

# On The Bank

January, 2020

Newsletter of Malden Manor Bowling Club

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Manor Park, Malden Road, New Malden KT3 6AU

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



Available electronically for members using email

Editors: Maureen Grimwood [maureenjgrimwood@gmail.com](mailto:maureenjgrimwood@gmail.com) and Mark Smith [m261smith@btinternet.com](mailto:m261smith@btinternet.com)

Technical Support: Tony Josolyne

## President Dave Takes Stock

As I enter my second and final year as President, I thought that I would reflect on my time in office and share those reflections with you.

It has certainly been an enjoyable and interesting period, offering an insight into the workings of the Club. This has afforded an opportunity for comparison with my time as the Secretary of the then Management Association all those years ago. Some changes are certainly for the good and the successful amalgamation of the two original clubs over the past ten years is testament to this.

The growth of the Club is once again reflected in our successes this season - the retention of the Sutton and Epsom League, the first time winning of the Kingston and District League and victory in the Moxon League. On top of this comes team and individual success in the K& D and Sutton and District finals. That success has come through the efforts of individual players but not in isolation. The efforts of our captains and coaches have played a part, as has the condition of the green has bowled as well as I can recall over the past 25 years.

There are, sadly, areas of disappointment. Not least the diminution in value and popularity of the mid-week morning roll ups and the absence of friendly matches, particularly for the men's section. All sports need a training format, and roll ups and friendlies should not be perceived as the exclusive domain of new bowlers. Experienced players need to hone their skills, and this includes the 'people management' of less experienced bowlers. Experienced bowlers have a responsibility to pass on their knowledge and skill to the newer bowler in the same way that they learned from, and were encouraged by, the 'old hands' when they began bowling. Further, it is in their own interest to develop the next generation of bowlers if they want to find Leads and Threes for competitions or wish to stand back from the pressures of Skip and move down the order. I hope that those members who think that the above applies to them will reflect upon this over the close season and return in April eager to pursue a new and valued role in the Club.

We must continue striving for success, as to stand still is only to go backwards. Victory in sport is achieved by small margins and gradual improvement. Our Club should always offer a warm welcome to visitors but must similarly serve as an intimidating venue for adversaries. The aspiration to professional standards both on and off the green must serve to demonstrate that whilst we are a club that likes to have fun and party, we are not to be taken lightly and you all have a role to play in our continued success. Sometimes on the green, but much more off it. I appreciate teams, and particularly captains, need players, but a club needs more. It needs members and active members at that. Please do all you can to support the Club.

Winter well and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

**Dave McGrady**



## 2019 AGM Outcomes

**President 2020: Dave McGrady**

### **Elected Section Officers:**

	<b>Ladies</b>	<b>Men</b>
<b>Captain</b>	Linda Shellard	Gordon Fleming
<b>Vice-Captain</b>	Jackie Darby	Mark Smith
<b>Secretary</b>	Maureen Grimwood	Graham Dawber
<b>Fixture Secretary</b>	Shirley Walton	Gerald Newman
<b>Selector</b>	Pat Wye	Roy Gunn

### **Elected Executive Committee Officers:**

<b>Chairman</b>	Mark Smith
<b>Secretary</b>	Granville Spencer
<b>Treasurer</b>	Brian Shellard
<b>Assistant Treasurer</b>	David Stevens
<b>Ladies' Committee Member</b>	Maggie Fleming
<b>Men's Committee Member</b>	Eric Darby
plus elected Section Secretaries	

- Members supported the committee's proposal for no increase to membership subscriptions for 2020.
- A proposal to increase the subscription for social members to £30 was supported.
- The proposal for the dress code to be amended to allow casual clothing to be worn for roll ups and practice was passed.
- The proposal for revisions to the definitions of membership categories for Junior members and Social members was passed.
- The audited Club accounts showed an excess of income over expenditure of £3,606, despite not having increased membership fees.
- The total income from catering for the season, £1,168, includes £540 profit from the U25s Surrey matches hosted on our green.
- The contingency fund (set up to cover significant unplanned expenditure) will be capped at £20,000
- The club is looking to replace more trophies, and anyone interested in sponsoring one should contact the Treasurer
- Donations by club members amounted to £1,300 this year in addition to various items such as new mats and a freezer being paid for by members.
- Positive feedback on the condition of the green, both verbal and written, was received from visitors and those Bowling Associations that made use of our facilities..
- Successful induction sessions have been held for members who joined in the past three years.

