



# *The Vale*

Newsletter of Aylesbury Vale Golf Club

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

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Edition 68, March 2020

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## **Comment**

It was rotten golfing weather once again last month, but we now have the Captains' Drive-in to look forward to on 29 March.

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

### The Course

There has been no let-up in the continuous months of above average rainfall. The first glimmer of a change in weather patterns is due to start around 5 March, which could herald the start of drier conditions. We will be looking for a return to trolleys as soon as we are able. The petrol buggies may take a little longer but some will arrive from the depot, serviced and ready to go, on 4 March so that we are ready to get them out as soon as the soil dries out and it is safe to do so.

We were going to stop the 'carry bag stamp scheme' on 1 March but will continue it until the day that we can get the trolleys back on. The guest rounds are valid until 1 October 2020.

The green keepers have fed the greens with nitrogen, potassium and magnesium throughout the winter. They have built a new set of steps to the 10<sup>th</sup> tee. We give thanks to the Men's Committee for a 'Captain's Project' this year of laying irrigation to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> tees. The lads have already started this work which will continue this month.

The two large water storage tanks will be built in March/April. The 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> tees will also be re-worked in this time period.

### Roadworks

Please note that there will be roadworks between Wing and the Cublington bridge on 3, 4 and 5 March so it will be best to approach the Club from the Stewkley direction. We will update the notes on the BRS tee booking system if there are any alterations to these dates.

### Clubhouse News

More thanks to Brendan Langan who updated our emergency lighting in the Clubhouse after he had fitted new LED lights to the restaurant. The painting is now finished in the restaurant, but watch out for 'wet paint' signs next in corridors and changing rooms.

Sunday Roasts will be available on Sunday 15 March – see the Club noticeboard in the bar.

## Membership News

We are continuing with the offer to members of five years of golf for the price of four. This can be 5-day, 7-day, single or husband and wife. This up-front payment saves you one year's fees but also saves you any price increases over the five years. This is open to all members – come and speak to Chris, Leo, Jason or Garry. This offer is made to enable us to make the irrigation improvements to the course.

## Weekend Member Roll Ups

Sun 1 Mar	8:45 – 9:45
Sat 7 Mar	Shotgun medal 08:00 and AGM
Sun 8 Mar	8:40 – 9:40
Sat 14 Mar	8:40 – 9:40
Sun 15 Mar	Mixed Spring Foursomes
Sat 21 Mar	Men's Zodiac Texas Scramble
Sun 22 Mar	Videtta Trophy
Sat 28 Mar	8:40 – 9:40
Sun 29 Mar	8:40 – 9:40. Captain's Drive-In 2:00pm

Presentation Night – Saturday 28 March, just one table left so sign up in the bar!

Captains' Drive-In – Sunday 29 March, see the Captains Drive-In at 2:00pm and all welcome afterwards in the upstairs lounge for the speeches, combined yardage of the drives and a chicken curry or lasagne.

*Chris Wright*

## **Rules of Golf**

One Ball Rule. The One Ball Rule (MLR G-4) is intended for professional or elite amateur events. Its intended purpose is to stop players using balls with different laying characteristics. With no such Local Rule in place, you can borrow balls from anyone on the course.

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

A very simple straightforward tip this month, but a very effective one.

When just off the green, instead of chipping, if there is no hazard in your way take out your rescue/hybrid club or 5 wood and use it like a putter. Try to stand taller and closer to the ball and allow the shaft to stand more upright. The ball will come off the face a little faster.

This is very effective if you have a poor lie or need go through sticky ground. Give it a go.

