



The Vale

Newsletter of Aylesbury Vale Golf Club

www.avgc.co.uk

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Edition 38, June 2017

Comment

We hope that everyone has had a chance to welcome two new members of the staff during the past month – Steph to catering and the shop and Leo who deals with office tasks and the shop. William is now a much more frequently seen face in the bar, leaving Jason a little time for golf.

News and Updates from the Club Management

Course. The recent weather has kept the greenkeepers on their toes. The rainfall, followed immediately by warm weather, has meant that if you keep very still you can hear the grass growing! The greens slowed down a little from their fast Spring pace following the top dressing. However, by the time that you read this they will be back down to their original height. The fairways and rough have now been treated for weeds.

Catering

Steph French is a welcome addition to the Clubhouse staff. Steph comes from a catering background and we will be utilising her skills to run an experiment. We will have Heinz or Lee still cooking in normal kitchen hours, but Steph will keep the kitchens open from 4:30pm on some summer evenings. She will also put on a few specials which we will advertise in the bar. This could be giant Yorkshire with sausage and onion gravy, London Pie night, fish 'n chips night etc.

Steph will be cooking on the following dates over the next couple of weeks:

Wed 31 May – until 7:45pm

Thu 1 June – until 8:30pm

Tue 6 June – until 8:30pm

Tue 13 June – until 8:30pm

Wed 14 June – until 8:30pm

Fri 16 June – until 8:30pm

We will take stock after these dates and, if there was good support, we will look to extend it through to the end of August.

Pro Am. The Seniors' Pro Am scheduled for 2 July, and the bookings for the Pros on 3 and 4 July, are not going ahead. Full deposit refunds are now available from the downstairs bar.

Junior Blue Tees. There will be some blue concrete markers sunk into the fairway where young juniors can tee off. The idea is that they can shoot some pars or birdies 'like Rory' and hopefully catch the golfing bug!

Competitions etc. In addition to the competitions, matches etc listed at the end of this Newsletter, the following events are taking place:

Thu 15 Jun – County Juniors 1000 – 1145

Sat 24 Jun – Juniors 1400 – 1445

Chris Wright

Rules of Golf

Touching Line of Putt (Rule 16-1a). The line of putt must not be touched except:

- the player may remove loose impediments, provided he does not press anything down;
- the player may place the club in front of the ball when addressing it, provided he does not press anything down;
- in measuring – Rule 18-6;
- in lifting or replacing the ball – Rule 16-1b
- in pressing down a ball marker;
- in repairing old hole plugs or ball marks on the putting green – Rule 16-1c ; and
- in removing movable obstructions – Rule 24-1.

Penalty: Match play: loss of hole; Stroke play: 2 strokes.

Are you a player who gently taps down imperfections on the line to the hole? It's a 2-stroke penalty!

Tip of the Month from your Club Professional, Terry Bunyan

As you know, I help a lot of people with their short game and hold many short game group sessions and clinics.

I always refer to there being GOLDEN RULES that one should always use. The biggest, when chipping or pitching, is to keep your weight on your left side (right for lefties) throughout the shot. More importantly, keep your sternum left even more when in a bunker - about 70:30.

So start left, stay left and DO NOT move off your left side!

Putting – Group Lesson with Terry Bunyan

Terry is holding a putting group lesson on **Tuesday 6 June**, starting at 10:00am, exploring and explaining simple putting techniques and drills to help you reduce the number of putts.

Everyone is welcome...just £12.

Lesson Offers by Terry Bunyan

2-hour short game lesson, just £50 and receive a 9-hole playing lesson at HALF PRICE.

6 hours coaching package just £180. Receive an on course playing lesson FREE.

Must be booked and paid for before end of June.

Call Terry on 07588 272322



Willen Hospice

Thanks to the enormous generosity of Club members during the past year, on 5 May Adrian Fallon and Andrew Bond presented a cheque for £5,150 to Rachel Barker of Willen Hospice.