***The draft\* of the AGM minutes is displayed on the notice boards in both the Men's and Ladies' changing rooms***

\* The minutes are not final until agreed at the 2020 AGM in November

**Thanks go to those that have stepped down from a role on the Executive or the Bowling Committees. We also wish all members of the new committees well, whether they have stayed in their role, switched to another role, or joined afresh.**

## Brian is climbing the County Ladder

Congratulations to Brian Shellard who was elected Junior Vice President of Bowls Surrey (Men) at the Bowls Surrey AGM. In two years time, he will be Surrey President, following in Graham Dawber's footsteps

### Wanted Urgently - a Ladies' Secretary

This is my tenth year as Ladies' Secretary, over three periods. I intended to retire at the end of the 2019 season but reluctantly stayed in post to provide continuity as both the Club Secretary and Men's Secretary had also announced they would be retiring. I will definitely be standing down at the end of the 2020 season. Who will take over? Maybe someone could 'shadow' me during this season.

*Maureen Grimwood*

### Matters Arising ... the section that summarises recent actions and decisions taken by the Executive Committee and Bowling Committee

#### From the Executive:

Gerald Newman is now the manager of the **Club website**.

An inventory of crockery and cutlery has been made. More items have been purchased where needed.

Future Committee meetings will be held on the **last Friday** in the month.

#### From the Bowling Committee:

We will revert to displaying match sheets for **mixed matches** in both men's and ladies **changing rooms**.

Information relating to the **West Wimbledon Triples league and the Friday Triples** will continue to be displayed in the **Club room**.

We have been drawn away to Oxshott in the first round of the **Peter Ungless Cup**.

Future Committee meetings will be held on the **second Wednesday** in the month.

**Minutes from the Executive and Bowling Committee, once agreed, are available for Club members to peruse. The respective files are by the Steward's Desk**

### Dates for your 2020 Diary

Open Day:	Saturday 9 May
Presentation Evening:	Saturday 10 October
Club AGM:	Saturday 28 November

### Books

More books are required to replenish our second-hand book stock. Please leave in bags by the bookcase in the Club room.

### Tony is Honoured by SDBA

Our congratulations to Tony Josolyne who has been elected an Honorary Life Member by Sutton and District Bowling Association for his services over many years.

The high regard in which he is held by the Association is demonstrated by the fact that he was nominated by another club.

## Post Finals Mixed Pairs Competition

Long-standing members may recollect that this competition was a regular event. It probably came to an end the season the green was closed early, to enable intensive maintenance to be completed.

President Dave and Pat Wye decided to revive it – and what a success it proved, culminating in a wonderful final between the Conrad-Banks and the Edens and watched by a sizable crowd on the day of the Closing Drive.

Lyn and Ray were in front until Pauline and Micky gained a five. At 16-all an extra end had to be played, which was won by Pauline and Micky. Well done all for playing such an entertaining match.

On being presented with their winnings, both couples asked for their prize money to go to President Dave's charity.

## Val and Les Stevens' Trophy

Helena Smith has confirmed that she is comfortable for this match, between the Ladies' and Men's Champions to continue. This year, it was played immediately before the Drive, on the August Bank Holiday when Mick Kerbey defeated Lynda Padgham. As the match was so very well supported, it will continue to be played on the August Bank Holiday.

The future of the match will be kept under review.

## Captain Gordon finds a new venue for our away day fixture

Gordon Fleming has found a new fixture in Eastbourne for Saturday, 25 July. North Parade Bowling Club is situated on the sea front. Members with long memories may recollect that in the past we used to play Marine Bowling Club on the same green.

North Parade can offer 9 rinks, a 2pm start with tea and biscuits at half time. It is situated near the Anglers's Club where on our previous visits, members arranged to have lunch. We will end our day with an evening meal at the fantastic-value Moorings, in Pevensey.

## With Great Sadness...

...we report that Jenny Hodge was buried at Kingston Cemetery on 20th January. There was no formal service, but the funeral was attended by 35 friends and relatives.

Jenny joined Manor Park Ladies in 2000. She won the Junior Championship in 2002, beating Beryl Jessett in the final. She became a non-playing member when health issues prevented her from bowling. She resigned in 2016.

She was also part of Ann Gunn's knitting circle. She will be remembered as a very friendly lady, with a broad Scottish accent.

## The Moxon League, 2019

It took some time for it to be confirmed, but we can now officially say that we won the League by seven points. Games were conceded to us by Magdalen Park (2 Matches) and Gonville.

