



The Vale

Newsletter of Aylesbury Vale Golf Club

www.avgc.co.uk

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Edition 91, July 2022

Comment

Best wishes to everyone playing in the various Club Championship competitions this month – but firstly, congratulations to the Seniors for retaining the Triangular Trophy at the end of June!

Don't forget that this is *your* newsletter! All feedback, comments, letters and suggestions - and especially articles - will be more than welcomed by the Editor for we do wish it to be interesting, informative and helpful. Articles for possible publication can be handwritten, typed or sent by email. Please don't worry about spelling, layout, use of English etc, for the Editor will deal with all of that.

The Editor can be contacted at: lanceredler@yahoo.co.uk

News and Updates from the Club Management

The Course

Following recent warm temperatures, the rate of grass growth has slowed which will enable the greenkeepers to cut less frequently and to do some project work. This will include:

- 11th bridges: one of the support sleepers has snapped, so the team will take the opportunity to renew both of the bridges across the 11th.
- 100-, 150- and 200-yard markers: our existing markers are old, overgrown, need painting and can catapult a ball into the air! Hence the team will be replacing them with markers made from a softer material that also have '100', '150' or '200' written on them – all our markers are in yards from the centre of the green.
- Blue forward course: we also have blue concrete markers in the fairway that enable young Juniors to play a shortened course over the front nine. These markers will also be replaced.

We would like to offer a warm welcome to Freddi Foley as he joins our greenkeeping team after leaving school. Further, we welcome Joe Cook to our bar team who returns for more punishment after working for us last summer.

President's Day

Saturday 16 July is President's Day. This competition is a courtesy day for all members (5-day and 7-day) and the Club also offers a cheese or ham Ploughmans foc afterwards – simply sign up in the bar so that we know which choice you would like. There is no entry fee requirement, so the only money that Dave Lea can take off you is an optional £1 for the '2s club'!

Regarding the format, this is an honour board competition, played off white tees, for the Men's President's Cup and the Lady President's Rosebowl. These are individual Stableford competitions. However, to add a touch of fun we will arrange the groupings into fourballs that will have one low handicap man, one high handicap man, one lady and one senior/junior. The scorecards will then be examined to see how your fourball got on in a Waltz Stableford (best 1 score, then 2 scores, then 3 scores, then back to 1 again on the 4th hole etc). However, whilst this part is for fun, with the social element of the different Sections mixing together, do be aware that your team members may be concentrating their efforts first and foremost on the individual Stableford competition.

Summer Party

Peter Codrai is organising a Summer Party on Saturday 24 September in aid of the Captains' Charity. There will be dinner, live music and dancing – the sign-up sheet is in the bar (*also see ad on page 3. Ed*).

Chris Wright

Rules of Golf

Local Rule – Drop Zones. There are Drop Zones at the 2nd and 7th holes, with a stake marking the centre of the Zone. There is an option to use the Drop Zone if your ball has entered the red Penalty Area. The ball should be dropped within two club lengths of the stake and there is a one-shot penalty for having entered the Penalty Area.

Seniors' Pairs Championship 2022

Many congratulations to the Seniors' Pairs Champions for 2022 – Andrew Bond and Steve Chandler.

Holes-in-One

This month's congratulations go to Jim Gales, for scoring his hole-in-one on the 17th at AVGC on 21 June, and to Mary Marchant, whose ace was on the 15th at our Club on 22 June.





AVGC GOLF CLUB



Summer Party

In aid of the Captains Charity



Saturday 24th September 2022

Everyone Welcome

Bring your family & friends

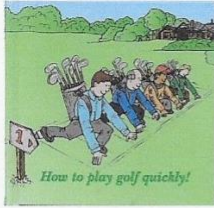
Cold Meats & Salad Buffet

Live Music & Dancing

7.00pm till late.

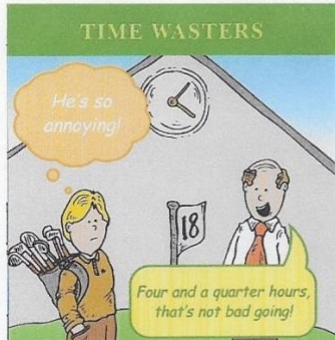
£18.00 per person

How to Play Golf Quickly (5)



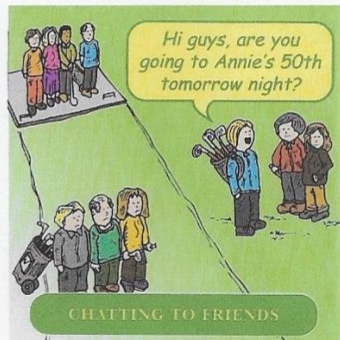
In this fifth and final part of *How to Play Golf Quickly*, we look at yet more quick tips regarding time wasters. We hope that our readers have found the tips both amusing and helpful!

