



# *The Vale*

Newsletter of Aylesbury Vale Golf Club

[www.avgc.co.uk](http://www.avgc.co.uk)

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Edition 44, December 2017  
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## **Comment**

Please note that *The Vale* will **not** be published in January.

You would not be reading *The Vale* were it not for John Kitchen. In late October 2013 John discovered that the Editor – who had only joined Aylesbury Vale earlier that year – produced a newsletter for his previous Club. ‘*We could do with one of those*’, he said, proposing it to the Men’s Committee a couple of weeks later. John’s proposal found favour and he then persuaded the Editor to commence work; this Issue is No 44. Thank you John for your enthusiasm and support of *The Vale*.



### **John Kitchen**

We are saddened to report the death on 5 November, following a period of serious illness, of John Kitchen.

John was a past Seniors’ Captain, a long-term member of the Men’s Committee, an ardent supporter of the Club and much respected by our members. We extend our deepest condolences to his family.

## **News and Updates from the Club Management**

Course. This is the time of year to keep the verti-drainer running for as long as possible to assist winter drainage. The greens and tees have already been completed and we have started work on the fairways/rough. The forecast for the early part of December is cold but dry, which will be favourable for this task. January is the month for tree work around the course. Copses will be thinned to assist the trees to grow without the canopies growing into each other. This is also the time to make sure that any low branches are pruned back.

Catering – Sunday Roasts in January. Heinz’s Sunday roasts will be available on Sunday 14 January and Sunday 28 January from 1pm at £10.95 for a 2-course roast. Please see the menu and booking sheet in the downstairs bar.

Members' Christmas Parties. Heinz offers Christmas Party Dinners to members for groups of 12 or more. The menu is:

Traditional Turkey Roast  
Slow Roast Lamb Shank  
Seared Salmon Fillet

Winter Berry Cheesecake  
Home baked Apple Pie and Custard  
Christmas Pudding

Mince Pies and Coffee

The above is £14 per head for a member booking. The following choice of starters can be added for an additional £4 per head.

Wild Mushroom and Sherry Soup  
Duck Liver and Orange Pate  
Prawn Cocktail

These are available for groups of members or a member booking in for an outside group. With wines at £13 per bottle this will represent a good saving on local restaurants. Please speak to Jason, Heinz or Chris about availability.

Shop. The Christmas Sale in the shop runs until Boxing Day. There is 10% off all marked prices and a further 10% comes off the price if you then pay with your white card. This 20% is available on clothes, bags, trolleys, balls, tees, umbrellas, hats – in fact everything in the shop with the exception of Ping products, Cleveland products and re-grips.

Tee Bookings. In an attempt to get all golfers back to the Clubhouse before darkness, we now take tee bookings from 9am instead of 10am Monday to Friday. The programming has been updated on the tee booking system such that members can now book from home as well as booking in the shop. Along with this change goes a plea, at this time of year particularly, to keep up with the speed of play or let groups through. It only takes one group to lose holes on the group in front and suddenly there could be several groups who are unable to complete their rounds due to darkness.

And finally...we wish all our members a very Happy Christmas and a healthy New Year!

*Chris Wright*

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## **Rules of Golf**

As a change from the normal, here is some Rules guidance from a Club member who is a qualified golf referee.

Ball Embedded in the Bank on the Greenside of the 13<sup>th</sup> Hole. If your ball is embedded (plugged) in the bank on the greenside of the 13<sup>th</sup>, you should proceed as follows, having first determined if the ball is in the hazard:

Ball in the Hazard – you can either:

- Play the ball as it lies, without grounding the club, or
- Drop a ball at the point of entry as far back as you like on the far side of the hazard, incurring a 1-stroke penalty, or
- Go back and play from where you played before, incurring a 1-stroke penalty.

Ball Outside the Hazard. You may lift and drop the ball from the embedded lie (local rule).