In view of the number of games that were conceded, we did ask the question about the future of the league. The response was that it will definitely continue for 2020 but will be reviewed at the end of the season.

## Tace Myddleton Trophy

In 2020, in order to make it more competitive, there will be a change for the Tace Myddleton match. The Bowling Committee have decided that the current format (Men v Ladies), will be dropped and instead President Dave's team will play a team chosen by Captains Gordon and Linda.

## Christmas Gifts from the Benevolent Fund, Surrey County Women's Bowling Association

Lorna, in her role as Surrey Delegate, delivered a gift voucher to three of our ladies. They had been nominated by our Ladies' Committee, the criteria being ladies, who no longer bowl but have served the Club well and retain an interest in bowling.

## Donations from Members

The generosity of our members is legendary. Donations in the 2019 season amounted to £1,300 and also new mats and an additional freezer were provided by members.

You will have noticed that new mats were in use on Finals Day. Thanks to Les Smith for sourcing, purchasing, collecting and donating the mats.

## Our Willing Workers

I am once again writing to extoll the virtues of a band of hearty souls who work tirelessly to both maintain and improve the facilities that we all enjoy but, perhaps, take for granted.

It all happens on Monday mornings, well, actually, some other days if the week as well! Members of the maintenance team gather together and put their various skills to good use.

The attention this Winter has been on repairing and weather-proofing the equipment and machinery huts. With the assistance of our member Peter Egan, we have been able to obtain enough roof tiles to cover both huts. At the time of writing, work is 75% complete and we are indebted to in particular to Dave Padgham and Roy Walton for their devotion to duty, with assistance from Eric Darby, Richard Steel and Brian Shellard.



Also causing a problem behind both of the huts were the trees, which were close to and overhanging the rear walls. Not any more though. Thanks to Eric, Richard, Brian and Roy (when Dave gives him time off!), it's all been cut back and tidied.



Look elsewhere and you will find the rest of the 'team'. President Dave has ensured that every bench on the green surround has been cleaned, oiled and put to bed for the close season. He has now moved on to re-painting the fox fence posts. And then of course we must acknowledge the work done by Gill and Dave Peck. If you smile every time that you walk in through the gate, it will almost certainly be because of the well-maintained garden that greets you and that's all down to Gill and Dave.

Then, last but not least, there's the guvnor Gordon Fleming who keeps everyone in check, receives notes for absence (☺) and helps out wherever needed.

What do I do? Not much really, mainly I stand back and smile in admiration.

**Mark Smith**

## Wrinklies Wit and Wisdom™...

"The simplest toy, one which even the youngest child can operate, is called a grandparent"

*Sam Levenson*

## 100 Club

The 100 Club year runs from May to April. There are 12 monthly prizes of £45 (two in December) and a bumper prize of £100 in April.

Winners so far:

May 2019:	Nigel Stagg	October 2019:	Anna Camps
June 2019:	Shirley Walton	November 2019:	Stuart Corner
July 2019:	Tony Hooker	December 2019:	Peter Jezzard
August 2019:	Tony Josolyne	December 2019:	Andrew Peile
September 2019:	Josie Dovey	January 2020:	Josie Dovey

Your opportunity to apply for shares for the new 100 Club year will be coming up soon with the pre-season paperwork, so particularly for the benefit of our newer members, Hon. Treasurer Brian Shellard felt that it was worth summarising what it is and how it works.

It's basically a monthly draw for a cash prize, but you need to purchase a share or share to be involved. For each share that you purchase, we allocate you a number in the draw. The share or shares that you purchase are yours for a whole year, so you are automatically entered into thirteen draws. The year runs from May to the following April and the list is closed in early May before the first monthly draw.

Traditionally it's called a 100 club because only 100 numbers were available, but we have moved away from that premise in that we have no limit on the number of shares that can be purchased. We retain the link to the name by having one prize (drawn in April) for £100.

As I'm sure you will have gathered, it's a vehicle to raise additional funds for the Club. A share is purchased for £7 and the monthly prize is determined based on the total amount taken in.

## Bar Update

Members will have noticed that a few changes have been made to the services provided by the bar in particular the introduction of the small 'coca cola' fridge with an "honesty book". This is partly due to the fact that numbers attending roll ups have reduced so that it is not viable to staff the bar on every occasion. I have to say that the system is quite successful, and members are paying their way. Obviously this system cannot cater for every individual request, but we will try to accommodate if possible.