John Timpson, the author of this book, has given the Editor permission to publish extracts from his book in *The Vale*.



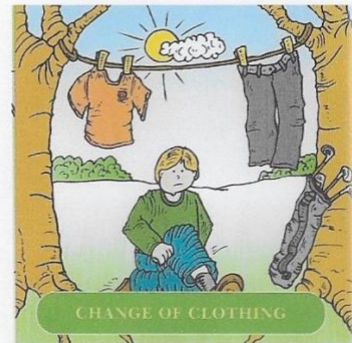
So Slow

Some people simply don't get on with the game – here are more of the things that hold them up.



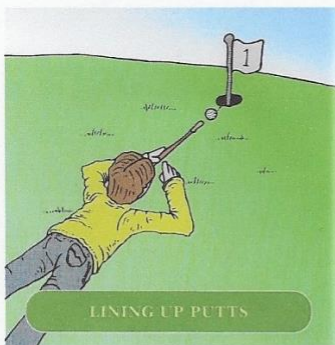
Far too Social

Some people walk across two fairways simply to say hello. Save time and keep your conversation to the Clubhouse



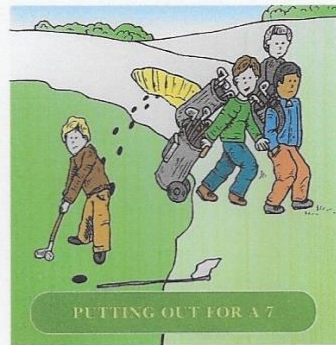
Cover Up

Cautious golfers change into waterproofs at the slightest sign of wet weather, but waterproofs waste a lot of time. If it rains, put up your umbrella and if it becomes a deluge, walk back to the Clubhouse.



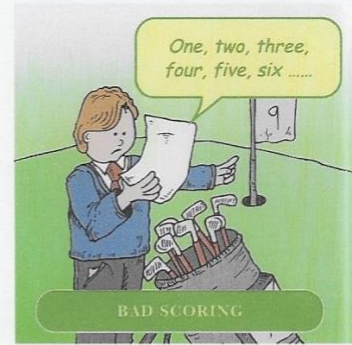
Town Hall Clocks

Some people look as if they are playing in the Open Championship. Studying the line from every angle takes a lot of time when you take 42 putts to the round.



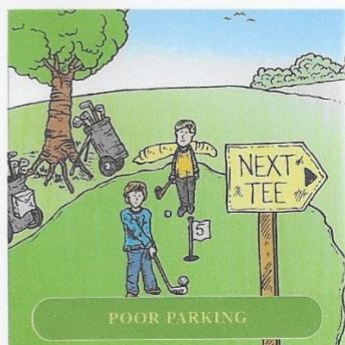
Holeing Out

Some golfers insist on putting when the hole is well and truly lost. Save the putt for the next hole – when it might matter.



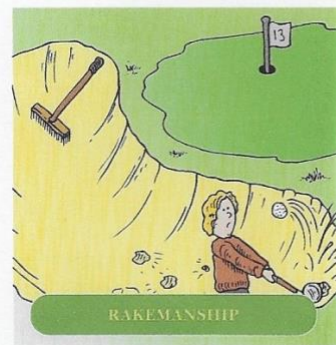
Green Additions

Good golfers know the score. Clear the green before you fill in your score card.



Thoughtlessness

Think ahead.
Always leave your clubs en-route to the next tee.



Sense in the Sand

Before playing a bunker shot, collect the rake and place it nearby – that way you won't spend so long in the bunker.

Men

A Word from the Men's Captain...

Captain's Day

Days like this don't happen without a lot of help and support, so apologies to those I miss off, (it's an age thing). Many thanks to Chris, Dan Lazar and the bar/catering crew, Luke and the greenkeepers (the course looked great), Jason for being our Bar Steward and Imogen for looking after her Dad, Ron Haynes for being our guardian of the Lady in the Sludge, Barry and Mike for bringing the putting game (it was a shame the weather wasn't kinder to us), the ladies from Hospice at Home Volunteers, Dave Lea, Mark Mansfield, Peter and Jane Codrai, Foxy and Loxy, Sheila Perkins, John and Jane Barker, John Burrows, Dan Baldock, Keith McGoverne, Keith Loxton, Alan Connell and Howard Matthews, with guest appearances from my wife Paula and my son Jake.

