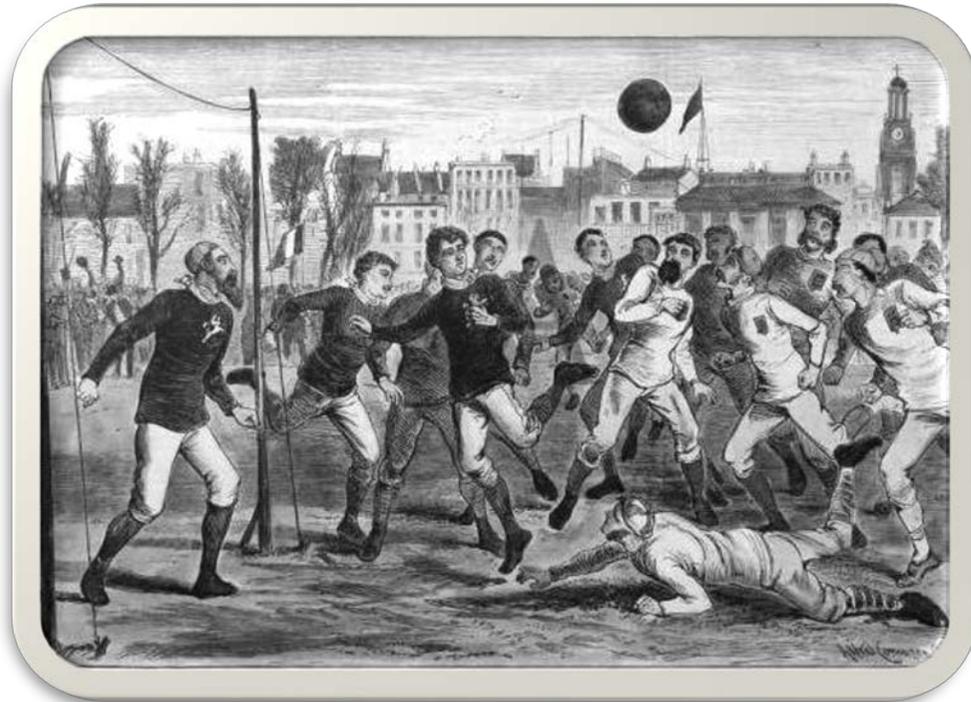
The following year, the rules for lawn tennis are formalized and both men and women play.



Clubs for golfers are set up in the later part of the 1800's.

The bag to carry the utensils for golfers, the golf bag, comes into being in 1880.





*The Football Association
is formed in 1863 -
football is usually only
played by men.*

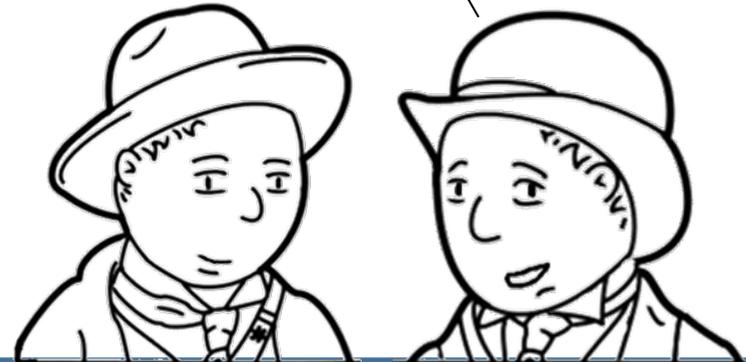
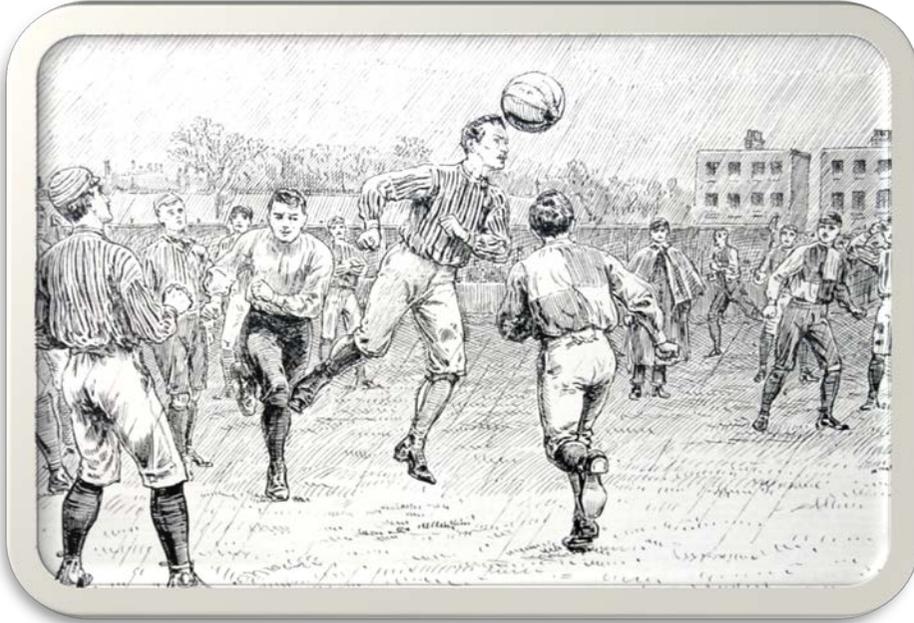


*The Rugby Football Union is formed
in 1871.*

*Being one of the rougher Victorian
games, 71 deaths will be attributed
to this team sport between the
years of 1890 and 1893.*



Rugby has some similarities to American football... while in Great Britain 'football' refers to the game which is called 'soccer' in the United States.



*Day trips to the seashore
are mini-holidays which
families enjoy.*



Boarding the train to Blackpool, a resort which begins with one ride in 1896, is to begin a day filled with fun.



*Maintaining a scrapbook,
filled with items of interest,
consumes afternoon hours for
both adults and children.*



*Playing the piano and holding
impromptu concerts and dances
are quite popular amongst
families and their friends.*



For the young ladies of the family, sewing or creating decorative embroidery keeps idle hands busy, as well as the making of ornaments for Christmas.



For the Victorians, games, toys and physical activity can be set aside for a few unhurried hours of reading.





Rudyard Kipling, Charles Dickens, and Elizabeth Barrett Browning are popular friends on bookshelves.



*Again, thanks to
AboutBritain.com for their help...
So we have completed topic 67 in
our series...*

*Yes, but we'll be back
with another topic
soon...*



Original Source Material for this topic:

- 1) <http://www.aboutbritain.com/articles/victorian-games-and-toys.asp>



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"The Life and Times in Victorian London"

IS CREATED THROUGH THE INGENUITY & HARD WORK OF:

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