



The Vale

Newsletter of Aylesbury Vale Golf Club

www.avgc.co.uk

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Edition 35, March 2017

Comment

We thank each of our departing Captains for everything that they have done during the past year both to enhance Aylesbury Vale Golf Club and encourage all Club members to take part in golf and other Club activities. Do come to the Drive-In on Sunday 26 March to welcome the new Captains to their year.

Men's Section Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Men's Section will take place on Saturday 4 March, in the Clubhouse, at approx. 1:30pm, immediately following the Medal (shotgun start).

ALL male members of the Club are eligible to attend and vote – so please do attend, have your vote *and* your say!

News and Updates from the Club Management

Course

The forward Ladies' tee is being used on the 2nd tee due to ongoing work on the Men's teeing area. This is nearing completion and should be ready for the new season.

The new drainage around the 6th and 10th greens has been completed.

The 17th tee, which has been flattened and re-turfed, is now awaiting the warmer weather to start the regrowth of the turf.

Clubhouse. The lockers have all been installed and the seating areas fitted with carpet in the Men's changing room. There remain a few locker keys still to be collected from the bar for those who have rented a locker. Clothing and shoes are often left in the changing rooms. If you have a locker then please use it, and if you do not then please take any items of clothing and shoes home. Any items left for more than a week will be donated to charity.

Forthcoming Dates for the Diary

Sunday 4 March	Mens' Medal (shotgun start at 8:00am) Mens' AGM at 1:30pm following the Medal
Saturday 11 March -	Prize Presentation and Dinner (7:00pm)

The seating plan is on display in the bar area for the Presentation Dinner. Please complete a menu choice and make payment as soon as possible when placing your name on the seating plan. All payments are to be made prior to 11 March.

Chris Wright

Rules of Golf

'Preferred Lies' and 'Winter Rules' (Rules of Golf Appx 1 Section 3b)

The Rules of Golf do not direct any Club as to what Local Rule(s) should be applied during winter months, apart from suggesting that 'preferred lies' on closely mown areas would help preserve the course. For this winter at AVGC, this is the only local 'Winter Rule' that has been applied and posted on the noticeboards.

There is a common misconception amongst some members of longer standing that 'Winter Rules' at AVGC automatically mean not attending the flag, even if asked to do so, but this is not the case. On occasions in the past (but not for several years) the Club has imposed a 'Don't tend' temporary Local Rule when ground conditions have required it, similar to occasionally declaring all bunkers as GUR when they are waterlogged. These short-duration restrictions are normally written on the chalkboard near the entrance to the shop from the car park.

All current Local Rules for AVGC are displayed on the noticeboard in the changing room lobby.

Tip of the Month from your Head PGA Professional, Russell Phillips

Golf is one of the most difficult games you can play and often it is hard to stay positive when your game is not going well. You can't worry about playing a bad shot - you see some of the best players in the world fire the ball into the crowd. They are not embarrassed, it happens to us all! The biggest difference is that their next shot will be great again. They don't let a bad shot affect their game and this is how...they always believe that the next shot they play will be their best shot of the day.

Although it may not be their best shot of the day, adopting this mind set to their game dramatically improves their state of mind. Give it a go and see what happens!

From 'Crazy World of Golf' Helen Exley ©



Give Your Swing an MOT and Get it Ready for the New Season!

Looking to get the edge this year and lower your handicap? I am here to help! I'm putting together a 3 x 1 hour pack of lessons to work with your current swing and look for simple improvements that can get you hitting the ball better. I will be working with you once a month, so that when the warmer weather gets here you are feeling better about your game.

3 x 1 hour - normally £120 for members and £150 for non-members.

Book your first lesson before March and get this pack for
£90 for members and £120 for non-members

Contact Russell Phillips: 07843 692948 or r.phillips@avgc.co.uk

Men

A Word from the Captain

Our run in the Chiltern Breakfast League winter knockout finally came to an end. Even though we remained unbeaten, we lost our semi-final match against a very strong Richings Park team on countback after drawing 3:3. It was a tremendous effort to come so close in this highly competitive winter competition. The scores at each venue were one win, one draw and one loss, Adrian Fallon/Will Bond halving their match and Mick Caro/Jason Thornally winning at home, with Darren Horne/Jonny Frankland winning and Neil Garrett/Martyn Haworth earning a half away from home. Well done to everyone who took part. Even though it was disappointing to go out, I was proud of how the team performed and it bodes well for the fast approaching new season.

We will be taking part in the Chiltern Breakfast League main competition for the first time this spring/summer. Having been drawn in Division C we will be playing home and away against Stocks, Shendish Manor and Aylesbury Park. Fixtures for these matches have already been arranged and are published in the lobby at the Club.