Like most of these days, well at least the ones I'm involved in, we lurched from crisis to crisis. Sadly Nurse Shagwell was somewhat deflated and despite the best efforts of John Barker she could not be revived (apparently there's not enough Gorilla Tape in the world to sort that out). Keith McGoverne kindly supplied us with a new paddling pool, but sadly (typical men) we decided not to look at the instructions until Friday night. Those that know Keith won't be surprised that he fobbed us off with a jacuzzi that he got off eBay that required filling with water to be of use. Keith volunteered (not really) to put waders on and help Foxy position the somewhat sad looking pool and Lady in the Sludge.

Apparently this video has had over a million hits on YouTube and is being considered for an Oscar. I'm amazed it was captured on a normal camera as the last time Keith was caught doing anything it was on a time lapse camera spread over 24hrs. The last gazebo bit the dust and, armed with a replacement, we headed off to the 7th tee to erect the new one. With little planning comes potential disaster; the wind decided to blow its hardest and there was a real likelihood that I was going to float off like Mary Poppins, never to be seen again. With great teamwork, swearing and great supervision the task was conquered.

The day itself started well and the weather looked to be good, despite the forecast. Sadly the forecast was relatively accurate and the rain joined us although it was mainly light showers, but the temperature certainly dropped. Mark Mansfield took care of things with a couple of coffee runs but apparently Ron looked like Scott from the North Pole. The Mulligans proved popular and I thought Steve Kelly was going to buy the lot. The pastries went down well as usual, I remembered Jan Chambers' red wine (phew) and the ladies from Hospice at Home Volunteers did question whether people go on a starvation diet before coming out.

There were some challenging small hole positions but this did not stop people scoring well. There were quite a few '2s' on the day and Dave will pay those out in due course. Whilst all the '2s' signify good golf (at least on one hole), it is worth mentioning that Justin McDonald chipped in (on the small hole for 8 points) for an eagle on 16, Martin Arnold eagle'd 7 and Darren Coleman got greedy and had two '2s' including an eagle on 13.

Whilst there were extra points available via the small holes on 6, 7, 14 and 16. the scoring was still very high, possibly not as high as an average Seniors competition but still pretty good. Winning the Men's singles was Nick Vincent with 48 points, winning on countback from that well known early morning bandit, Dwayne Cowans - Dave has a 4-ball voucher for each of you. It was great to see a good number of our ladies out there, the Ladies' singles runner up was Jean Barnett, with our Lady Captain Charlotte Simpson winning the day. The team event was a mystery, with 2, 3 or 4 scores counting on each hole, but these were hidden and not in strict rotation. This seemed like a great idea when I thought of it, but after the event a number of four-letter words came to mind with the politest one being 'fool'. I fondly remember the days when any team event was won by the Reads, then just when you think it's safe to enter these comps again along come the Thornes! The team event was won on countback with 148 points each, the runners up being David Carroll, Martin Arnold, Ben and Justin McDonald - Dave has a 4-ball voucher for you. The winners were Ali Thorne, Gus Thorne, Ian Lawson and Matt Taylor.

It would be remiss of me not to mention that nine of our past Captains joined us for the day. They showed their support by rocking up and eating a free breakfast and playing a Medal competition off the white tee in 3-balls. I truly value this kind of support and now know what I am looking forward to most and will follow their lead next year. The past Captains' competition was won by Captain Chaos himself, Andy Bond. We hunted high and low for the trophy but stopped as soon as we found out who had won.

The generosity of the members never ceases to amaze me, whether that is through donating their time, sponsoring holes, donating raffle prizes or most importantly sticking their hand in their pocket. It was great to have the two tee start back and the result of this showed in the number of people that were there at the end for the auction and prize giving. There is always a cheeky winner in a Silent Auction event and this year was no exception, with Gus Thorne putting in a cheeky bid for Beds & County and duly winning it by being the only one that had - well done fella. Both the Lady in the Sludge and Beat the Bar Steward raised over £170 each - great work Ron and Jason. Thirty one people beat Jason and Brian Hogarth is picking up £50 for guessing the right number. Of those that chose to pay £5 to beat Jason, only three made it. These three went into a draw for a 4-ball voucher for The Bedfordshire, that was won by Daniel Lotter. The list goes on with sponsored holes etc, but I feel that I am giving War & Peace a run for its money.

