

= Chiswick =

Chiswick (/ ʧɪzɪk / CHIZ @-@ ick) is a district of west London , England . Most of it is in the London Borough of Hounslow . Other parts of the W4 postcode area , including Chiswick Park tube station , Acton Green , and much of Bedford Park are in the London Borough of Ealing . It contains Hogarth 's House , the former residence of the 18th @-@ century English artist William Hogarth ; Chiswick House , a neo @-@ Palladian villa regarded as one of the finest in England ; and Fuller 's Brewery , London 's largest and oldest brewery . It occupies a meander of the River Thames used for competitive and recreational rowing , with several rowing clubs on the river bank . The finishing post for the Boat Race is just downstream of Chiswick Bridge .

Chiswick was historically the ancient parish of St Nicholas in the county of Middlesex , with an agrarian and fishing economy beside the river centred on Church Street . Having good communications with London from an early time , Chiswick became a popular country retreat , and as part of the suburban growth of London in the late 19th and early 20th centuries the population significantly expanded . It became the Municipal Borough of Brentford and Chiswick in 1932 and has formed part of Greater London since 1965 , when it was merged into the London Borough of Hounslow . Sublocalities include Bedford Park , Grove Park , the Glebe Estate , Strand @-@ on @-@ the @-@ Green and those with named tube stations , Turnham Green and Gunnersbury , within its three full @-@ sized wards of the United Kingdom .

On a border , the Chiswick or Great West Road Roundabout is the start of the North Circular Road (A406) , South Circular Road (A205) with the eponymous road flying over this . West of Chiswick 's Hogarth Roundabout , the Great West Road from central London converts to the M4 motorway , providing a second mode of transport connection to Heathrow Airport and the M4 corridor . The Great Chertsey Road (A316) runs south @-@ west from the Hogarth Roundabout , becoming the M3 motorway .

Historic figures who lived in Chiswick include the poets Alexander Pope and W. B. Yeats , the Italian revolutionary Ugo Foscolo , the Impressionist painter Camille Pissarro and the novelist E. M. Forster .

= = History = =

Chiswick was first recorded c.1000 as the Old English Ceswican meaning " Cheese Farm " ; the riverside area of Duke 's Meadows is thought to have supported an annual cheese fair up until the 18th century .

Chiswick grew up as a village around St Nicholas Church from c . 1181 on Church Street , its inhabitants practising farming , fishing and other riverside trades including a ferry , important as there were no bridges between London Bridge and Kingston throughout the Middle Ages . The area included three other small settlements , the fishing village of Strand @-@ on @-@ the @-@ Green , Little Sutton and Turnham Green on the west road out of London .

A decisive skirmish took place on Turnham Green early in the English Civil War . In November 1642 , royalist forces under Prince Rupert , marching from Oxford to retake London , were halted by a larger parliamentary force under the Earl of Essex . The royalists retreated and never again threatened the capital .

In 1864 , John Isaac Thornycroft , founder of the John I. Thornycroft & Company shipbuilding company , established a yard at Church Wharf at the west end of Chiswick Mall . The shipyard built the first naval destroyer , HMS Daring of the Daring class , in 1893 . To cater for the increasing size of warships , Thornycroft moved its shipyard to Southampton in 1909 .

In 1822 , the Royal Horticultural Society leased 33 acres (13 @.@ 4 ha) of land in the area south of the High Road between what are now Sutton Court Road and Duke 's Avenue . This site was used for its fruit tree collection and its first school of horticulture , and housed its first flower shows . The area was reduced to 10 acres (4 @.@ 0 ha) in the 1870s , and the lease was terminated when the Society 's garden at Wisley , Surrey , was set up in 1904 . Some of the original pear trees still grow in the gardens of houses built on the site .

The population of Chiswick grew almost tenfold during the 19th century , reaching 29 @, @ 809 in 1901 , and the area is a mixture of Georgian , Victorian and Edwardian housing . Suburban building began in Gunnersbury in the 1860s and in Bedford Park , on the borders of Chiswick and Acton , in 1875 .