The Mid-Handicap League draw has been made and again we find ourselves up against Pavenham Park, The Bedfordshire and Chalgrave Manor, plus a new team for the coming competition in Abbotsley.

The Men's AGM will be held on Saturday 4 March at 1:30pm, straight after the Men's Medal.

With over 80 people already booked to attend Presentation Night, it promises to be a very enjoyable evening and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Sunday 26 March is the Captains' Drive-In at 2:00pm. It would great to see a bumper crowd welcome in the new Captains and watch them drive off the 1st tee - avoiding the dreaded Out of Bounds of course.

I hope the weather stays fine for the coming month and we can all get out on the course at some time. Again a big thank you to all the greenkeepers for the course is playing very well at present, a testament to all your hard work.

This year's chosen charity is Willen Hospice in Milton Keynes. Willen Hospice is a registered charity that provides specialist care for people whose illness no longer responds to curative treatment (also known as specialist palliative care) <http://www.willen-hospice.org.uk>. Every year our members contribute a tremendous amount to our chosen charity and I would like to think you will again support this great cause. I thank you in advance for the contributions you have made over the season.

All the best.

Adrian Fallon

February was another quiet month on the golf course, with only two competitions being played. The midweek Stableford saw Paul Morgan take the honours with a winning score of 37 points. In second place was the 'in form' Larry Goddard (34 points), with Neil Garrett a point further back in third.

The February monthly Medal had to be postponed on the 12th due to bad weather, so was rearranged for the following week. With the course playing long on an overcast day, under par scores were at a minimum. In Division 1 three players all recorded nett 72s, so had to be separated on countback. Matty Taylor came out on top with Johnny Frankland and Shaun Houghton in second and third. Division 2 certainly didn't require countback, with young Alex Robins (nett 71) five shots clear of second placed Graham Findlay. Robert Rendle (nett 77) was third. Division 3 saw Tom Read win his second medal in a couple of months with a score of nett 74. Brian Furness (nett 75) took second place with Mark Hughes in third with the same score. Probably the luckiest winner on the day was Newswing (Mark Newberry) who had the only two of the day to win £75 in the '2's club'. Rumour has it that the majority of the field asked for their pound back when they heard who had won, but as I said this is only a rumour!!!

5-Day Pairs Knockout

Congratulations to Richard Braithwaite and Barry Stanley, winners of the 5-day Pairs Knockout competition, who beat Steve Willett and Jonathan Clements 2 & 1.

Competition and Match Results (Men)

Stableford 6 February	1 st : Paul Morgan 37 Pts 2 nd : Larry Goddard 34 Pts 3 rd : Neil Garrett 33 Pts		
Medal 19 February	Div 1 1 st : Matt Taylor nett 72 2 nd : Johnny Frankland nett 72 3 rd : Shaun Houghton nett 72	Div 2 1 st : Alex Robins nett 71 2 nd : Graham Findlay nett 76 3 rd : Robert Rendle nett 77	Div 3 1 st : Tom Read nett 74 2 nd : Brian Furness nett 75 3 rd : Mark Hughes nett 75

Seniors

A Word from the Seniors' Captain

How good the course is at the moment. Despite some rain, it's in great condition; well done to the greenkeeping staff. It has been a fairly quiet month in terms of major competitions, but our 'Captain's Competitions' (Roll Ups) are well attended. We are regularly getting more than 25 people present, most enjoying the rather unusual team competitions that the Captain 'dreams up' on the day. It's also great that, on Fridays, we have a fun day with the Ladies and sometimes we get a game of golf in as well!!

Matches. There was only one Winter League match during February, which was away to Chartridge Park and which we lost 1½:4½. Congratulations to Hugh Frood with John Parmenter for their win and to Dave Friend with Mike Samuels for their half.

AGM Cup. On Wednesday 8 February we held our annual AGM Cup, so-called, funnily enough, because after it we held our Seniors' AGM. A field of 36 turned out and it was won by Larry (the younger) Goddard with a creditable 42 points. Subsequently, his handicap has been 'modified'. Runner-up was John Parmenter.

