



The Vale

Newsletter of Aylesbury Vale Golf Club

www.avgc.co.uk

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Edition 64, October 2019

Comment

Members will no doubt be rather pleased and rather astonished at the amounts raised during the past month in aid of our two very worthwhile charitable causes.

News and Updates from the Club Management

The Course

October is a key month to try and improve the playing surface whilst we experience that early autumn flush of growth. We got a head start on this last year and a lot of the damaged areas recovered well. We have already started this process this year and will continue throughout October.

Greens. The greens have not been at their best following the hollow core/dress as the weather turned unseasonably warm and dry. This meant that we had to raise the height of cut slightly to assist with disease prevention. However, the last week has been wet and already the greens are showing signs of recovery. We should be able to slightly reduce the height of cut once again in the next couple of weeks.

Tees. Tees are being verti-drained and dressed. After this they will be scarified and seeded. The 2nd tee has been dressed early and is showing signs of improvement.

Bare areas. Bare areas will be scarified and seeded to aid recovery. Bare areas around bunkers will be re-turfed.

Fairways. Fairways will be slit and verti-drained this year.

Rough. At the end of the month the long rough will be cut down.

Preferred Lies. We will adopt England Golf's recommended dates for preferred lies, which are 1 October 2019 to 30 April 2020.

Clubhouse Matters

Normal shoes in the Clubhouse. We have experienced a wetter spell of weather recently, so now is a good time to ask members to change out of their golf shoes to enter the bar/restaurant.

Sunday Roasts. The next Sunday Roast will be Sunday 27 October at 1pm. Beware - the clocks will have gone back on that day.

Christmas Groups/Parties. Do remember to book your day with us if you would like a Christmas get together for golf and/or a celebration Christmas meal.

Chris Wright

Rules of Golf

Provisional Ball

Rule 27-2a(ii) of the 2016 edition of the Rules of Golf stated that a provisional ball had to be played by a player ‘...before he or his partner goes forward to search for the original ball.’ This was subsequently modified, so that if necessary a player could go forward ‘approximately 50 yards’ and still be able to return to play a provisional ball.

Rules have now changed. In the 2019 Player’s Edition of the Rules of Golf, no such restriction is imposed and, to clarify the situation, Official Interpretation 18.3a/2 states:

Playing Provisional Ball after Search has Started is Allowed

A player may play a provisional ball for a ball that might be lost when the original ball has not been found and identified even if the three-minute search time has not yet ended.

For example, if a player is able to return to the spot of his or her previous stroke and play a provisional ball before the three-minute search time has ended, the player is allowed to do so.

If the player plays the provisional ball and the original ball is then found within the three-minute search time, the player must continue play with the original ball.

To maintain a sensible speed of play, we ask that players should:

- always play a provisional ball before moving forward if in any doubt, and
- ensure that the search does not extend past three minutes regardless of whether they are actively looking themselves or not.

Tip of the Month from your Club Professional, Terry Bunyan

Something to think about...the clubhead must get to the ball before the buttons on your shirt do!

Jack Nicklaus was quoted to say that ‘*You can’t release the club too soon.*’. What does this mean? Well, as I have coached for many years you must be relaxed at address, with light grip pressure to allow the arms to FALL from the top of your swing and allow the hands to release the club. This creates natural motion to increase clubhead speed and a more inside swing path.

Come and see me and I’ll explain this more fully and improve your golf.

Lesson Offers from Terry Bunyan

Autumn and winter is a great time to slowly work on your game. Consider a regular program of coaching throughout this winter to improve all areas of your golf game.

Call me on 07588 272322 to discuss yours

For the ladies. Why not take a joint lesson - 1 hour for just £35
That's £17.50 each. Offer is valid up to the end of November.

Adult Individual Lessons from Russell Phillips

THE WINTER PACKS

The popular winter packs are starting **this month!**

This playing season is coming to an end and now is the time to start working on your game over the winter, ready for next year! I will be working with you on a fortnightly basis to develop your game over the winter period. The aim is to complete the package by April 2020. We will set some personal goals/targets, work on the range, short game, putting, bunker play, course management...whatever we need to get you the results!
Past players who have purchased winter packs have gone on to win competitions, lower their handicap and play better than ever before!