### **Lesson Offers by Terry Bunyan**

6 x 30 minute lessons just £129

6 x 45 minute lessons just £189  
Get a video assessment lesson FREE

Must be booked before end of March  
07588 272322

### **Also, sign up now for the new season group lessons:**

6 x 1 hour sessions Midweek  
Also to include an on-course 9-hole playing lesson

Lessons start in April - just £99  
For more details and to register call Terry 07588 272322

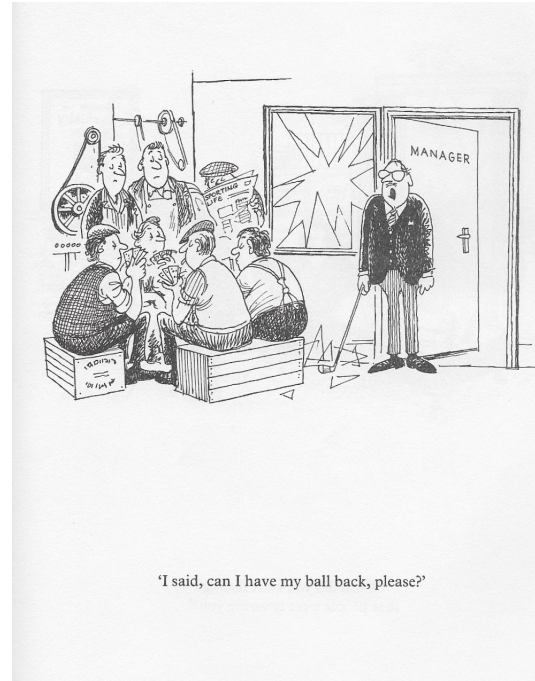
## Lesson Offer from Russell Phillips

### 342 in March!

For each of the following lessons, if you buy two you get the same for free.

- 30 mins: £25
- 1 hour: £40

(Lessons must be used before the end of May.)



## Men

### A Word from the Men's Captain...

My last post offered optimistic mutterings regarding the weather forecast for February, instead the rain has continued to fall and has been joined by its old friend, continuous high wind!

The month commenced with the Neil Thornalley Memorial Trophy, this competition was originally due to be played in November, but fell foul of the conditions. It was won in fine style by Chandler Minor, good to see that he has been watching me play and picked up a few tips!!

From this point storms Ciara and Dennis took over and decimated any competitive golf that was due to be played, the cancellation of the February Medal meaning that the Vice-Captain got away with marshalling duties yet again!

The AGM for the Men's Section will take place on Saturday 7 March after the Men's Medal and will commence when the Medal field are in. The shotgun start, with an 8:00am tee time, means we should be able to start the meeting earlier than we originally advertised. We look forward to seeing you all on the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Presentation Night takes place on Saturday 28 March and the tables are almost full! Just one table to sell out. We thank everyone who has signed up for what should be a fun evening, celebrating the members' great 2019 golfing triumphs. It's not too late to sign up, just write your name on the prized table no 10 and listen to Binzy and Darren's emotional speeches!

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, this year's Captain's Project has seen us financing the irrigation extension to the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> tees and the purchase of the pop up sprinklers. After playing last weekend, the work appears to have started already, exciting times!

The Captains' Charity fund continues to grow, with the Charity box and the bonus ball incentive continuing to raise money, despite the Clubhouse and Course being quiet due to closures and the inclement weather. February's end will see us through the magic £10,000! This is all down to your incredible generosity and your willingness to engage in what we have done this year. I know, through communications with Hospice at Home, that they are thrilled with what has been achieved. Thank you once again.

Whatever you give up for Lent, make sure you keep giving Gimmies!

*Steve Chandler*

There are only two competitions to report on this month, firstly the Midweek Stableford. Countback once again was needed to determine the winner and it was James Kelly who took the honours from Clayton Barlow, both players scoring 38 points. Jez Anderson finished third on 37 points. Some consolation for Clayton was the fact that he recorded the only birdie two in the competition.

The only other competition this month was an American style Stableford, where everyone plays off scratch and their handicap is added to their points total at the end of the round. 48 players took part and it was Nathan Chandler with an impressive 43 points who came first, three points clear of second placed Nick Bowden. Third place went to Justin McDonald (39 points). This new competition will in future be known as the Neil Thornalley trophy and a shield has kindly been donated by Mrs Thornalley.