Men

A Word from the Men's Captain

We have experienced a bit of anti-social etiquette, namely club throwing. Most Clubs would take action; various time bans or in more serious cases asked to leave the Club, but we at AVGC tend to be a bit different and turned this into an opportunity.

During the Committee Cup a known offender - we call him Slinger Mallinga after the Sri Lankan bowler with the dodgy action - was due to tee off with two members with a fantastic sense of humour, Binzy Bowden and Rafe Benitez. Various members put up £5 each for them to wear toy hard hats, Bob the Builder and Fireman Sam. A great laugh was had by all and the Captain's Charity was swelled by £140. That's the way we do things in the Men's Section.

We have experienced two Chiltern breakfast league matches this month, winning away to Shendish Manor 3½: 2½ and losing away to Stocks 2:4, not bad results but unlike the Seniors we don't enjoy losing.



Now I suppose I should mention the ‘stick’ match against the Seniors. The tension had been building for about a month and eventually burst out on Saturday 20 May. What a fantastic day it was. The weather tried to stop us but we were having none of it. It was marvellous to experience the banter and to witness the superb coming together of two good teams. I’ll let Mr Leech tell you the result in his very substandard column below!

Please come and support my Captain’s Day on 17 June. The signup sheet is on display in the bar and we have secured some superb prizes for you.

Keep it straight.

Andrew Bond

The Committee Cup at the end of April saw Steve Ashton produce his best round for some time, to take the title with a 10 under score of 46 points. Phil Jelley took second place with 40 points and Steve Chandler came a further point back in third.

Onto the May monthly Medal and the winner in Division 1 was Rafe Birch-White with a nett 69. Matt Lea was once again the bridesmaid taking second place on countback from Graham Freshwater, both shooting nett 70s. Division 2 saw a new name taking the honours. Mark Pettit had an excellent nett 66, losing him two shots off his handicap. Darryl Lawson and Alex Nebbitt took the minor places with nett 72s. Mark Hughes was the winner in Division 3 with a nett 67, while again countback was required to separate Jon Read and Adrian Matthews who both recorded nett 71s.

The Foursomes Medal competition once again saw the successful partnership of Russell Crane and Andy Ashcroft take the title with a nett 70, a score that was matched by second placed pairing Will Bond and Rowan Green.

There was only a small field of eight people in the Midweek Medal, which was won by Nick Rolls with a nett 65. Simon Morgan took second place with a nett 70 and Gary Brazier came third with nett 71.

Aged 55 or Over?

Any man aged 55 or over is officially a ‘Senior’ and will be very welcome to join in any of the formal competitions or rollups organised by the Seniors’ Section on a weekday; ‘What’s On’ at the rear of each issue of *The Vale* always gives details what has been arranged for the coming month. If you would like to play with the Seniors – even if only occasionally - just turn up for a rollup (shown as ‘Competition’ or ‘Captain’s Competition’) or enter your name for a formal competition on the Seniors’ noticeboard in the changing room lobby.

The Seniors’ Committee issues emailed competition information to those Seniors who have asked for it. If any other Club members aged 55 or over would like to be on this list, please email Lance Redler, the Seniors’ Admin Secretary (lanceredler@yahoo.co.uk).

Competition and Match Results (Men)

Medal 6 May	Div 1 1 st : Rafe Birch-White nett 69 2 nd : Matthew Lea nett 70 3 rd : Graham Freshwater nett 70	Div 2 1 st : Mark Pettit nett 66 2 nd : Darrel Lawson nett 72 3 rd : Alex Nebbitt nett 72	Div 3 1 st : Mark Hughes nett 67 2 nd : Jon Read nett 71 3 rd : Adrian Matthews nett 71
Foursome Medal 14 May	1 st : Russell Crane/Andrew Ashcroft nett 70 2 nd : Rowan Green/Will Bond nett 70 3 rd : Graham Magill/Steve Chandler nett 71		
Midweek Medal	1 st : Nick Rolls nett 65 2 nd : Simon Morgan nett 70 3 rd : Gary Brazier nett 71		