What you get:

THE FULL PACK - £250 Members (£175 Saving) or £325 Non-Members (£215 Saving)

1 x Assessment with goals and targets, so we can work together to achieve them;
12 x 30 minute golf lessons to work on your game 1-2-1,
and
2 x 9-hole grouped playing lessons!

THE HALF PACK - £150 Members (£75 Saving) or £190 Non-Members (£95 Saving)

1 x Assessment with goals and targets, so we can work together to achieve them;
6 x 30 minute golf lessons to work on your game 1-2-1,
and
1 x 9-hole grouped playing lesson!

Not quite what you were looking for? Or want to share a winter pack with your partner? I can create a package to suit your goals and needs.

Winter packs need to be ideally started before 1 November 2019, so don't miss out.

Club Charity – Hospice at Home

We have been told that our Club charity for the year, Hospice at Home, has been able to extend its geographic coverage to residents living in Wing; its services were previously restricted to families registered with a Leighton/Linslade GP.

2019 Club Junior Championship

The Club Junior Championship was the penultimate Championship event to be held this year, resulting in:

Junior Club Champion (Gross) – Alex Robins

Junior Club Champion (Nett) – Tom Hunter

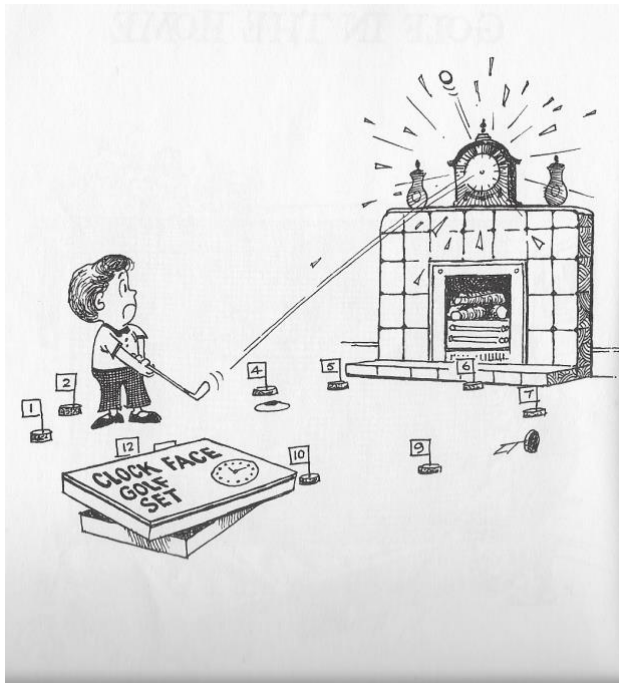
Congratulations to them both.

Ladies' Midweek Club Championship

The Ladies' Midweek Club Championship was the last of the Club Championships for the year, taking place on 25 September; the result was:

Ladies' Midweek Club Champion (Gross) – Ghie McGinley

Ladies' Midweek Club Champion (Nett) – Charlotte Simpson



Breast Cancer Awareness Day by Jean Edwards & Brenda Lee

The total collected at this year's event was an astonishing £1,144.08.

This is the 11th year that the Ladies' Section has raised monies for Breast Cancer Research. This started as a small day when our aim was to raised £100, but has ballooned into a day where lots of people really look forward to playing.

Over the years we have collected over £20,000 for Breast Cancer Research. This includes the competition run at Easter, on Good Friday (Annette's Hat Day); monies from the greeting cards made by Ann Haynes and that are for sale in the ladies' changing room; monies from Christmas Card donations and also monies raised by the AVGC ladies at the British Ladies' Open, at Woburn in 2016.

This is just to thank everyone who turned out in pink to support our annual Breast Cancer Day at Aylesbury Vale. Ron and Ann Haynes, with Tom Wilmot, again looked amazing in their outfits and certainly got into the spirit of the day.

Thank you to Heinz and the catering staff for providing lunch for the 102 people who played, which was much appreciated and all ran smoothly. Thanks also to Charlotte Simpson for the two lovely cakes, which went down a storm and to Ann Haynes for making the various greetings cards and donating all the monies to the charity – we hope that the ladies will continue to buy them.



Further thanks go to Mike Lee, Jean Fatcher, Margaret Jones, Judy Fagan and Marion Gogan for helping with the organisation on the Friday morning; to Alan Jackson for taking photos and loading them to the AVGC Facebook and producing the photograph in the AVGC bar; to Jennie Morton for the Red Bull Racing signed hat that made £123 in the raffle; to Joe Collier for the various vouchers donated for raffle prizes; to Brian Hogarth for the £25 John Lewis voucher and to everyone for all their donations and raffle prizes, that were much appreciated.