Well done to everyone still in the winter knockouts who have managed to get their matches resolved. With the bad weather resulting in course closures, several matches had to be rearranged but things are almost back on track. However it just goes to show how important it is to get matches played ASAP especially during winter.

The entry sheets for the summer KO's are already on the notice board in the Men's changing room, while the notice board in the lounge has sign-up sheets for the Michael Videtta Memorial competition which is open to everyone (teams of four) and will be played on 22 March 20.

Finally, don't forget the Men's AGM on Saturday 7 March.

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

Quota Stableford 2 February	1 <sup>st</sup> : Nick Chandler 43 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Nick Bowden 40 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : J McDonald 39 Pts
Midweek Stableford	1 <sup>st</sup> : James Kelly 38 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Clayton Barlow 38 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Jez Anderson 37 Pts

## **Seniors**

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

Only a short note this time as, again, golf has been curtailed by the very wet weather with many Seniors struggling with the carry only regime necessitated by the conditions. Hopefully we can look forward to an improvement very soon.

March sees the AGM on Wednesday 25 March, preceded as usual by the AGM Cup. As in previous years, there will be ample opportunity to hear Seniors' views after the formal agenda items. I hope there will be a good attendance as is usually the case.

March will also see team sheets going up for Summer Friendlies, the first of which is away at Chiltern Forest on 1 April. I urge you to put your name up even if there are already 12 names on the sheet – I will take this into account for future team selection. With some away matches early on which may be popular, and hence over-subscribed, selection will be on the basis of evening out playing opportunities over the season as a whole, with some preference to those who sign up regularly and for home games as well as away games.

*Larry Goddard*

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

Winter Eight (7) 10 February	1 <sup>st</sup> : David Stonhill 36 Pts 2 <sup>nd</sup> : Adrian Wood 35 Pts 3 <sup>rd</sup> : Keith Loxton 35 Pts
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### **Ladies**

#### **A Word from the Lady Captain...**

No report was received.

*Julie Lea*

### **Juniors**

There is no Junior report this month.

### **Pro Shop**

Grips. Now is the perfect time to get your clubs regripped for the new season. New grips can make a huge difference to the game, relaxing tension in the hands and allowing the club to move through faster and more consistently. Grips are designed to deteriorate and should last a maximum of three years. It is recommended to get the most out of your game that grips should be replaced on a yearly basis! So, if you haven't had your clubs regripped recently, now is the time! To help, Russell Phillips is offering this: anyone who get clubs regripped in March will get 15% off all grips (including Golf Pride!).

### **and in Conclusion...**

**...the last word is...** Bring back the trolleys!

**...and a touch of humour...** The only reason I play golf is to bug my wife. She thinks I'm having fun.

*Lance Redler*

Editor

cc: Club Professionals, charities

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

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

### **Men:**

Saturday 7 March – Medal (shotgun 0800) 0600-1230  
**Monday 9 to Friday 13 March – midweek Medal**  
**Sunday 15 March – Mixed Spring Foursomes 0845-1000**  
Saturday 21 March – Zodiac Texas Scramble 0745-0945  
**Sunday 22 March – Videtta Doubles 0745-1030**  
**Monday 23 to Friday 27 March – midweek Stableford**  
Saturday 28 March – Presentation Dinner 1900  
**Sunday 29 March – Captains' Drive-In 1400**  
Saturday 4 April – Burcott Trophy 0715-1030  
Sunday 5 April – Medal 0645-1100  
**Monday 6 to Friday 10 April – midweek Medal**  
**Friday 10 April – Annette's Hat 0745-1100**  
Saturday 11 April – Easter Cup 0715-1030  
**Monday 13 April (provisional) – 30 Year Anniversary**  
**Monday 13 to Friday 17 April – midweek Stableford**  
Tuesday 14 April – home match vs Aylesbury Nomads 0815-0900  
Saturday 18 April – Committee Cup 0715-1030  
Sunday 19 April – CBL home match vs Richings Park 1000-1100  
Monday 20 April – HOLLOW CORING  
Tuesday 21 April – HOLLOW CORING  
Wednesday 22 April – HOLLOW CORING