If you cannot do this without the ball falling back into the hazard, you must find the nearest point at which you can drop the ball without it rolling back into the hazard and is not nearer the hole; this point may be some distance away from the original position (there is no penalty).

### Some Putting Puzzles

Tom, Dick and Harry are on the green when:

Tom marks his ball with a coin, lifts the ball and presses down the coin with his putter. He walks to the edge of the green and finds that the coin has stuck to the sole of the putter. What is the ruling?

Dick marks his ball and then cleans and replaces it, ready to putt. After replacing it a gust of wind blows the ball to a new position. What is the ruling?

Harry marks his ball and then cleans and replaces it, ready to putt. After replacing it a squirrel runs onto the green and moves Harry's ball. What is the ruling?

The answers are:

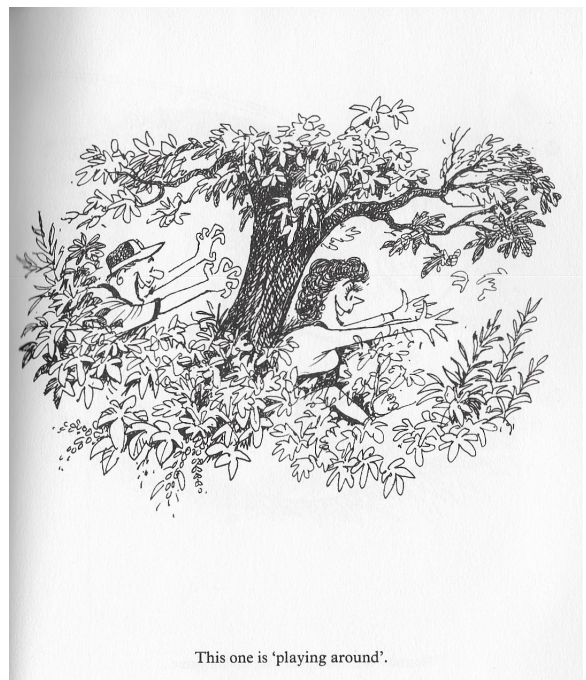
Tom should replace the coin on or as near to where it was, but not nearer the hole. There is no penalty. Rule 20-1/6.

Dick should putt the ball from the new position. There is no penalty. Rule 18. (Wind is not an outside agency.)

Harry should replace the ball where it was and then putt. There is no penalty (if the ball were not replaced a penalty would be incurred). Rule 18. (The squirrel is an outside agency.)



From 'Play It As It Lies' by Thelwell ©



### **Tip of the Month from your Club Professional, Terry Bunyan**

Lower your expectations on how far you hit the ball. It's usually cold and windy and there's no roll on the ball, so use more club and swing easy.

The winter is a great time to work on your game ready for the new season and there are many things you can do. I'm always happy to help you with your game; let's have a coffee and a chat and discuss it.

### Winter Lesson Offer from Terry Bunyan

6 hours coaching just £220, plus get a 6-hole on-course lesson free.

Christmas lesson vouchers are also available!

Call Terry on 07588 272322

May I also wish you all a great Christmas and an enjoyable golfing 2018, plus a special thanks to you all for your support and interest in my ongoing Senior playing career. After a steady 2017 and a top 20 finish in the Order of Merit, I hope and expect 2018 to bring some noticeable improvement and success.

### Christmas Vouchers from Russell Phillips

**£20 gift voucher** – for 1x30min 1-to-1 lesson

**£50 gift voucher** - for 3x30min 1-to-1 lesson

There are only a limited number of these available from the **Pro Shop** so don't miss out.  
Vouchers must be purchased before 24 December



I wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for all your support and I look forward to working with you to improve your game in 2017!

## Men

### A Word from the Men's Captain

December? Can't believe it's December! At the time of writing this marvellous piece of fiction the golf course is holding up well, especially behind the Seniors, however we all know that at anytime we will be playing in frosts, rain etc but let's hope for a mild winter. When the greens become soft, pitch marks are more likely to occur so please be vigilant and repair them quickly and I must say there seems to be less of them than last year, so keep up the good work.