During the Second World War , Chiswick was bombed repeatedly , with both incendiary and high explosive bombs . Falling anti @-@ aircraft shells and shrapnel also caused damage . The first V @-@ 2 rocket to hit London fell on Chiswick on 8 September 1944 , killing three people , injuring 22 others and causing extensive damage to surrounding trees and buildings . Six houses were demolished by the rocket and many more suffered damage . There is a memorial where the rocket fell on Staveley Road , and a War Memorial at the east end of Turnham Green .

= = Governance = =

Chiswick St Nicholas was an ancient , and later civil , parish in the Ossulstone hundred of Middlesex . In 1878 the parish gained a triangle of land in the east which had formed a detached part of Ealing . From 1894 to 1927 the parish formed the Chiswick Urban District . In 1927 it was abolished and its former area was merged with that of Brentford Urban District to form Brentford and Chiswick Urban District . The amalgamated district became a municipal borough in 1932 . The borough of Brentford and Chiswick was abolished in 1965 , and its former area was transferred to Greater London to form part of the London Borough of Hounslow . With these changes , Chiswick Town Hall is no longer the local government centre but is still used for some council services . There was a Brentford and Chiswick Parliament constituency from 1918 to 1974 .

Chiswick forms part of the Brentford and Isleworth Parliament constituency . The MP is Ruth Cadbury (Labour) , elected at the May 2015 general election replacing Mary Macleod (Conservative) . For elections to the London Assembly Chiswick is in the South West constituency , represented since 2000 by Tony Arbour , of the Conservative Party . For elections to Hounslow London Borough Council , Chiswick is represented by three electoral wards : Turnham Green , Chiswick Homefields and Chiswick Riverside . Each ward elects three councillors , who serve four @-@ year terms . For 2010 ? 14 , all nine councillors were Conservatives . It was one of 35 major centres identified in the statutory planning document of Greater London , the London Plan of 2008 .

= = Geography = =

Chiswick occupies a meander of the River Thames , 6 miles (9 @. @ 7 km) west of Charing Cross . The district is built up towards the north with more open space in the south , including the grounds of Chiswick House and Duke 's Meadows . Chiswick has one main shopping area , the Chiswick High Road , forming a long high street in the north . The river forms the southern boundary with Kew , including North Sheen , Mortlake and Barnes in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames . It includes the uninhabited island of Chiswick Eyot , joined to the mainland at low tide . In the east Goldhawk Road and British Grove border Hammersmith in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham . In the north are Bedford Park and South Acton in the London Borough of Ealing , with a boundary partially delineated by the District line . To the west , within Hounslow , are the districts of Gunnersbury and Brentford . Chiswick is in the W4 postcode district of the London post town , which in a tribute to its ancient parish includes Bedford Park and South Acton , mostly within the London Borough of Ealing .

Bedford Park , designed largely by Norman Shaw , was described by Nikolaus Pevsner as the first place " where the relaxed , informal mood of a market town or village was adopted for a complete speculatively built suburb " . Some of the most beautiful period mansion blocks in the area , such as Heathfield Court and Arlington Mansions , line the sides of Turnham Green ? the site of the Battle of Turnham Green in 1642 . Other suburbs of Chiswick include Grove Park (south of the A4 , close to Chiswick railway station) and Strand on the Green , a fishing hamlet until the late 18th century . In 1896 , Bedford Park was advertised as being in Chiswick , though at that time much of it was in Acton .

== Economy ==

Chiswick High Road contains a mix of retail , restaurants , food outlets and expanding office and hotel space . The wide streets encourage cafes , pubs and restaurants to provide pavement seating . Lying between the offices at the Golden Mile Great West Road and Hammersmith , office developments and warehouse conversions to offices began from the 1960s . The first in 1961 was 414 Chiswick High Road on the site of the old Empire Cinema . Between 1964 and 1966 , the 18 @-@ storey IBM headquarters was built above Gunnersbury station , designed to accommodate 1500 people . It became the home of the British Standards Institution in 1994 .

Chiswick is home to the Griffin Brewery , where Fuller , Smith & Turner brew their prize @-@ winning ales . It and its predecessor companies have been brewing beer on the same site for over 350 years . The original brewery was in the gardens of Bedford House in Chiswick Mall .