Men vs Seniors 20 May	Won 9½ ½
Midweek Stableford	1 st : Steve Burnage 43 Pts 2 nd : Paul Morgan 40 Pts 3 rd : Nick Rolls 39 Pts
Scratch Cup Qualifier 27 May	1 st : Rob Crocker nett 69 2 nd : Matthew Lea nett 74 3 rd : Neil Garrett nett 76

Seniors

A Word from the Seniors' Captain

'Ne'er cast a clout till May be out' (and I don't mean Theresa May – no politics in the Seniors' Section please!) rang true for most of the month with cold, wind and finally rain; thank goodness for the excellent weather in the last week.

Vice-Captain & Seniors' Committee

At the recent Committee meeting Dave Simons was duly appointed as the Vice-Captain, and Larry Goddard co-opted onto the Committee to fill the Member's post. Congratulations and thank you to both. We now have a complete Committee for 2017.

A gentle reminder that Dave Lea is the Competitions Secretary and any queries about competitions, details, late entries/exits etc should be referred to him. Dave is the decision maker, the power and the glory when it comes to competitions. Thank you Dave for the great work done so far.

Away Day

A fantastic day out was had at Rickmansworth with over 30 Seniors enjoying the sunshine. We all soon learned why it is called 'Tricky-Ricky' and most of us found this out at the virtually perpendicular 1st hole; we then discovered that Peter Codrai had chosen the most awkward Par 3s for the 'nearest-the-pin' challenges – even though he was the winner at the most difficult one. Sore legs and aching bodies were in evidence at the prize-giving afterwards; congratulations to the numerous prize-winners who were successful in one way or another – I do remember shaking Mickey Parslow's hand far too often!

A huge thank you to Peter Codrai, Clubman of the Year, for organising the event; another great success under his belt. I am sure that we are all looking forward – perhaps with some trepidation - to the next one.

Competitions

Another Summer Six and Medal were held this month with excellent turnouts for both; these saw a number of handicap changes (mainly upwards I believe - me included). Congratulations to the winners: Keith Loxton in the Summer Six (2) with 43 points, and Richard Braithwaite in the Medal (2) with a nett 71. A special mention must go to Tony Deall who came second in both competitions – never mind Tony, your day will come.

Dave Friend is kindly producing the Order of Merit list for these competitions. This can be found on the noticeboard in the changing room.

Inter-Club Matches

Thank you to those who continue to sign up for the inter-Club matches. All Seniors are very much welcome, and encouraged, to sign up for these no matter what or how high your handicap is. If you put your name down, you **will** be selected and partnered by another Senior; if you aren't experienced then I will ensure that you are partnered with a friendly face.

FAQ: How do I choose the match players and partners? First time sign-ups are always selected. More regular signees may have to be 'rested' occasionally (in rotation), but if you are 'rested' for one match you will be selected the next time you sign up. I try to mix the pairings so that you play with a different partner each time – I do get this wrong occasionally though! I **do not** select a team in order to win the match; these are friendly matches (although we love to win) and the pleasure is in taking part.

This last month we have continued our successful run with wins against The Three Locks - Home (4.5 to 1.5), Aylesbury Park – Home (4 to 2), and Weston Turville – Home (3.5 to 2.5), a draw against Chalgrave Manor – Away and a close second place against Beadlow Manor – Away (2.5 to 3.5). The winning players are far, far too numerous to mention individually, just 'Well done Team'.

Intra-Club Match

Only one intra-Club match took place this month which you may have already heard about. I am sure that the Men's Captain – Andrew Bond (the old ~~goat~~ gloat) - will have already mentioned the Men's emphatic victory in his pompous section above. It was a fantastic day of camaraderie and friendship, with each Section getting to know and love each other.

The 'Old Stick Trophy' for the day was put to good use almost immediately; Shaun Houghton (Men) had succeeded in remaining dry throughout his round in the pouring rain, but was deluged by a full glass of beer judiciously swiped over by Alan Potter (Senior) using The Old Stick.