We look forward to seeing everyone next year!



Hole-in-One

Congratulations are due to Sue Bellingham, who achieved her ace on the 17th during the Barbara Pincherle Cup on 31 August.

Repairing Pitchmarks

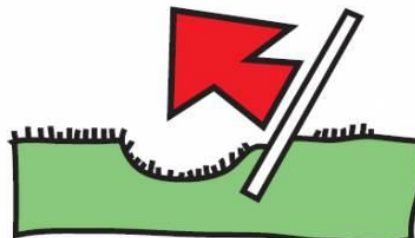
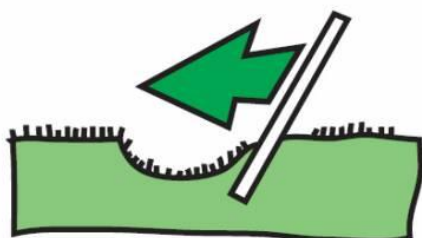
With the greens now softening again, please note the correct way to repair a pitchmark:

Pushing the bottom of the depression upward only tears the roots, and kills the grass.

Right: Using the prongs to push grass at the edge of the depression toward the centre



Wrong: Using the prongs as levers to push up the bottom of the depression



Men

A Word from the Men's Captain...

The early part of September saw the Men take on the might of the Ladies' Section in their annual joust. A hard-fought battle saw the Ladies come out on top, this was due to a mixture of highly skilled play, ridiculous handicaps and the Men just being very afraid! The ladies team also included a very dodgy looking person who wouldn't have passed any gender tests set by golf's ruling body! Many thanks to Dan Lazar for being a great sport and swelling the ladies numbers. Apparently the dress and wig worked a treat, as he got three of the Men's phone numbers! A great time was had by all and it is always good to see the different Sections working so well together.

Club Captains' Charity Day took place on 21 September and again we were blessed with glorious sunshine and a fantastic large field. Despite our attempts at sabotaging the Stableford scores with small holes on two of the par threes, there were some great scores with the team competition being won by Brian Smith, Martin Hollands, Ian Pullin and Bob Phillips. Second place was taken by Sarah Walker, Graham Lowe and Russell Dunn. The Men's winner was Daniel Lotter, closely followed by Martin Shefferd, and the Ladies competition saw Danka Lawson triumph narrowly from Kath Scott. The real winner on the day however, was Hospice at Home, our charity for this year. Thanks to your amazing

generosity we managed to raise an incredible sum of over £3,600 on the day! I am sure you are all aware how much work goes into making a day like this a success, but I would like to thank everybody who gave their time on the Friday and Saturday, in particular Peter Codrai, Keith McGoverne, Kath Scott, Dave Lea, Keith Loxton and Ron and Ann Haynes, as well as my fellow Captains, Larry Goddard and Julie Lea, who rose like a phoenix from the flames to be there for the day. Special thanks must go to Gareth Martin for the generous donation of a whole house carpet fitting, which gave us a great opportunity to auction such a fantastic item.

Congratulations go to Past Captain John Barker and Tony Sadler, who won the Mickey Lawler singles and Summer singles finals respectively on Sunday 22 September.

Saturday 28th saw the annual battle between England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. Despite some very questionable Celtic backgrounds, a great day saw Scotland, led ably by Nick 'McDougal' Bowden the younger, triumph over the other countries. The day ended with great celebrations and was enjoyed by all!

Make October gimmetober!!

Steve Chandler

September began with the monthly Medal and in Division 1 Nick Davies took the honours with a nett 67. Shanil Patel was second with a nett 69, with Martin Higgins two further shots back in third place. Division 2 saw some excellent scoring, the best of which was a nett 64 from James Lillitou. Martin Shefferd (nett 66) took second place while Adrian Fallon was third on countback from Mark Adams, both players recording nett 67s. Aaron Usmani was the winner in Division 3, his nett 68 two shots clear of second placed Tom Read. Tim O'Sullivan (nett72) was third.

The Medal of Medals saw Brian Furness victorious with a fine nett 65, two shots clear of the ever-consistent Paul Herridge. Lee Sarmple finished third a further shot back.