Other changes have been applied in regard to access to the bar area and beyond. Following certain anomalies from previous years, locks have been changed and access to these areas are now restricted to bar and kitchen staff only. Anybody seeking access to must ask permission from the staff beforehand [list of staff on bar door]. The system has worked well over the season and we have had no further anomalies.

I am pleased to say that through implementing these changes plus help from all the staff and the benefit of more outside bookings it has resulted in takings for this year virtually matching those of last year. I must thank all of the staff and honesty of the members for making these systems work. I must additionally thank all of the maintenance people who have upgraded the rear bar stockroom area which helps with performance all round for bar and catering services.

### Ray Eden

*Note from Ed: Bar Manager Ray Eden submitted the above at the end of last season, which due to our OTB publication dates has had to wait until now... sorry Ray.*

#### Quite Interesting?:

Three quarters of Britons have a drawer at home full of miscellaneous junk.

**With thanks to QI**

## Malden Manor's Social Life

The close season has, as ever, seen an array of social events for members to enjoy. There follows a series of reports (not in chronological order!) on everything that's been happening...

### Presentation Evening

As previously reported, the Executive made the decision to hold the 2019 annual club presentation evening at the clubhouse. As you can imagine, even though we had thought it all through, we couldn't be exactly sure how it would turn out. We needn't have worried, however, as it proved to be a successful and enjoyable evening.

First dilemma was whether anyone would want to come! But as ever, our members supported us, so much so that we had to cap the list to make sure we could fit everyone in.

Second question was the catering. After a few false starts, up stepped Maureen Grimwood's daughter Jo and her partner Colin to say they could deliver three courses using our small kitchen, and what a great job they did.



On the night the Clubhouse looked splendid, with tables dressed in club colours and the trophy table creaking under the weight of the silverware.



President David was resplendent in the chair and in his speech he remarked on how far the Club had come since amalgamation ten years previously. David congratulated all competition winners who were to receive their trophies, and also presented ace clubman Bob Simmonds with a gift in recognition of his unstinting work and support for the Club throughout the season.

The raffle was very well supported, and our thanks go to Jon McGrady,

who acted as 'runner' to deliver the prizes to the winners. We did think that once the formal parts of the evening were completed, we would put some music on so those that fancied it could dance, but I'm afraid that idea went clean out of our heads.

So, as I said, we felt the 'experiment' was a success. In addition to the fact that it was a good evening, we made use of our own (extended) facilities, we managed to reduce the cost to members and all of the bar takings went into club funds. Yes, we learned a lot and there are things that we will definitely do differently next time, but nothing that made us think that we will not stage the event in the same way next time.

Thanks, as ever, to many... To Jo, Colin and their team; to Ray and helpers for running the bar and to Maureen, Maggie and Brian for helping me to pull all the 'ends' together.

**Mark Smith**

### Men's Christmas Meal

The gentlemen of MMBC returned to The Watchman in New Malden for their Christmas meal. More than 40 members shared a convivial evening and enjoyed some good food.

A big thank you to Graham who did a great job in organising the evening, both before and during. And also, to Brian P for running the prize draw, which was won by Godfrey Mason.

**Mark Smith**

## Murder at the Bowls Club!

On Saturday 16th November we were all invited to turn up for a wedding at a country house hotel, suitably attired. The ladies surpassed themselves in their posh frocks and fascinators and the men scrubbed up well in their suits and ties (plus other items of clothing!). As for Don Anderson in his morning suit – well!

Having admired each other's outfits we settled down at our team tables to choose a team name. We would have called ourselves "The Misses Marples" but as we had Colin on our table, who hadn't turned up in a dress, we had to be "Hercule Poirot and his Harem"!

Various bits of information were on the table giving background information on the location and members of the wedding party. The performers then entered and acted out a scene set in the hotel. Suddenly there was a scream and another character burst in saying she had found the murder victim, the bride's estranged father. We were drip fed more background information and then allowed to interrogate some of the suspects. Hercule and the Misses Marples decided it was important to establish "who was where, with whom and doing what" at the time of the murder.

The rest of the evening progressed with more scenes acted out, more snippets of information circulated, and more suspects interrogated.



**Interrogations in Full Flow**

So "Who done it?" I hear you ask. Well Tim, the bridegroom, of course, the hay fever sufferer. We established that he wasn't where he said he was at the time of the murder, i.e. in the billiard room, having been given a false alibi by Gordon. We already knew from information given that there was a rose garden under the victim's window and the trellis in the garden had been found broken the morning after the murder. Hence we surmised that the murderer climbed up the trellis to the victim's room, entered through the window, carried out the deed and escaped through the door to the adjoining room which just happened to be Gordon's. The fact that the murderer was heard to sneeze while hiding from the person who found the body was the final nail in Tim's coffin.