The score? Irrelevant, scores are just a series of meaningless numbers. The winners were those who took part. It was a pleasure and an honour for the Seniors to, in the words of the Clubman of the Year, play with the Men in a match they actually won (at last, some would say). Here's to next year's match.

Oh, by the way, the match raised over £450 for the Captains' Charity – Willen Hospice.

Mark Leech

Seniors' Committee Meetings

The most recent Committee meeting was held on Monday 15 May. The Minutes of this and past meetings are available to read in the box on the window ledge in the changing room.

Order of Merit

The Order of Merit standing after Summer Six (2) is:

- 1st: Mike Ewart 60 points
- 2nd: Mickey Parslow 58 points
- 3rd: Tony Deall 57 points

Competition and Match Results (Seniors)

Home match vs The Three Locks 3 May	Won 5½:½
Home match vs Aylesbury Park 10 May	Won 4:2
Summer Six (2) 15 May	1 st : Keith Loxton 43 Pts 2 nd : Tony Deall 41 Pts 3 rd : Martin Shefferd 37 Pts
Away match vs Beadlow Manor 18 May	Lost 2½:3½
Seniors vs Men 20 May	Lost ½:9½

Medal 22 May	1 st : Richard Braithwaite nett 71 2 nd : Tony Deall nett 71 3 rd : Mike Ewart nett 72
Away match vs Chalgrave Manor 24 May	Halved 3:3
Home match vs Weston Turville 31 May	Won 3½:2½

Ladies

A Word from the Lady Captain

On a cold wet day at the end of April we played our first match of the season against Leighton Buzzard, with a result of a half. The weather warmed up for our second match of the season against Aylesbury Park, but unfortunately our golf didn't, resulting in a 1:3 loss. Two games have been played in the Chiltern League: away to Princes Risborough where we lost 1:2 and at home to Chiltern Forest which we won 2:1. Whether we win or lose, our matches are always good fun with great team spirit.

We have played our first mixed match and there was a good turnout of 32 players. We enjoyed a lovely roast dinner cooked by the even lovelier Heinz and the competition was won by Dave Lea and Lesley Wright. Very well done to all.

Probably my biggest event of the golfing year was Lady Captain's Day on 13 May. The weather was on our side and a large field of 99 players enjoyed the game and the company of a lovely lady in each group. A huge thank you to all AVGC members who made it such a memorable day for me. Some amazing scores came out of the bag on the day. The ladies' Past Captains event was won by Viv Craker with 40 points and Jan Chambers was runner up with 37 points. The Lady Captain's Day competition was won by Jan Rolls with 43 points, runner up Jane Codrai(!!) with 39 points. What can I say about the winners of the men's competition? If you think that Barry Crocker never smiles you are very wrong - in first place with 46 points, his smile lit up the room. In second place with 43 points was Roger White and Nick Bowden won the putting competition. Well done to all who took part. The lucky team winners will be going to Woburn, Five Lakes in Colchester and Leighton Buzzard to play some four balls as their prizes. Thanks to the generosity of all AVGC members approximately £1,000 was raised on the day and will be donated to Willen Hospice from the Ladies' Section. Thank you all for your support and a special thank you to Peter Codrai and Dave Lea who worked so hard to make the day a success.

Congratulations to Vanessa Bond and Natalie Rendle who won the England Golf Ping competition and will be put forward to the next round.

Mother Nature and a stroke of luck meant we played Lady Captain's fun day in the sunshine and not the rain. Thanks to all who took part and helped to raise approximately £100 extra for the charity. The winners of the team event were Lesley Wright, Kath Scott and Jan Rolls. The runners up were Charlotte Simpson, Jean Barnett and Pat Connolly.

There are lots of exciting events coming up in June so make sure you read the diary and join in if you are able.