Martyn Gates was the winner of the September Midweek Medal on countback from Phil Clack, both players scoring nett 69s. Jamie Carlin (nett 70) was third.

The September Midweek Stableford saw James Kelly take the honours with 41 points, with handicap secretary Neil Meldrum (40 pts) in second. Six players all recorded scores of 39 points, but it was Paul Morgan who took third on countback.

Competition and Match Results (Men)

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Medal 7 September | Div 1 1st: Nick Davies nett 67 2nd: Shanil Patel nett 69 3rd: Martin Higgins nett 71 | Div 2 1st: James Lillitou nett 64 2nd: Martin Shefferd nett 66 3rd: Adrian Fallon nett 67 | Div 3 1st: Aaron Usmani nett 68 2nd: Tom Read nett 70 3rd: Tim O'Sullivan nett 72 |
| Men vs Ladies 8 September | Lost 2:6 | | |
| Midweek Medal | 1st: Martyn Gates nett 69 2nd: Phil Clack nett 69 3rd: Jamie Carlin nett 70 | | |
| Medal of Medals 14 September | 1st: Brian Furness nett 65 2nd: Paul Herridge nett 67 | | |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|
| | 3rd: Lee Sarmple nett 68 | | |
| Midweek Stableford | 1st: James Kelly 41 Pts 2nd: Neil Meldrum 40 Pts 3rd: Paul Morgan 39 Pts | | |

Seniors

A Word from the Seniors' Captain...

What an exciting month! We have had drama all over. 'Who ate Peter Lawson's bacon roll' -gate; 'provisional ball' -gate; 'three-minute search' -gate; 'disqualification' -gate and 'last green putting and hitting another ball in the Order of Merit' -gate. Phew!

But amongst all that, what an amazing month of golf. A triple rollover '2's Club' was paid out to one skilful/lucky winner at our last AwayDay at Magnolia Park. AVGC Seniors were represented by four teams at the Northampton Seniors' Open, although we only managed a single nearest the pin prize (modesty forbids identification).

The Drawn Triples Texas Scramble again got around the course in a timely manner and a very close finish ensued, with four teams within one point. Edging it were Bob Bacon, Ken Slatter and Barry Stanley.

Tom Hobbs produced a spectacular nett 66 to win the last Summer Medal and the following week Dave Needs a creditable 38 to win the last Summer Six, won overall by Mike Papple. These two competitions were also the last two rounds of the Order of Merit, which many believe to be our most prestigious competition where points are scored for finishing position in the 13 white tee summer competitions. A few regulars were in a position to clinch victory and an early lead in the Clubhouse was taken by Neill Brinklow. One by one, challengers failed to overtake him, with Mickey Parslow the one person left who could catch him. An unlucky incident on the 18th cost him that chance. Well done Neill and all who have competed.

The ever popular Lawson Shield was won by Peter Codrai and Dave Dean, just holding off challenges from several pairs. The Ladies joined us for the Four Nations and another great AVGC morning was played out with Ireland comfortably retaining the cup.

It would be wrong not to mention the Captains' Charity Day, which was fantastic this year with much credit going to Steve Chandler ably assisted by the Lady Captain and a number of volunteers – a wonderful amount of money was raised for the Captains' Charity.

We now slowly go into hibernation over the winter, but there is still plenty of golf to sign up for and enjoy, including the winter knockouts, the Winter Eight, the eclectic (handicap rule changed this year to 50% allowance) and of course our regular roll-ups.

Larry Goddard

Winter League by Peter Nightingale

Tuesday, 17 September, was the first day of our Winter League programme, and again, under a beautiful sunny day, we set off on our first match. Unfortunately, we had a drop out early in the morning, so urgent phone calls had to be made to find a replacement. After a few calls, Steve Chandler was approached and agreed to play as our 12th man. Thank you Steve for partnering Stasiu, who would have had to play on his own.

All matches were very tight, and extremely competitive. Match 1, Peter Nightingale and David Needs, got off to a slow start, with our visitors getting a birdie on the first, but we soon managed to go ahead and at the turn were three up. However, our visitors fought back and the game ended in a draw, with a point shared by both teams. Match 2 (Richard Braithwaite and Barry Stanley), Match 3 (Andrew Bond and Tom Hobbs), Match 4 (David Dean and Lance Redler) and Match 5 (Hugh Frod and Ken Slatter) all won their matches. Match 6 of Stasiu Unsing and Steve Chandler were narrowly beaten by one, giving an end result of AVGC 4½ to Oakland Park's 1½. It was a cracking match, a cracking day and importantly a cracking result. Well done to everyone and special thanks to Steve Chandler for coming in and playing at short notice.