Elementary my dear Watson – Sorry! Wrong detective! I mean the "little grey cells" had come up trumps. A twist in the tail was when another murder took place. I'm afraid the little grey cells were exhausted by this time and Hercule & Co. came up with the wrong answer, possibly due to an overindulgence of red wine!

All in all, it was an excellent evening and very, very enjoyable. Thanks must go to the performers and to the Social Committee for arranging such a novel event, and to everyone who entered wholeheartedly into the spirit of the evening.

**Liz Pope**

## Quiz Night

This winter, the social programme kicked off with the return of the ever popular quiz night. The evening was well-attended, which resulted in seven teams contesting for the honours. The rounds covered a variety of topics, from 'Musicals' to 'the 1970s' and 'Who's Who' to 'Crime and Punishment'. There was also a nostalgic sound round on themes from radio programmes.

And so it was that after all questions had been asked and answered and jokers played, there was a tie between two teams, 'Peanuts' (Lynda, Lorna and friends) and 'Lad and Lasses' (Don and his entourage). A tie break to decide the winners then, and it was Lad and Lasses who had the closest estimate/guess as to the length in miles of the M1 motorway.

Everyone who came along and tested their little grey cells seemed to go home happy, whether they knew many answers or just one or two. Thanks go to Mark Smith for putting it all together.

### E.I. Addio (Our man at the back, consulting the encyclopedia)

## Ladies' Christmas Meal

Once again, Maggie Fleming arranged our meal at the Hogsmill Carvery.

The Christmas lunch is always a good opportunity for members to meet for a chat, whilst dining. Forty four ladies, all in full voice, attended. Jean Hardy, a former Christmas Lunch organiser, travelled from her home in Leatherhead to join us.

The collection for the Captain's charity is always circulated at the lunch - this year, Captain Linda Shellard has chosen MacMillan as her charity.

On the day, the staff seemed rather stretched. A long queue developed for the carvery as, initially, only one 'chef' was carving the meat. Meat portions were generous, and the roasted pork/beef/gammon/turkey proved tasty.

After desserts had been ordered, 'our' waiter disappeared. He'd been moved to cover reception. Eventually, he returned to serve some of the orders. Step in Lorna, who established details of the remaining desserts. Tea and coffee followed. This was a bit chaotic as one lady had raised her hand for both items and others failed to claim their drink!

We departed happy and full, leaving Maggie and Helena to confirm that the collected money tallied with the bill. As there was some money over, it was given to Captain Linda for her charity.

The cost of £11.29 for two courses of roast meat and a good choice of vegetables, including tea or coffee and a Christmas cracker, is very good value.

**Maureen Grimwood**

## Carols Evening

To those of our members who could not make the annual Carols evening - you missed a wonderful evening. Two people have said it was their favourite function of our social calendar.

The programme was arranged by Josie and Diana, our musicians for the evening. Ken was compere; Ray and Eric were 'behind the bar'. We all joined in the usual Christmas songs and carols, including our all-time favourite "The Twelve Days of Christmas".

Members provided a selection of mince pies, sausage rolls, cheese pasties and quiche. Mulled wine was served and, as a late addition, chocolate Christmas lollies. Gill Peck's table won the Christmas quiz.

Lorna, who usually entertains us, and her team of bell ringers, were unable to attend due to an unavoidable family commitment. We look forward to seeing them next year.

It was a jolly evening with 60+ members attending. Proceeds from the grand raffle will be added to Club funds, so Treasurer Brian can continue smiling.

**Maggie Fleming**

### Quite Interesting?:

Until 1900, visitors to Stonehenge were given chisels so they could chip off a souvenir.

**With thanks to QI**

## Bingo

For the first time in our 25 year association with Malden Manor, Jill and I attended the club Bingo Night. It was a lively, entertaining and very well attended event organised with exemplary efficiency by Maggie Fleming and her Social Committee. Proceedings were conducted eloquently by Lyn Eden with assistance from hubby Ray and Maggie herself until Les Smith, in his inevitable fashion decided, without need of an invitation, to take control.

The evening was, however, enhanced by his intervention and a good time was had by all. Indeed, some members had a particularly good evening in terms of financial reward from the prize money on offer.

Curiously three of the members scooping the bulk of the prizes were situated in close proximity giving rise to accusations of syndication and flimflamming. Never fear dear reader, your President is on the case and a full investigation will be pursued. Meanwhile a big thank you to all involved.