The whole Club Christmas dinner and dance is coming up on 9 December. I can't remember one before, which must be the way forward in our ever-closing ties with every Section of the Club, which has been the objective of all the Captains this year.

Please be careful when taking a mug from the stack by the coffee machine, as I know first hand it is very tempting to go for the bottom one (Jenga!).

Finally a little winter tip for you. My form had dropped quite dramatically just recently, the ball didn't behave as normal, duffed shots, topped shots etc but I had a tip from Terry the Pro – '*Clean your clubs you dirty \*\*\*\*\*!*' I gave my clubs a good cleaning and the difference was amazing.

Keep it straight (and clean).

*Andrew Bond*

### **Competition and Match Results (Men)**

Midweek Stableford	1 <sup>st</sup> : John Harris 36 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Steve George 34 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Mike Browne 33 Pts
week Medal	1 <sup>st</sup> : Steve Willett nett 75 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Will Bond nett 75 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Neil Meldrum nett 77

## **Seniors**

### **A Word from the Seniors' Captain**

Winter weather is beginning to show itself with a vengeance; I hope you heeded my advice to dig out your gloves, hand warmers and thermal clothes. A huge thank you to Luke and his team for keeping the course in such good condition.

Competitions. The new Winter Six Stableford competition seems to be proving very popular, with a larger than expected turnout (over 40) in November.

Inter-Club Matches. The last of the 2017 Winter League matches was played against Weston Turville, with AVGC Seniors returning to their usual form – a loss. Let's hope that 2018 shows a turn in fortunes (or skill).

'Gotcha' Immunity Cards. I believe that we have asked members for enough charity contributions this year. This, combined with a general lack of 'Gotcha' payments being enforced, has led us to decide that the Immunity Cards which expired on 31 October should be extended to 31 March.

Slow Play. Slow play by Seniors has been commented on again. The reduced amount of daylight hours at this time of year makes it even more important to ensure that others are not held up. Please don't forget that there may be others behind you who also want to finish their game in daylight. Please be continually mindful of how long you are taking, where you are in relation to other groups on the course and be pro-active about letting others play through. You may well be playing in a match or doing an eclectic card, but this does not give you priority over others. I want to ensure that draconian measures do not have to be introduced, whether by the Seniors' Section or Club Management. This may occur if instances of slow play do occur.

Handicaps. You will have seen that handicaps greater than 28 will be introduced with effect from 1 January 2018. It is the intention to hopefully review current play of all 28-handicappers this month, and to then offer higher handicaps where appropriate. I know that there is some concern over having very high handicaps, so we will have to keep the position under constant review.

'Ave a great festive season.

*Mark Leech*

## Seniors' Committee

The nomination sheet for the 2018 Seniors' Committee is now on the Seniors' noticeboard (adjacent to Locker 1) in the changing room.

Please think what *you* could bring to the Committee to help make golf even more rewarding and fun for our members. If there's already a name down for a post, don't let that dissuade you – in fact the more the merrier. Should there be more than one nominee for any Officer or Member post, the decision is made by election during the AGM in February.

## Seniors' AGM

The Seniors' AGM takes place on Wednesday 7 February 2018. The agenda and other paperwork will be posted on the Seniors' noticeboard in the changing room later in December, so do keep an eye open for it.

## Seniors' Winter League (by Peter Nightingale)

The Seniors' Winter League has now entered its winter break and our next scheduled match is against Oakland Park on Wednesday 10 January, at Oakland Park. We have not started as I had hoped, languishing at the bottom of the table, but we still have three matches left to climb higher, although they will be tough matches - away at Oakland Park and Little Hay and a home match against Chartridge Park in March.

Our results for November included a loss at Weston Turville (1½:4½) where David Needs and Roy Atkinson were the only winners and Keith Loxton and myself getting the draw. We then went to Chartridge Park where we lost (2:4) in a tight match, apart from one result. Keith Minor and Roy Atkinson were winners in their match and David Friend and myself won the other match. Well done Roy for winning both your matches this month.