Jane Codrai

Competition and Match Results (Ladies)

Spring Stableford 30 April	1 st : Julie Hoar 36 Pts 2 nd : Julie Lea 34 Pts 3 rd : Anne Bridges 34 Pts
Midweek Medal 3 May	1 st : Linda Davies nett 73 2 nd : Jean Edwards nett 75 3 rd : Mary Williamson nett 75

30+ handicap competition 15 May	1 st : Jane Whigham 34 Pts 2 nd : Jean Attenborough 29 Pts 3 rd : Christina Mungovan 25 Pts
Weekend Medal 20 May	1 st : Natalie Rendle nett 74 2 nd : Jean Barnett nett 75 3 rd : Jan Chambers nett 78
Ping 4BBB Stableford 21 May	1 st : Natalie Rendle/Vanessa Bond 40 Pts 2 nd : Pat Banister/Hilary Hasler 39 Pts 3 rd : Julie Hoar/Gail Wickersham 38 Pts
Stableford 31 May	1 st : Linda Davies 41 Pts 2 nd : Jean Attenborough 35 Pts 3 rd : Sheila Perkins 34 Pts

Juniors

No report was received this month.

Pro Shop



Ping Glide 2.0 Wedges. 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 club is available if you want to have a go!

Ping Sigma G Putters. 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 and loft as well as length, grip size and style. Come into the Pro Shop to have a go and see which style you like!



and in Conclusion...

...the last word is... Golfers' weather is back, so let's all celebrate at AVGC with some great results!

...and a touch of humour... After a long day on the course an annoyed golfer turned to his caddie and said 'You must be the worst caddie in the world!' The caddie replied 'I don't think so. That would be too much of a coincidence!'

Lance Redler

Editor

cc: Club Professionals, charities

What's on This Month and Next?

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

Men:

Saturday 3 June – home match vs Magnolia Park 0945-1100

Monday 5 to Friday 9 June – midweek Medal

Saturday 10 June – home match vs Aylesbury Park 0945-1100

Sunday 11 June – Medal 0645-1030

Saturday 17 June – Men's Captain's Day (1st & 10th) 0600-1400

Sunday 18 June – Greensome Stableford 0745-0900

Sunday 18 June – mid-handicap home match vs Pavenham Park 1100-1145

Monday 19 to Friday 23 June – midweek Stableford

Saturday 24 June – Men's/Ladies' Pairs Championship 0745-1000

Sunday 25 June – Men's/Ladies' Pairs Championship 0745-1000

Saturday 1 July – Penny Cup 0745-1000

~~**Sunday 2 July – Pro-Am 1200-1430 CANCELLED**~~

Monday 3 to Friday 7 July – Midweek Medal

Saturday 8 July – away match vs Abbey Hill

Saturday 8 July – Medal 0645-1030

Monday 10 July – Midweek Club Championship 0715-1030

Saturday 15 July – Marston's Trophy 0745-0900

Sunday 16 July – home match vs Shendish Manor 0945-1100

Monday 17 to Friday 21 July – Midweek Stableford

Saturday 22 July – Professionals' Cup 0745-0930

Saturday 29 July – President's Day 0600-1230

Sunday 30 July – home match vs Stocks 0945-1100

Monday 31 July to Friday 4 August – Midweek Medal

Seniors:

Monday 5 June – Medal (3) 0800-1030

Monday 5 to Friday 9 June – midweek Medal

Wednesday 7 June – home match vs Chartridge Park 0845-1000

Monday 12 June – Summer Six (3) 0800-1030

Wednesday 14 June – 'Jones' Drawn Pairs Stableford 0815-1000

Saturday 17 June – Men's Captain's Day (1st & 10th) 0600-1400

Monday 19 June – away match vs Kirtlington

Monday 19 June – competition 0815-1000

Monday 19 to Friday 23 June – midweek Stableford

Friday 23 June – Rabbits vs The Rest 0815-1000

Saturday 24 June – Men's/Ladies' Pairs Championship 0745-1000

Sunday 25 June – Men's/Ladies' Pairs Championship 0745-1000

Monday 26 June – Medal (4) 0800-1030

Wednesday 28 June – home match vs Kirtlington 0945-1100

~~**Sunday 2 July – Pro-Am 1200-1430 CANCELLED**~~

Monday 3 July – Summer Six (4) 0800-1030

Monday 3 to Friday 7 July – Midweek Medal

Wednesday 5 July – Drawn Pairs Greensome Stableford 0815-1000

Thursday 6 July – away match vs Aylesbury Park

Monday 10 July – Midweek Club Championship 0715-1030

Wednesday 12 July – away match vs Chartridge Park

Wednesday 12 July – competition 0830-1000

Monday 17 July – Seniors' Captain's Day 0600-1230

Monday 17 to Friday 21 July – Midweek Stableford

Wednesday 19 July – competition 0830-1000

Monday 24 July – competition 0815-1000

Tuesday 25 July – away match vs Mount Pleasant

Wednesday 26 July – AwayDay at Redbourn

Saturday 29 July – President's Day 0600-1230

Monday 31 July – Medal (5) 0800-1030

Key Contacts

Club Management

e-mail: info@avgc.co.uk

www.avgc.co.uk

Tel: 01525 240196

Memberships/Shop/Tee bookings: Chris Wright,
Garry Hutchinson, Jason Thornalley

Restaurant/Functions: 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: Andrew Bond

Vice-Captain: John Barker

Treasurer: Russell Crane

Competition Secretary: Dave Lea

Admin Secretary: Roger White

Handicap Secretary: Neil Garrett

5-Day Representative: Peter Codrai

Seniors

Captain: Mark Leech

Vice-Captain: Dave Simons

Treasurer: John Parmenter

Competition Secretary: Dave Lea

Admin Secretary: Lance Redler

Social Secretary: Peter Codrai

Ladies

Captain: Jane Codrai

Vice-Captain: Jane Barker

Treasurer: Jean Edwards

Admin Secretary: Ali Cheeseman

7-day Competition Secretary: Natalie Rendle

5-day Competition Secretary: Jan Chambers

Handicap Secretary: Danka Lawson

Juniors

Captain: Alex Robins

Ladies:

Sunday 4 June – Medal 0845-0930
Monday 5 June – 30+ handicap competition 1030-1130
Tuesday 6 June – home match vs Waterstock 1015-1115
Wednesday 7 June – competition 1000-1100
Thursday 8 June – Invitation Day 1000-1230
Saturday 10 June – Summer Cup 0845-0930
Saturday 10 June – C’L away match vs Weston Turville
Monday 12 June – Grandma’s Cup 1030-1100
Wednesday 14 June – midweek Medal 1000-1100
Saturday 17 June – Men’s Captain’s Day (1st & 10th) 0600-1400
Monday 19 June – Stableford 1000-1100
Friday 23 June – competition 1000-1100
Saturday 24 June – Men’s/Ladies’ Pairs Championship 0745-1000
Sunday 25 June – Men’s/Ladies’ Pairs Championship 0745-1000
Monday 26 June – competition 1030-1130
Monday 26 to Friday 30 June – midweek Stableford
Wednesday 28 June – competition 0830-0930
~~**Sunday 2 July – Pro-Am 1200-1430 CANCELLED**~~
Monday 3 July – competition 1030-1130
Wednesday 5 July – Seniors’ Shield 1000-1100
Sunday 9 July – Power Ball competition 0945-1030
Monday 10 July – competition 1030-1130
Wednesday 12 July – midweek Medal 1000-1100
Thursday 13 July – C/L home match vs Princes Risborough 1015-1115
Saturday 15 July – Seniors’ Cup 0945-1030
Monday 17 to Friday 21 July – Midweek Stableford
Wednesday 19 July – 3 clubs + putter competition 1000-1100
Sunday 23 July – Medal 0845-0930
Monday 24 July – 30+ handicap competition 1000-1100
Tuesday 25 July – home match vs Mount Pleasant 1015-1115
Wednesday 26 July – monthly Stableford 1000-1100
Thursday 27 July –home match vs Tilsworth 1015-1115
Saturday 29 July – President’s Day 0600-1230
Sunday 30 July – Harries Shield 0845-0930
Monday 31 July – Drawn Greensome 1030-1130