Seniors AGM

There was a good turn out for the AGM. The Minutes have been produced and are available in the Seniors' box in the Men's Changing Room for anyone who would like to view them. During the meeting, thanks were given to those Committee members who have provided much support to running the Seniors' Section over the past years, but will not be serving on next year's Committee. So again here, I would like to thank Keith Foster, Mike Ewart, Mick Curtis, Martin Shefferd, Alan Jackson and Peter Lawson for their fantastic support over the past years. So now a big welcome to the new Committee for 2017/18:

Seniors' Captain – Mark Leech
 Seniors' Vice-Captain – post vacant
 Competition Secretary – Dave Lea
 Treasurer – John Parmenter
 Social Secretary – Peter Codrai
 Admin Secretary – Lance Redler
 Members Posts – Dave Friend and Dave Simons
 Immediate Past Captain – yours truly
 Men's Captain – Andrew Bond

As you can see, we are missing a Vice-Captain. If anyone is interested then please speak to any Committee member and we can talk about the role.

Also at the meeting we discussed allowing people playing in the Captains' Competitions (Roll Ups) to have a handicap greater than 28, but which would not affect their actual handicap. The view from those who attended was that we should go ahead with this. So, anyone with a handicap of 28 who would like to play in the Roll Ups with an increased handicap, should speak to Jim Mulhearn who will administer this.

Bob Phillips

Seniors' Committee Minutes etc.

Some members may not know that copies of the Minutes of the Seniors' Committee and the Annual General Meetings (AGMs) are contained in the box file on the window ledge in the changing room, together with the Seniors' Constitution and the Competition Rules.

Seniors' Winter League

The current situation in the Winter League is shown on the following table, with just a couple of matches still to be played by our team before the end of the season. Peter Nightingale hopes for a strong field – so do put your name down!

TEAM	Pl	HOME			AWAY			Points
		W	D	L	W	D	L	
Chartridge Park	6	3	0	0	2	0	1	12
Oakland Park	6	3	0	1	1	0	1	9
Weston Turville	5	3	0	0	0	0	2	6
Aylesbury Vale	6	2	0	1	0	0	3	4
Winter Hill	5	0	0	1	0	0	4	0

Competition and Match Results (Seniors)

AGM Cup 8 February	1 st : Larry Goddard 42 Pts 2 nd : John Parmenter 35 Pts
Winter League away match vs Chartridge 15 February	Lost 1½:4½

Ladies

A Word from the Lady Captain

Hello everyone,

Another month has gone by with the weather not too bad. Just think we are not that far from Spring, it might keep you going!

As last month, not a lot to report this month, but yet again we managed to play our two Medals. The 7-day

Medal was won by Sue Bellingham and the 5-day Medal by Vivien Craker. We also played our midweek monthly Stableford, won by Sheila Perkins.

Well done to all winners, also to all players taking part as I thought the cold and strong winds might have put some ladies off, but we are a hardy lot. Personally I would rather brave the elements than do housework.

We held our AGM which was fairly well supported, and I thought we had a very constructive meeting. I thank all ladies who attended.

We have sadly had two ladies step down from their posts: our 5-day competition representative, Judy Fagan, and Vivien Craker our 7-day competition representative. They have both put many years on the Committee and will be missed more than they know. We are losing a lot of experience and valuable advice and, as I said at the time, it is all the jobs they do over and above what was their remit. I and the Ladies' Section thank them for all they have done.

We do have some new ladies on the Committee. Natalie Rendle is going to be our new 7-day competition representative and Jane Barker has stepped up to be Vice-Captain, so her job as Secretary has now been taken up by Ali Cheeseman. We also welcome Kath Scott and Charlotte Simpson, who are filling our vacant Members' posts. I and all the ladies thank them for putting themselves forward.

However it is a shame that no-one has taken up the 5-day competition representative job. I am not holding my breath, but still hoping that someone will.

Jan Chambers

Committee for 2017/18

The Ladies' Committee for the coming year is:

Ladies' Captain: Jane Codrai
Ladies' Vice-Captain: Jane Barker
Treasurer: Jean Edwards
Handicap Secretary: Danka Lawson
7-day Competition Officer: Natalie Rendle
Admin Secretary: Ali Cheeseman
Midweek Competition Officer: post vacant
Members: Kath Scott, Charlotte Simpson
Past Captain: Jan Chambers

Competition and Match Results (Ladies)

Weekend Medal 5 February	1 st : Sue Bellingham nett 73 2 nd : Anne Bridges nett 79 3 rd : Natalie Rendle nett 83
Midweek Stableford 6 February	1 st : Danka Lawson 32 Pts 2 nd : Anne Bridges 32 Pts 3 rd : Jean Edwards 31 Pts
Midweek Medal 15 February	1 st : Vivien Craker nett 81 2 nd : Danka Lawson nett 82 3 rd : Mary Marchant nett 83
Weekend Stableford 18 February	1 st : Danka Lawson 30 Pts 2 nd : Jean Barnett 27 Pts 3 rd : Jan Chambers 24 Pts
Winter Stableford 22 February	1 st : Sheila Perkins 33 Pts 2 nd : Jan Chambers 33 Pts 3 rd : Anne Bridges 32 Pts