Requests for players for Oakland Park will be up on the Seniors' notice board in mid-December. It is a difficult ground to win at, very tight and extra par 3s so please, if you are available put your names down for selection.

The results so far are:

TEAM	Pl	W	D	HOME		AWAY		Points
				L	L	D	L	
Oakland Park	5	2	1	0	2	0	0	11
Chartridge Park	6	2	0	1	0	2	1	7
Little Hay	5	1	0	0	1	1	2	6.5
Weston Turville	5	1	2	0	0	0	2	4
Aylesbury Vale	5	1	0	2	0	0	2	2

## Competition and Match Results (Seniors)

Winter League away match vs Weston Turville 2 November	Lost 1½:4½
Winter League away match vs Chartridge Park 8 November	Lost 2:4
Winter Six (2) 13 November	1 <sup>st</sup> : Harvey Werter 39 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Mickey Parslow 35 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Barry Quantrill 34 Pts

# Ladies

## A Word from the Lady Captain

'Tis the season to be jolly and do silly things with holly, playing golf would be a folly, in this wind you'll lose your broly.

It seems like an age ago that the Ladies played the Men and despite the help of some 'Lady Boys' we lost 5½ to 2½. However, the men won three matches by just one point, it could so easily have gone the other way. A win for the ladies or a draw next year, ladies!

Well done to all the Ladies who played this month in difficult conditions. The 30+ competitions are now over till March 2018; well done all who played and thank you to Gina Royfe for running the competitions.

I will be clearing the changing room of lost property in the next few weeks so please take home anything which belongs to you and you don't want thrown away.

Finally, a Christmas tune to be read/sung to the tune of Silent Night.

Silent night, holy night  
All's not well, all's not right  
Poor Nurse Shagwell still on the pond  
Surrounded by Willy and Andrew Bond  
I want her back Willy cried  
She'll be ok once she's dried.

Silent night, holy night  
All's not well, all's not right  
A super hero appeared on the 16<sup>th</sup> Tee  
'Oh no' cried the Bonds, its BJB  
His drive hit her on the head  
And now the poor nurse is dead.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.

*Jane Codrai*

## Competition and Match Results (Ladies)

30+ handicap competition 1 November	1 <sup>st</sup> : Gina Royffe 33 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Ann Haynes 30 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Jan Rolls 28 Pts
Weekend Medal 5 November	1 <sup>st</sup> : Abi Pearce nett 75 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Danka Lawson nett 75 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Sue Bellingham nett 77
Midweek Stableford	1 <sup>st</sup> : Danka Lawson 35 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Charlotte Simpson 33 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Pat Banister 28 Pts
Barbara Carr Plate 12 November	1 <sup>st</sup> : Natalie Rendle 34 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Anne Bridges 32 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Gegie McGinley 29 Pts
Midweek Medal	1 <sup>st</sup> : Gegie McGinley nett 70 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Anne Bridges nett 72 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Danka Lawson nett 73
Winter Stableford 18 November	1 <sup>st</sup> : Jane Codrai 36 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Sue Bellingham 35 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Sarah Walker 34 Pts
Stableford 22 November	1 <sup>st</sup> : Anne Bridges 38 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Jan Chambers 35 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Gegie McGinley 35 Pts

Weekend Stableford 25 November	1 <sup>st</sup> : Gegie McGinley 35 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Vanessa Bond 26 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Jane Codrai 25 Pts
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## Juniors

There is no Junior report this month.

## and in Conclusion...

**...the last word is...** all Club members and their families are wished a very happy Christmas. The next issue of *The Vale* will be the February issue. Until then – keep golfing.

**...and a touch of humour...** Golfer: *'Do you think my game is improving?'* Caddy: *'Yes sir, you miss the ball much closer now.'*

*Lance Redler*

Editor

Come and celebrate Christmas!