== Points of interest ==

== Chiswick House ==

Chiswick House was designed by the Third Earl of Burlington , and built for him , in 1726 ? 29 as an extension to an earlier Jacobean house (subsequently demolished in 1788) ; it is considered to be among the finest surviving examples of Palladian architecture in Britain , with superb collections of paintings and furniture . Its surrounding grounds are among the most important historical gardens in England and Wales , forming one of the first English landscape gardens .

== Churches ==

St Nicholas Church , near the river Thames , has a 15th @-@ century tower , although the remainder of the church was rebuilt by J.L. Pearson in 1882 ? 84 . Monuments in the churchyard mark the burial sites of the 18th @-@ century English artist William Hogarth and William Kent , the architect and landscape designer ; the churchyard also houses a mausoleum (for Philip James de Loutherbourg) designed by John Soane , and the tomb of Josiah Wedgwood 's business partner , Thomas Bentley , designed by Thomas Scheemakers . One of Oliver Cromwell 's daughters , Mary Fauconberg , lived at Sutton Court and is buried in the churchyard . Enduring legend has it that the body of Oliver Cromwell was also interred with her , though as the Fauconbergs did not move to Sutton Court until 15 years after his disinterment , it is more likely he was reburied at their home at Newburgh Priory . Private Frederick Hitch VC , hero of Rorke 's Drift , is also buried there .

Chiswick 's Roman Catholic church , Our Lady of Grace and St Edward (the Confessor) in the Diocese of Westminster , lies on the corner of Dukes Avenue and the High Road . It is a red brick building ; the parish was founded in 1848 , a school began c . 1855 , and a church was opened by Cardinal Wiseman on the present site in 1864 . It was replaced by the present building in 1886 , opened by Cardinal Manning . The heavy debts incurred were paid off and the church consecrated in 1904 . The square tower was added after the First World War by Canon Egan as a war memorial .

The church of St. Michael , Sutton Court was designed by W. D. Caroe in 1908 ? 1909 . It is a red brick building on Elmwood road , in Tudor style . St Paul 's Church , Grove Park is a Gothic style stone building designed by H. Currey . It was built largely at the Duke of Devonshire 's expense in 1872 .

St Michael and All Angels , Bedford Park was initially a temporary iron building from 1876 on Chiswick High Road facing Chiswick Lane . The current building 's foundation stone was laid in 1879 and consecrated in 1880 . It was designed , along with much of Bedford Park , by Norman Shaw , and was called " a very lovely church " by John Betjeman . It is an Anglo @-@ Catholic church , and was attacked on the day it was consecrated for " Popish and Pagan mummeries " by the brewer

Henry Smith , churchwarden of St Nicholas , Chiswick .

Christchurch , Turnham Green is an early Victorian Gothic building of flint with stone dressings . The main part of the building , by George Gilbert Scott and W. B. Moffat , is from 1843 ; the chancel and northeast chapel were added in 1887 by J. Brooks .

The Russian Orthodox Cathedral was built on Harvard Road in 1998 , with a blue and gold dome .

= = = Public houses and theatres = = =

There are several historic public houses in Chiswick , some of them listed buildings , including the Mawson Arms , the George and Devonshire , the Old Packhorse and The Tabard in Bath Road near Turnham Green station . The Tabard is known for its William Morris interior and its Norman Shaw exterior ; it was built in 1880 . Three more pubs are in Strand @-@ on @-@ the @-@ Green , fronting on to the Thames river path .

Chiswick had two well @-@ known theatres in the 20th century . The Chiswick Empire (1912 to 1959) was at 414 Chiswick High Road . It had 2 @,@ 140 seats , and staged music hall entertainment , plays , reviews , opera , ballet and an annual Christmas pantomime . The Q Theatre (1924 to 1959) was a small theatre opposite Kew Bridge station . It staged the first works of Terence Rattigan and William Douglas @-@ Home , and many of its plays went on to the West End .

The 96 @-@ seat Tabard Theatre (1985) in Bath Road , upstairs from the Tabard pub but a separate business , is known for new writing and experimental work .