We have three Winter League matches in October. Our next match is against Little Hay at Aylesbury Vale on Monday 7 October and the match list is on the Seniors' board. The second match is against Weston Turville, at Aylesbury Vale on Monday 21 October and the third match is against Weston Turville, at Weston Turville on Thursday 31 October.

Competition and Match Results (Seniors)

| | |
|--|---|
| Drawn Triples Texas Scramble 11 September | 1st: Bob Bacon, Ken Slatter, Barry Stanley nett 62.8 2nd: John Dudman, Larry Goddard, Dave Needs, nett 63.1 3rd: Don Huggett, Alan Jackson, Keith Panes nett 63.2 |
| Medal (6) 16 September | 1st: Tom Hobbs nett 66 2nd: Mickey Parslow nett 69 3rd: Stasiu Unsing nett 69 |
| Winter League home match vs Oakland Park 17 September | Won 4½:1½ |
| Summer Six (6) 23 September | 1st: Dave Needs 38 Pts 2nd: Keith Minor 38 Pts 3rd: Neill Brinklow 37 Pts |
| Lawson Shield 25 September | 1st: Peter Codrai & Dave Dean 45 Pts 2nd: Lance Redler & Martin Shefferd 44 Pts 3rd: Ian Hook & Alan Potter 42 Pts |

Ladies

A Word from the Lady Captain...

No report was received.

Competition and Match Results (Ladies)

| | |
|---|--|
| Ladies vs Men 8 September | Won 6:2 |
| 30+ handicap competition 9 September | 1st: Shirley Power 30 Pts 2nd: Glynis Flack 29 Pts 3rd: Janet Ewart 28 Pts |
| Medal 11 September | 1st: Mary Marchant nett 72 2nd: Danka Lawson nett 73 |

| | |
|--|---|
| | 3rd: Jan Chambers nett 74 |
| Medal 15 September | 1st: Lorraine Fox nett 68 2nd: Jane Barker nett 72 3rd: Danka Lawson nett 74 |
| Stableford 18 September | 1st: Jane Codrai 39 Pts 2nd: Hilary Hasler 39 Pts 3rd: Charlotte Simpson 37 Pts |
| Autumn Cup 'Iron Lady' 23 September | 1st: Charlotte Simpson 34 Pts 2nd: Danka Lawson 32 Pts 3rd: Sheila Perkins 30 Pts |

Juniors

Upcoming Junior Event



JUNIOR OPEN DAY - HALLOWEEN SPECIAL!

Age 6-11 Fancy Dress!

Thursday 31 October 10am - 4pm

Cost £30 per child

Pro Shop

Ping Demo Day

We have the Ping representative and demonstration van coming to the Aylesbury Vale driving range on **Monday 7 October from 1pm-5pm**. This is a great opportunity to have a go with the latest Ping clubs. Come and try drivers, fairway woods, hybrids, irons, wedges and putters. We have a limited number of spaces for those looking to get fitted by Morgan on Trackman, so check availability in the shop and book your position before they are all gone. If you just want a try, then simply turn up between these times to get a go!

and in Conclusion...

...the last word is...take comfort that, at least, the rain makes the grass grow again!

...and a touch of humour... Wife: 'You spend too much time thinking about golf! Do you even remember the day we got married?' Golfer: 'Of course I do! It was the same day I sank that 45-foot putt.'

Lance Redler

Editor

cc: Club Professionals, charities

What's on This Month and Next?