For me, it really felt like the old Club (pre-pandemic) again and it would be great to see this more often. The past Captains have all said "you'll have a great day", "you'll really enjoy it". They are all liars, but only partly. At the time it felt really stressful and chaotic but as I have written this I have smiled and chuckled to myself. The sight of Keith in the pond will live forever.

Finally, many thanks to you all, you are truly what makes this a great Club and every Captain (past, present and future) owes you a debt of gratitude. The members make being Captain worthwhile.

Now to the numbers. Through your generosity we raised £2,930. Well done all and many thanks.

Neil Meldrum

Competitions

Platinum Jubilee Team Competition 2 June	1 st : Michael Chappell/Nick Russell/Will Platten/Nicholas Vincent 92 Pts 2 nd : Dale Adkins/Dwayne Cowans/Peter Doorne/Dean Ridley 89 Pts 3 rd : Ryan Harvey/Jun Baba/Junko Baba/Walter Huda 88 Pts
Medal 5 June	Div 1 1 st : Alister Thorne nett 64 2 nd : James Hill nett 66 3 rd : Matthew Lea nett 69 Div 2 1 st : Adrian Fallon nett 62 2 nd : Paul Herridge nett 69 3 rd : Darren Coleman nett 69 Dive 3 1 st : Brian Smith nett 66 2 nd : Adrian Matthews nett 69 3 rd : John Kidd nett 69
Scratch A away match vs South Beds 8 June	Won 4:1
Midweek Medal	1 st : Jez Anderson nett 67 2 nd : Brian Smith nett 72 3 rd : Nick Russell nett 72
Penny Cup 11 June	1 st : Martin Shefferd 43 Pts 2 nd : Tom Williams 39 Pts 3 rd : Tom Davies 39 Pts

Scratch team home match vs Stockwood Park 11 June	Won 4:1
Midweek Stableford	1 st : Jez Anderson 41 Pts 2 nd : Terry Curtis 39 Pts 3 rd : Richard Davies 39 Pts
Mid-handicap home match vs Dunstable Downs 22 June	Won 5:0
Men vs Seniors 25 June	Postponed
Scratch team home match vs Leighton Buzzard 26 June	Halved

Seniors

A Word from the Seniors' Captain...

The Summer Solstice has passed and the days are getting shorter. But on the bright side, we still have plenty of the summer left for golf. Talking of which, on 30 May we played our Jones Drawn Foursomes, which was won by Steve Keeper and Ian Pullin with 42 points. Running through the regular primary Competitions, the June Medal on 6 June was won by Kevin Dodds, with a nett 68 and the third round of the Summer Six Stableford was won by Dave Dean, with 44 points.

On 20 June we held the Seniors' Pairs Club Championships. This was won by Steve Chandler and Andy Bond with an impressive 57 points overall (par was 48 points) beating the second-place team of John Crowson and John Harris on 52 points. As always, it was the final aggregate that was the difference. Well done.

As a little light relief, at the start of the month the Seniors split into three teams to play a 3-way match, representing the Captain, Vice-Captain and the Past Captain. Needless to say, the Past Captain's team, led by Larry, won.

On the theme of matches we hosted a Summer Friendly vs Silverstone. We came up with a 4-2 win so maintaining our unbeaten home record.

It was pleasure to participate in Neil's Captain's Day on the 18th. It was a great turn out and an enjoyable day. The last of the Captain's Days is mine, on Monday 8 August, and the sign-up list is on HowDidiDo.

Seniors Triangular Trophy 2022

After a two year Covid gap, the Triangular Trophy between AVGC, Bletchley GC and Abbey Hill GC made a welcome return to our Calendar.

We were the defending Champions from 2019 and scheduled to host the next event - as it turned out Covid delayed. However, with a return to more normal times the competition was in the diary for Wednesday 29 June.

The format called for a 15 man team, playing individual Stableford off the white tees, with the aggregate of the best 12 scores counting for the team game.

Adrian Redford, Seniors' Vice-Captain, was hosting for the day and welcomed the 30 guest players to Aylesbury Vale. Peter Codrai was the Starter for the Competition and Dave Lea the Scorer and Adjudicator.

With fair weather prevailing for the duration of play, no runaway scores were returned from a course in excellent condition.

The final gross totals of the 15 tee groups were: Aylesbury Vale 481, Abbey Hill 475 and Bletchley 482. However, the three worst scores had to be discarded and this turned the final nett scores to Aylesbury Vale 407, Abbey Hill 396 and Bletchley 398. This put Aylesbury Vale in the winner's slot, by nine points, thus retaining the Trophy for 2022.

