

#### Achievements:

As a New Zealand Representative

*MacRobertson Shield Team*  
2014

*Openshaw Trophy Team*  
2016

*GC Trans-Tasman*  
2015

*Golf Croquet World Championships*  
2015 *Bronze Medal*

*Yvonne Yeates GC Invitation*  
2014

*NZ AC Championship Doubles*  
2012 with *Hamish McIntosh*  
2014 with *Jenny Clarke*  
2015 with *Jenny Clarke*  
2019 with *Jenny Clarke*

*NZ GC Open Doubles Championship*  
2012 with *Jenny Clarke*  
2015 with *Ian Burridge*  
2019 with *Josh Winter*

As an English Representative  
*MacRobertson Shield Team*  
1993, 1996 (*Captain*), 2000, 2003, 2006

*Solomon Trophy Team*  
1991, 1992, 1995 (*Captain*), 1997, 2001  
(*Captain*), 2004 (*Captain*)

*Association Croquet World Championships*  
1991 *Bronze Medal*  
1994 *Silver Medal*  
1995 *Champion*  
2008 *Champion*

*Golf Croquet World Championships*  
2008 *Bronze Medal*

*NZ GC Open Champion*  
2007, 2009

*NZ GC Open Doubles Championships*  
2008 with *Jenny Clarke*

*Yvonne Yeates GC Invitation*  
2009

## Chris Clarke



Teachers have been known to be influential in the lives of youth. Sometimes that influence extends beyond the classroom. When Chris was 13, his French teacher in England asked if anyone wanted to learn croquet. This was the serendipity that started Chris on the course to win 60 national and international croquet titles.

While he lived in England he belonged to Southport, Bowdon, Colchester, and Letchworth Croquet Clubs. He joined his first club, Southport, in 1984. When he moved to Christchurch in 2005, he started playing at Cashmere Croquet Club then moved briefly to Elmwood. He has been a member at United Croquet club for around 13 years.

Chris started with split hands and grounded mallet for his swing. After watching Robert Fulford, at the National Junior Championship a couple of years after he started, he switched to casting. It wasn't until after his dreadful 1989 season that he started to move his hands together at the start of the 1990 season.

Chris' first national tournament was in 1988 at the British Open Championships. Within a couple of months, he won the Presidents Cup at the age of 17 years, 2 months. He was the youngest to ever win the title. In 1991, he won a Bronze Medal in the World Association Croquet Championship. At the World's he completed the first sextuple peel in a WCF World Singles Championship. Chris also completed the first ever delayed sextuple in the World Championship in 1995.

Chris has never lost a major Team Event in which he has played. He has the record number of National AC Doubles titles. He also won his first 23 World Team Doubles matches with Robert Fulford, which is a record. He finished his International Team career by winning his last 23 World Team Doubles matches with Robert Fulford, Paddy Chapman and Jenny Clarke, an unbeaten record stretching over 10 years.

Chris moved to NZ in 2005 and continued to represent England until 2012. He went on to win the 2014 MacRobertson Shield playing at number 1 for NZ and then Captain the 2016 NZ team to victory in the Openshaw Shield. He is the only player who has captained both MacRobertson Shield and Openshaw Shield winning teams. He was inducted into the World Croquet Federation Hall of Fame in 2010. When Chris was inducted into the WCF Hall of Fame, he was ranked number one in the world

Achievements – continued:

*Presidents Cup*

1988, 1991, 1995, 1996, 2003

*British Open Champion*

1997

*British Championship Doubles*

1990 with Robert Fulford

1991 with Robert Fulford

1992 with Robert Fulford

1993 with Robert Fulford

1996 with Robert Fulford

1998 with Robert Fulford

2001 with Robert Fulford

2002 with David Maugham

2003 with Robert Fulford

2004 with Robert Fulford

2006 with Robert Fulford

2007 with Robert Fulford

*British Men's Championship*

2005

*The CA Mixed Doubles Championships*

2007 with Jenny Clarke

*Oregon Invitational*

1991

*Sonoma-Cutrer*

1997

*Resort at the Mountain Invitational*

1998

*NZ Open Champion*

2007

Runner up – 2000

*NZ Championship Doubles*

2006 with Robert Fulford

2007 with Jenny Clarke

2011 with Hamish McIntosh

*CA Silver Tray Invitation*

2007

*Australian Open Champion*

2006

*Australian Open Doubles  
Championships*

2006 with Robert Fulford

in both AC and GC. Chris was ranked number one in the world at AC for most of the last seven years of his singles career 2008 – 2014.

Chris played his last competitive AC singles game in January 2014 at the MacRobertson Shield. He played his last GC singles game in May 2016 at the Openshaw Shield. Since then he has exclusively played doubles.

Chris continues to be involved with croquet in different avenues. In 2005 he instigated the CNZ Youth Squad and coached it for multiple years. He became a life member of Canterbury Croquet Association in 2015 and in 2016 the United Croquet Club made him a life member. He has managed national and world events and coached players throughout the years, several of whom have gone on to become World Champions themselves.

Chris says that "It is my record in team events, doubles and coaching that define me, rather than any singles wins."