### **Seniors:**

Monday 2 March – Captain's competition 0800-1000  
Tuesday 3 March – WL home match vs Chartridge Park 0915-1030  
Wednesday 4 March – Captains competition 0800-1000  
**Monday 9 to Friday 13 March – midweek Medal**  
Monday 9 March – Winter Eight (8) 0730-1000  
Wednesday 11 March – Captain's competition 0800-0900  
Wednesday 11 March – WL home match vs Hazlemere 0915-1030  
**Sunday 15 March – Mixed Spring Foursomes 0845-1000**  
Monday 16 March – Captain's competition 0800-1000  
Wednesday 18 March – Captain's competition 0800-1000  
**Sunday 22 March – Videtta Doubles 0745-1030**  
**Monday 23 to Friday 27 March – midweek Stableford**  
Monday 23 March – Celebratory Cup 0800-0830  
Monday 23 March – Stableford 0830-1000  
Wednesday 25 March – AGM Cup 0800-1000  
Wednesday 25 March – AGM 1500  
**Sunday 29 March – Captains' Drive-In 1400**  
Monday 30 March – Captain's competition 0830-1000  
Wednesday 1 April – Captain's competition 0815-1000  
Wednesday 1 April – away match vs Chiltern Forest  
**Monday 6 to Friday 10 April – midweek Medal**  
Monday 6 April – Medal (1) 0730-1000  
Wednesday 8 April – Captain's competition 0815-1000  
**Friday 10 April – Annette's Hat 0745-1100**  
**Monday 13 April (provisional) – 30 Year Anniversary**  
**Monday 13 to Friday 17 April – midweek Stableford**  
Wednesday 15 April – Captain's competition 0815-1000  
Monday 20 April – HOLLOW CORING  
Monday 20 April – WL Awards Day, Chartridge Park  
Tuesday 21 April – away match vs Weston Turville  
Tuesday 21 April – HOLLOW CORING  
Wednesday 22 April – HOLLOW CORING  
Monday 27 April – Summer Six (1) 0730-1000  
Wednesday 29 April – Captain's competition 0815-1000

## **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

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**Editor *The Vale*:** Lance Redler (01296) 681286  
lanceredler@yahoo.co.uk

**Ladies:**

Sunday 1 March – Medal 0840-0930  
Monday 2 March – competition 1000-1030  
Wednesday 4 March – 30+ handicap competition 1000-1030  
Monday 9 March – competition 1000-1030  
Wednesday 11 March – competition 1000-1030  
Saturday 14 March – Helen Rowley Plate 0945-1030  
**Sunday 15 March – Mixed Spring Foursomes 0845-1000**  
Monday 16 March – Medal 1000-1100  
Wednesday 18 March – Stableford 1000-1100  
**Sunday 22 March – Videtta Doubles 0745-1030**  
**Monday 23 to Friday 27 March – midweek Stableford**  
Monday 23 March – competition 1000-1100  
Wednesday 25 March – 9-hole competition 1000-1100  
**Sunday 29 March – Captains' Drive-In 1400**  
Monday 30 March – competition 1000-1100  
Wednesday 1 April – competition 1000-1100  
Monday 6 April – competition 1000-1100  
Wednesday 8 April – Medal 1000-1100  
**Friday 10 April – Annette's Hat 0745-1100**  
Sunday 12 April – Coronation Foursomes 0945-1015  
**Monday 13 April (provisional) – 30 Year Anniversary**  
**Monday 13 to Friday 17 April – midweek Stableford**  
Wednesday 15 April – Stableford and 30+ handicap competition 1000-1100  
Sunday 19 April – Mixed Invitation 0845-1000  
Monday 20 April – HOLLOW CORING  
Monday 20 April – HOLLOW CORING  
Tuesday 21 April – HOLLOW CORING  
Wednesday 22 April – HOLLOW CORING  
Saturday 25 April – Medal 1000-1030  
Monday 27 April – competition 1000-1100  
Wednesday 29 April – Stableford 1000-1100