Juniors

Easter Open Days

These fun days are designed for all children aged between 6-11 of any ability to have a fun day learning how to play golf (even if its for the first time!). This is a special Easter Egg theme where children will have the chance to win some Easter Eggs! Children will be organized into teams and get the opportunity to win team events throughout the day. Registration starts at 10:00am and the day concludes with a presentation of all the prizes at approximately 4:00pm. They do not need their own equipment to take part, however if they have any they should bring it along and clothing worn should be smart. The whole day includes lunch (nuggets, chips and beans) and costs just £25 per child!



Don't forget: if you introduce a friend to the day you will pay £10 instead of £25. Friends must be children who have not attended an Open Day before or taken part in the challenge programme.

The Juniors' Open Days run from 10:00am – 4:00pm and are on:

Tuesday 4 April 2017 and Thursday 13 April 2017

You must book your child's place by contacting Russell Phillips on 07843 692948 or email r.phillips@avgc.co.uk.

Russell Phillips

Pro Shop

Grip Offer of the Month. Did you know that the life span of a grip is 16 months and any worn down grips where dents and tears are present breach the rules! Get your clubs regripped ready for the new season with this fantastic offer:

Lamkin Crossline @ £7.50 per grip
Get 10 fitted for £60
Available in Standard and Midsized



Only available until end of March or while stocks last.

Look out for the new range of Golf Pride grips soon available at Aylesbury Vale Golf Club



Ping! Ladies we have some great news for you! The new G Le is now available at Aylesbury Vale Golf Club - be one of the first in the country to get a fully fitted for a set of G Le! We have everything you need: drivers, woods, hybrids, irons, putters, bags, gloves, mitts, towels and caps. This superbly engineered club can help you hit the ball better, further and with its fantastic look you can really look the part. Come into the Pro Shop to see, we have demo clubs for you to try!

New Sigma G Putters. New to Aylesbury Vale! We now have a fantastic range of putters available in the shop, which include Ping's new range of putters - the Sigma G. With a variety of head designs, we can now custom-fit the right putter for you to help make those all-important putts. Russell uses the Ping app to fit you for the right arc, weight, lie angle, loft as well as length, grip size and style. Come into the Pro Shop to have a go and see which style you like!



New Glide 2.0 Wedges. New to Aylesbury Vale! If you're looking for the edge to get your short game better, then look no further. The new Glide 2.0 wedge is the latest design from Ping to improve control and spin. It comes with a variety of lofts and bounce angles to suit your needs. Have a look in the Pro Shop and a demo is available if you want to have a go!

Ping Demo Day

The next Ping Demo Day is coming up on Tuesday 21 March 2017 from 1:00pm-5:00pm. This is a great opportunity for all to come and see why Ping have been the best golf clubs on the market through 2016! Ping will be bringing their representative (Morgan) over with a van full of demo clubs for you to have a go with. You can get some clubs fitted, as he will also be bringing Trackman (flight scope). Fitting times can be booked in the Pro Shop and intervals last 40 minutes. Each fitting will cost £25 (pay when booking) and will be refunded against any orders placed! If you don't want to book a slot you can always come and try something out for FREE.

You will get an extra 5% off any Ping products bought on the day!



PGA Kids Clubs. These clubs are available in different sizes and can be bought individually or can be build up to suit your needs, starting from £19.95 per club - see Russell to get the correct size! We have our last few sets left at **33% off, now only £100**. Set contains Driver, Hybrid, three irons, putter and bag.

and in Conclusion...

...the last word is... if you have any comments, thoughts or suggestions to make regarding Club activities, or this newsletter, please contact the Editor so that your views can be shared and discussed.

...and a touch of humour... Golfer: *'Caddie, how would you have played that last shot?'*
Caddie: *'Under an assumed name.'*

Lance Redler

Editor

cc: Club Professionals, charities

What's on This Month and Next?

(All-Section and Club events are in **bold**)

Men:

Saturday 4 March – Medal (shotgun start 8:00am)

Saturday 4 March – AGM (1:30pm approx.)