On the way to winning the Trophy we had two 'nearest the pin' winners - John Crowson (Hole 2) and Bob Phillips (Hole 8). We also had the best score of the day, which was achieved by Mike Bishop who scored 39 points.

As Captain of the last winning team, Dave Lea had the pleasure of awarding the Trophy to Adrian Redford which was accepted on behalf of the Aylesbury Vale team.

Many thanks to the Club Management in permitting us to host this event, the staff for the catering arrangements and to Dave Lea and Peter Codrai for officiating on the day. Well done Aylesbury Vale Seniors.



The winning team was: John Crowson, Dave Friend, Dave Dean, Mike Standy, Nigel Handyside, Ken Slatter, Simon Merritt, Adrian Redford, Mike Lee, Bob Phillips, Steve Foster, Jim Gales, Mike Bishop, Richard Braithwaite and Hugh Frood.

Happy golfing!

Keith Loxton

Competitions

Capt vs Vice-Capt vs Imm Past Capt Team Event 1 June	1 st : Imm Past Capt 51 Pts 2 nd : Vice-Capt 47 Pts 3 rd : Capt 37 Pts
Medal 6 June	1 st : Kevin Dodds nett 68 2 nd : Dave Needs nett 68 3 rd : Adrian King nett 69
Seniors' Captain's League 2 (1) 8 June	1 st : Paul Collins 40 Pts 2 nd : Stasiu Unsing 39 Pts 3 rd : Walter Huda 37 Pts
Summer Six (3) 13 June	1 st : Dave Dean 44 Pts 2 nd : Richard Braithwaite 39 Pts 3 rd : Ian Hawley 39 Pts
Seniors' Captain's League 1 (5) 15 June	1 st : Ken Slatter 45 Pts 2 nd : Mike Bender 44 Pts 3 rd : Peter Codrai 43 Pts
Seniors' Pairs Championship 20 June	1 st : Andrew Bond/Steve Chandler 57 Pts 2 nd : John Crowson/John Harris 52 Pts 3 rd : Adrian Matthews/Howard Matthews 52 Pts
Home match vs Silverstone 22 June	Won 4:2

Seniors vs Men 25 June	Postponed
Seniors' Captain's League 2 (2) 27 June	1 st : Paul Evans 41 Pts 2 nd : Dave Dean 41 Pts 3 rd : Mick Lee 37 Pts

Ladies

A Word from the Lady Captain...

Another wonderful month of golfing with the course playing to it's best. This is best shown by Jane Barker in the June Stableford achieving a fabulous 43 points, topped only by Clare Garrett in the June Weekend Stableford achieving a jaw dropping 52 points – all I can say is well done, Clare!

On 28 May we played Memorial Day – a combination of three competitions for both Men and Women. The Derek Hall Trophy was won by Julie Lea, Clare Garrett, Leah Burgess and Nick Brewer.

On 18 June we played in the Men's Captain's Day. There was a ladies competition which I was very proud to win, closely followed by Jean Barnett.

Lastly, on 27 June the Grandma's Cup was played – organised beautifully by Jane Codrai. Margaret Askew won this, closely followed by Pat Connolly and Janet Ewart.

Well played to all the ladies who won this month.

Next month we have the very important Ladies v Seniors match on 27 July – don't forget to sign up so we can beat them again!!

Breast Cancer Day this year will be on 9 September – please make a note of this in your diaries!

Charlotte Simpson

Competitions

Stableford 30 May	Div 1 1 st : Jean Barnett 39 Pts 2 nd : Vanessa Bond 38 Pts 3 rd : Pat Connolly 37 Pts Div 2 1 st : Jan Chambers 37 Pts 2 nd : Lorraine Fox 36 Pts 3 rd : Jane Whigham 31 Pts
Summer Cup 4 June	1 st : Vanessa Bond 41 Pts 2 nd : Lesley Wright 35 Pts 3 rd : Jean Barnett 33 Pts
Medal 8 June	Div 1 1 st : Anne Bridges nett 72 2 nd : Jane Roche nett 74 3 rd : Ghie McGinley nett 77 Div 2 1 st : Jan Chambers nett 76 2 nd : Danka Lawson nett 78 3 rd : Sue Goodger nett 79

Medal 12 June	1 st : Carol Carlin nett 70 2 nd : Lorraine Fox nett 74 3 rd : Julie Lea nett 75
Stableford 22 June	Div 1 1 st : Jane Barker 43 Pts 2 nd : Pat Connolly 36 Pts 3 rd : Melinda Arthur 34 Pts Div 2 1 st : Pat Banister 35 Pts 2 nd : Mary Williamson 32 pts 3 rd : Charlotte Simpson 32 Pts
Stableford 25 June	1 st : Clare Garrett 52 Pts 2 nd : Amy Crowson 34 Pts 3 rd : Natalie Rendle 34 Pts

Juniors

There is no Juniors report this month.

and in Conclusion...