**Dave McGrady**

## New Year's Eve 2019

Once again members and friends gathered for what has become a traditional event at Malden Manor. Even though things were arranged at the last minute, 50 people turned out to bring in the New Year together. The theme this year was the Fifties and Sixties and lots of people arrived in various fancy dress, not all recognisable! The winner for the best dressed was George Wye who did a mean impersonation of John Lennon.



**Is that legal, Bob?**

After a few games, people were ready to tuck into Pauline's famous hot and cold buffet. Most were too stuffed to do any dancing, so we had a few more silly games. Eventually someone was brave enough to take to the floor and then the floodgates opened as everyone got up to dance the rest of the night away.

Everyone agreed that the evening had been one of the best for years and all looked forward to coming again next year. Unfortunately, Pauline and Micky have decided this will definitely be their last year as organisers for this event but will be happy to help anyone who is willing to take over.

**Micky Banks**



*Note from Ed: Treasurer Brian reports that this event made a profit of £162. Well done, Pauline and Micky!*

## Quiz Corner

### South American Capitals

Can you name the capital cities of the following South American countries?;

1. Argentina; 2. Brazil; 3. Chile; 4. Colombia; 5. Ecuador; 6. Guyana; 7. Paraguay; 8. Peru;
9. Uruguay; 10. Venezuela

### Test Cricket Nations

Name the twelve nations that play test cricket (That is nations that have had test status conferred by the International Cricket Council.

## The Puck Matchbox

A few years ago, Bryant and May produced matches in a 'Puck' matchbox. On one side of the box there was a written logo, but on the other side was the picture of an elf with the matchbox on his shoulder. The visible side of the carried matchbox was the side with the written logo. If the other side had been shown, the box would have had to display an infinite number of carried boxes showing elves with matchboxes on their shoulders.



**Tony Josolyne sent us this poem that he wrote in 2009. He was reminded of it by seeing an old 'Puck' matchbox recently.**

An old children's story and this idea of an unstoppable infinity of events inspired the following poem:

### *...et seq.*

An emperor was very sick and old,  
 With his loyal attendant standing by;  
 Slowly the great man spoke his final words:  
 'You must tell me a story till I die.'  
 Now listen to the tale that he was told...

'An emperor was very sick and old,  
 With his loyal attendant, standing by;  
 Slowly the great man spoke his final words:  
 "You must tell me a story till I die."  
 Now listen to the tale that he was told...

"An emperor was very sick... *...et seq.*"

This anecdote continued day by day...  
 The Emperor just closed his eyes and sighed...  
 He slept for weeks, but didn't pass away...  
 Till all the servants in this saga died.

## Been Anywhere Nice?

### The Sunbury Embroidery Gallery

The Sunbury Memorial Embroidery is housed in the building on the corner of Sunbury's Walled Garden, on the edge of Sunbury Park. The gallery was opened in 2006, having taken four years to complete. Although small, the memorial embroidery depicting a view of Sunbury, is impressive. There is a small restaurant on site. Public transport - Bus 216 from the bus stop by the side of the Bentall Centre, opposite John Lewis, to the Avenue, Sunbury. There is a pay and display car park in the park.

### Japanese Garden, The Watergardens, Warren Road, Coombe, Kingston

This is on the private estate and next to Warren House, a rather upmarket and very comfortable hotel where they serve a tasty afternoon tea. The Watergardens was originally part of Coombe Wood nursery, planted by the Veich family in the 1860s. The family were acknowledged horticulturalists. There are ponds, waterfalls, streams, rare trees and it's all very attractive.

I was really excited by the red toadstools as I have never seen them before. The land was eventually sold for luxury flats, but a condition of the sale was that the gardens have to be opened to the public twice a year. There were lots of people wandering around and I bumped into three others I knew, who were also visiting the garden. Afterwards, 9 ladies from Stoneleigh WI came back to my house for tea and homemade cake.

**Maureen Grimwood**

*The 109th edition of On The Bank will be published in  
March 2020.*

#### Quiz answers

##### South American Capitals

1. Buenos Aires; 2. Brasilia; 3. Santiago; 4. Bogota; 5. Quito; 6. Georgetown; 7. Asuncion; 8. Lima; 9. Montevideo; 10. Caracas.

##### Test Cricket Nations

Afghanistan, Australia, Bangladesh, England, India, Ireland, New Zealand, Pakistan, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies, Zimbabwe