Saturday 11 March – Zodiac Texas Scramble

Monday 13 to Friday 17 March – midweek Medal

Sunday 19 March – Mixed Foursomes

Saturday 25 March – Presentation Dinner (7pm)

Sunday 26 March – Captains' Drive-In

Monday 27 to Friday 31 March – midweek Stableford

Saturday 8 April – Burcott Trophy

Sunday 9 April – Medal

Monday 10 to Friday 14 April – midweek Medal

Friday 14 April – 'Annette's Hat' competition

Saturday 15 April – Easter Cup

Monday 24 to Friday 28 April – midweek Stableford

Saturday 29 April – Committee Cup

Saturday 29 April – away match vs The Three Locks

Seniors:

Wednesday 1 March – competition

Monday 6 March – Captain's competition

Tuesday 7 March – Winter League home match vs Chartridge Park

Wednesday 8 March – Captain's competition

Monday 13 March – Captain's competition

Monday 13 to Friday 17 March – midweek Medal

Wednesday 15 March – competition

Wednesday 15 March – Winter League away match vs Winter Hill

Sunday 19 March – Mixed Foursomes

Monday 20 March – Captain's competition

Wednesday 22 March – Captain's competition

Sunday 26 March – Captains' Drive-In

Monday 27 March – Captain's competition

Monday 27 to Friday 31 March – midweek Stableford

Wednesday 29 March – away match vs Leighton Buzzard

Monday 3 April – Medal (1)

Wednesday 5 April – home match vs Beadlow Manor

Monday 10 April – Captain's competition

Monday 10 to Friday 14 April – midweek Medal

Tuesday 11 April – away match vs Weston Turville

Wednesday 12 April – Captain's competition

Friday 14 April – 'Annette's Hat' competition

Wednesday 19 April – home match vs Mount Pleasant

Monday 24 April – Summer Six (1)

Monday 24 April – Winter League Awards Day, Chartridge Park

Monday 24 to Friday 28 April – midweek Stableford

Wednesday 26 April – Captain's competition

Wednesday 26 April – away match vs Wavendon

Ladies:

Wednesday 1 March – Stableford

Sunday 5 March – Medal

Monday 6 March – competition

Wednesday 8 March – 30+ handicap competition

Sunday 12 March – Medal of Medals

Monday 13 March – competition

Wednesday 15 March – midweek Medal

Key Contacts

Club Management

e-mail: info@avgc.co.uk

www.avgc.co.uk

Tel: 01525 240196

Memberships/Shop/Tee bookings: Chris Wright, Tony Fleming, Neil Thornalley

Restaurant/Functions: Neil Thornalley, Jason Thornalley, Chris Wright

Head Chef: Heinz Simon

Head Greenkeeper: Luke Foley

Teaching Professionals: Russell Phillips 07843 692948

r.phillips@avgc.co.uk

Terry Bunyan 07588 272322

terrygolf1965@gmail.com

Men

Captain: Adrian Fallon

Vice-Captain: Andy Bond

Treasurer: Steve Montague

Competition Secretary: Dave Lea

Admin Secretary: Roger White

Handicap Secretary: Neil Garrett

5-Day Representative: Peter Codrai

Seniors

Captain: Bob Phillips

Vice-Captain: Alan Jackson

Treasurer: Martin Shefford

Competition Secretary: Alan Jackson

Admin Secretary: Mike Ewart

Social Secretary: Peter Codrai

Ladies

Captain: Jan Chambers

Vice-Captain: Jane Codrai

Treasurer: Jean Edwards

Secretary: Jane Barker

Competition Secretary: Vivien Craker

5-day Competition Secretary: Judy Fagan

Handicap Secretary: Danka Lawson

Juniors

Captain: Reece Croft

Editor *The Vale*: Lance Redler (01296) 681286

lanceredler@yahoo.co.uk

Ladies (cont.)

Saturday 18 March – Hellen Rowley Plate

Sunday 19 March – Mixed Foursomes

Monday 20 March – competition

Wednesday 22 March – competition

Sunday 26 March – Captains' Drive-In

Monday 27 March – competition

Monday 27 to Friday 31 March – midweek Stableford

Wednesday 29 March – competition

Sunday 2 April – Australian Spoons

Monday 3 April – competition

Wednesday 5 April – 30+ handicap competition

Monday 10 April – competition

Wednesday 12 April – monthly Stableford

Friday 14 April – 'Annette's Hat' competition

Saturday 15 April – weekend Stableford

Sunday 16 April – weekend Stableford

Wednesday 19 April – midweek Medal

Saturday 22 April – Medal

Sunday 23 April – Coronation Foursomes

Monday 24 April – midweek Coronation Foursomes

Monday 24 to Friday 28 April – midweek Stableford

Wednesday 26 April – competition

Thursday 27 April – home match vs Leighton Buzzard

Saturday 29 April – C/L away match vs Chiltern Forest

Sunday 30 April – Spring Stableford