...the last word is... Be sure to enjoy August!

...and a touch of humour... Every loaf of bread is a tragic story of a group of grains that could have become whisky, but didn't.

Lance Redler

cc: Charities.

Editor

What's On This Month

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

Men

Saturday 2 July – Pairs Club Championship (1) 0730-1115

Saturday 1 July – Scratch A home match vs Leighton Buzzard 1300

Sunday 3 July – Pairs Club Championship (2) 0730-1115

Monday 4 - Friday 8 July – Midweek Medal

Saturday 9 July – Medal 0650-1105

Monday 11 July – Midweek Club Championship 0655-1000

Saturday 16 July – President's Day 0650-1400

Sunday 17 July – Greensomes 0730-1055

Monday 18 – Friday 22 July – Midweek Stableford

Saturday 23 July – Seniors' Club Championship 0720-1105

Sunday 31 July – Professional's Cup 0705-1135

Seniors

Saturday 2 July – Pairs Club Championship (1) 0730-1115

Sunday 3 July – Pairs Club Championship (2) 0730-1115

Monday 4 July – Medal (4) 0745-0950

Monday 4 - Friday 8 July – Midweek Medal

Wednesday 6 July – Captain's League 2 (3) 0745-0950

Monday 11 July – Midweek Club Championship 0655-1000

Wednesday 13 July – Captain's League 2 (4) 0745-0950

Saturday 16 July – President's Day 0650-1400

Monday 18 July – Summer Six (4) 0745-0950

Monday 18 – Friday 22 July – Midweek Stableford

Wednesday 20 July - Stableford 0745-0850

Thursday 21 July – AwayDay to Badgemoor Park

Wednesday 20 July – home match vs Whipsnade 0900-0950

Saturday 23 July – Seniors' Club Championship 0720-1105

Monday 25 July – Texas Scramble 0745-0950

Wednesday 27 July – Seniors vs Ladies 0905-1100

Ladies

Monday 4 July – competition 1000-1025

Tuesday 5 July – match vs Chartridge Park (P)

Wednesday 6 July – Seniors' Shield 1000-1025

Saturday 9 July – Invitational Greensomes 1115-1145

Sunday 10 July – Medal 1000-1010

Monday 11 July – 3 clubs + putter 1010-1100

Wednesday 13 July - Stableford 1000-1055

Saturday 16 July – President's Day 0650-1400

Monday 18 July - Medal 1000-1055

Monday 18 – Friday 22 July – Midweek Stableford

Wednesday 20 July – competition 1000-1055

Sunday 24 July – Ping 4BBB 0915-0945

Monday 25 July – Ping 4BBB 1000-1055

Wednesday 27 July – Ladies vs Seniors 0905-1100

Saturday 30 July – Harries Shield 0950-1025

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: Neil Meldrum

Vice-Captain: Howard Matthews

Treasurer: Keith Loxton

Competition Secretary: Dave Lea

Assistant Competition Secretary: Mark Mansfield

Admin Secretary: John Barker

Handicap Secretary: Alan Connell

5-Day Representative: Peter Codrai

Members' Reps: Darren Horne, Brian Smith

Seniors

Captain: Keith Loxton

Vice-Captain: Adrian Redford

Treasurer: Mike Boden

Competition Secretary: Adrian King

Admin Secretary: Mike Pelizzoni

Social Secretary: Peter Codrai

Members' Reps: Jim Gales, Steve Waters

Ladies

Captain: Charlotte Simpson

Vice-Captain: Jane Roche

Secretary: Lesley Wright

Treasurer: Clare Garrett

County Representative: Kim Burnage

7-Day Comp Secretary: Sheila Perkins

5-Day Comp Secretaries: Jackie Boden, Jean Hill

Handicap Secretary: Jean Barnett

7-Day Members' Rep: Lorraine Fox

5-Day Members' Rep: Jean Hill

Juniors

Captain: Charlie Gould

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