# The Wing Singers

(www.thewingsingers.org.uk)

## Carol Concerts

Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December  
in Wing Village Hall

Free light refreshments  
Raffle  
Family Tombola

(Donations will be made to local charities/good causes)

**4-5pm (doors open 3:30pm)**  
or  
**7-8pm (doors open 6:30pm)**

**Entry by ticket only**

Adults: £3 including light refreshments  
Child 16 or under: free including  
light refreshments  
from  
Richard Carrick  
ricardo.carrick@btinternet.com  
01296 682804

**Two  
Concerts!**

**All  
Welcome**

cc: Club Professionals, charities



### **What's on This Month and Next?**

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

#### **Men:**

Saturday 2 December – Turkey Trot 0745-0945

**Saturday 9 December – AVGC Dinner Dance**

Sunday 10 December – Medal 0745-1030

**Monday 11 to Sunday 17 December – Winter Stableford**

Saturday 6 January - Medal 0745-1000

**Monday 8 to Sunday 14 January – Winter Stableford**

#### **Seniors:**

Monday 4 December – competition 0830-0915

Wednesday 6 December – competition 0830-0915

**Saturday 9 December – AVGC Dinner Dance**

Monday 11 December – Winter Six (3) 0830-0915

**Monday 11 to Sunday 17 December – Winter Stableford**

Wednesday 13 December – competition 0830-0915

Monday 18 December – competition 0830-0915

Wednesday 20 December – competition 0830-0915

Wednesday 27 December – competition 0830-0915

Wednesday 3 January – competition 0830-0915

Monday 8 January – Winter Six (4) 0830-0915

**Monday 8 to Sunday 14 January – Winter Stableford**

Wednesday 10 January – competition 0830-0915

Monday 15 January – competition 0830-0915

Wednesday 17 January – Winter League away match vs Oakland Park

Wednesday 17 January – competition 0830-0915

Monday 22 January – competition 0830-0915

Wednesday 24 January – competition 0830-0915

Monday 29 January – competition 0830-0915

Wednesday 31 January – competition 0830-0915

#### **Ladies:**

Sunday 3 December – Medal 0845-0930

Monday 4 December – competition 1000-1030

Wednesday 6 December – midweek Medal 1000-1100

**Saturday 9 December – AVGC Dinner Dance**

Monday 11 December – competition 1000-1030

Wednesday 13 December – 9-hole competition 1000-1100 + Christmas Lunch

Saturday 16 December – Bring & Win (9 holes) 1000-1100

Monday 18 December – competition 1000-1030

Wednesday 20 December – Stableford 1000-1030

Wednesday 27 December – competition 1000-1030

**Monday 11 to Sunday 17 December – Winter Stableford**

Wednesday 3 January – competition 1000-1030

Monday 8 January – competition 1000-1030

**Monday 8 to Sunday 14 January – Winter Stableford**

Wednesday 10 January – competition 1000-1100

Saturday 13 January – Medal 0945-1030

Monday 15 January – competition 1000-1030

Wednesday 17 January – midweek Medal 1000-1030

Saturday/Sunday 20/21 January – weekend Stableford

Monday 22 January – competition 1000-1030

Wednesday 24 January – monthly Stableford 1000-1030

Monday 29 January – competition 1000-1030

Wednesday 31 January – competition 1000-1030

### **Key Contacts**

#### **Club Management**

e-mail: [info@avgc.co.uk](mailto:info@avgc.co.uk)

[www.avgc.co.uk](http://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](mailto:r.phillips@avgc.co.uk)

Terry Bunyan 07588

272322

[terrygolf1965@gmail.com](mailto: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:** Charlotte Simpson

**7-day Competition Secretary:** Natalie Rendle

**5-day Competition Secretary:** Jan Chambers

**Handicap Secretary:** Danka Lawson

#### **Juniors**

**Captain:** Alex Robins

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