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

Men:

Saturday 5 October – home match vs Abbey Hill 0945-1100

Sunday 6 October – Medal 0645-1100

Monday 7 to Friday 11 October – Midweek Medal

Saturday 10 October – home match vs Chalgrave Manor 0945-1100

Sunday 13 October – Daily Mail Foursomes 0730-0900

Sunday 20 October – Mixed Invitation 0845-0945

Monday 21 to Friday 26 October – Midweek Stableford

Sunday 27 October – Waddington Shield Texas Scramble 0745-1045

Saturday 2 November – Medal 0715-1100

Monday 4 to Friday 8 November – Midweek Stableford

Seniors:

Wednesday 2 October – Captain's competition 0800-1000

Monday 7 to Friday 11 October – Midweek Medal

Monday 7 October – Captain's competition 0800-0845

Monday 7 October – WL home match vs Little Hay 0845-1000

Wednesday 9 October – Captain's competition 0800-0845

Wednesday 9 October – home match vs Chalgrave Manor 0845-1000

Monday 14 October – Winter Eight (1) 0730-1000

Wednesday 16 October – Captain's competition 0800-1100

Monday 21 to Friday 26 October – Midweek Stableford

Monday 21 October – Captain's competition 0800-0845

Monday 21 October – WL home match vs Weston Turville 0845-1000

Wednesday 23 October – Trafalgar Trophy 0800-1000

Sunday 27 October – Waddington Shield Texas Scramble 0745-1045

Monday 28 October – Winter Eight (2) 0730-1000

Wednesday 30 October – Captain's competition 0800-1000

Monday 4 to Friday 8 November – Midweek Stableford

Monday 4 November – Captain's competition 0800-1100

Wednesday 6 November – Captain's competition 0800-1000

Monday 11 November – Winter Eight (3) 0730-1000

Wednesday 13 November – Captain's competition 0800-1000

Friday 15 November – WL away match vs Hazlemere

Monday 18 November – Captain's competition 0800-1000

Wednesday 20 November – Captain's competition 0800-1000

Monday 25 November – Winter Eight (4) 0730-1000

Wednesday 27 November – Captain's competition 0800-1000

Ladies:

Wednesday 2 October – Stableford 1000-1100

Saturday 5 October – Hi-Lo Pairs 0845-0930

Monday 7 October – competition 1000-1100

Wednesday 9 October – 30+ handicap competition 1000-1100

Sunday 13 October – Daily Mail Foursomes 0900-0930

Monday 14 October – midweek Daily Mail Foursomes 1000-1100

Wednesday 16 October – Medal 1000-1100

Saturday 19 October – Medal 0945-1030

Sunday 20 October – Mixed Invitation 0845-0945

Monday 21 to Friday 26 October – Midweek Stableford

Monday 21 October – competition 1000-1100

Wednesday 23 October – competition 1000-1100

Sunday 27 October – Waddington Shield Texas Scramble 0745-1045

Monday 28 October – competition 1000-1100

Wednesday 30 October – 9-hole competition 1000-1100

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, Dan Lazar

Restaurant/Functions: Jason Thornalley, Chris Wright

Head Chef: Heinz Simon

Head Greenkeeper: Luke Foley

Teaching Professionals: Russell Phillips 07843

692948 or r.phillips@avgc.co.uk

Terry Bunyan 07588 272322

or terrygolf1965@gmail.com

Men

Captain: Steve Chandler

Vice-Captain: Keith McGovern

Treasurer: Keith Loxton

Competition Secretary: Dave Lea

Admin Secretary: Roger White

Handicap Secretary: Neil Meldrum

5-Day Representative: Peter Codrai

Seniors

Captain: Larry Goddard

Vice-Captain:

Treasurer: Keith Loxton

Competition Secretary: Dave Lea

Admin Secretary: Mike Pelizzoni

Social Secretary: Peter Codrai

Ladies

Captain: Julie Lea

Vice-Captain: Kath Scott

Treasurer: Charlotte Simpson

Admin Secretary: Lesley Wright

7-day Competition Secretary: Sheila Perkins

5-day Competition Secretary: Jackie Boden

Handicap Secretary: Jean Barnett

Juniors

Captain: Freddie Perkin

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

lanceredler@yahoo.co.uk

Ladies (cont):

Sunday 3 November – Barbara Carr Plate 0845-0930

Monday 4 to Friday 8 November – Midweek Stableford

Monday 4 November – competition 1000-1030

Wednesday 6 November – 30+ handicap competition 1000-1030

Saturday 9 November – Medal 0945-1030

Monday 11 November – Medal 1000-1030

Wednesday 13 November – 9-hole competition 1000-1045

Sunday 17 November – Winter Stableford 0945-1030

Monday 18 November – competition 1000-1030

Wednesday 20 November – Stableford 1000-1030

Saturday 23 to Sunday 24 November – Stableford

Monday 25 November – competition 1000-1030

Wednesday 27 November – competition 1000-1030