= = = Other buildings = = =

The Sanderson Factory in Barley Mow Passage , now known as Voysey House , was designed by the architect Charles Voysey in 1902 . It is built in white glazed brick , with Staffordshire blue bricks (now painted black) forming horizontal bands , the plinth , and surrounds for door and window openings , and dressings in Portland stone . It was originally a wallpaper printing works , now used as office space . It is a Grade II * listed building . It faces the main factory building and was once joined to it by a bridge across the road . It was Voysey 's only industrial building , and is considered an " important Arts and Crafts factory building " .

Chiswick is home to the Arts Educational Schools in Bath Road .

= = = Duke 's Meadows = = =

Duke 's Meadows stands on land formerly owned by the Duke of Devonshire . In the 1920s , it was purchased by the local council , who developed it as a recreational centre . A promenade and bandstand were built , and the meadows are still used for sport with a rugby club , football pitches , hockey club , several rowing clubs and a golf club . In recent years a local conservation charity , the Dukes Meadows Trust has undertaken extensive restoration work , which saw a long term project of a children 's water play area opened in August 2006 .

= = Transport = =

Chiswick is situated at the start of the North Circular Road (A406) , South Circular Road (A205) and the M4 motorway , the latter providing a direct connection to Heathrow Airport and the M25 motorway . The Great West Road (A4) runs eastwards into central London via the Hogarth Roundabout where it meets the Great Chertsey Road (A316) which runs south @-@ west , eventually joining the M3 motorway .

The southern border of Chiswick runs along the River Thames , which is crossed in this area by Barnes Railway and Foot Bridge , Chiswick Bridge , Kew Railway Bridge and Kew Bridge . River services between Westminster Pier and Hampton Court depart from Kew Gardens Pier just across Kew Bridge .

Bus routes on or near Chiswick High Road are (27 , 65 , 94 (from Acton Green) , 237 , 267 , 272 , 391 , 440 , E3 and H91) , as well as the night bus N9 . The 27 and 94 services run 24 hours a day .

The District line serves Chiswick with three London Underground stations , Turnham Green , Chiswick Park and Gunnersbury . Turnham Green is an interchange with the Piccadilly line , but only before 06 : 50 and after 22 : 30 , when Piccadilly line trains stop at the station . Chiswick railway station is served by a regular South West Trains service to London Waterloo via Clapham Junction . The North London line crosses Chiswick (north @-@ south) ; London Overground stations are Gunnersbury and South Acton .

= = Sports = =

Chiswick 's local rugby union teams include Chiswick RFC , formerly Old Meadonians RFC . The team plays league games on a Saturday at Dukes Meadows . Chiswick 's cricket club , formerly known as Turnham Green and Polytechnic , plays at Riverside Drive . On Chiswick Common is the Rocks Lane Multi Sports Centre , where there are tennis , five @-@ a @-@ side football and netball courts available to hire to the public . Private tennis coaching for individuals and groups is also available .

The Chiswick reach of the Thames is heavily used for competitive and recreational rowing . Championship Course from Mortlake to Putney runs past Chiswick Eyot and Duke 's Meadows . The Boat Race is contested on the Championship Course on a flood tide (in other words from Putney to Mortlake) with Duke 's Meadows a popular view @-@ point for the closing stages of the race . The finishing post is just downstream of Chiswick Bridge . Other important races such as the Head of the River Race race the reverse course , on an ebb tide . Chiswick is home to several clubs . The University of London Boat Club is based in its boathouse off Hartington Road , which also houses the clubs of many London colleges and teaching hospitals ; recent members include Tim Foster , Gold medallist at the Sydney Olympics and Frances Houghton , World Champion in 2005 , 2006 and 2007 . Quintin Boat Club lies between Chiswick Quay Marina and Chiswick Bridge . Tideway Scullers School is just downriver of Chiswick Bridge ; its members include single sculling World Champion Mahé Drysdale and Great Britain single sculler Alan Campbell .

Chiswick High Road was once home to the Chequered Flag garage and its associated motor racing team .

= = Notable people = =

= = = Eighteenth century = = =

One of the first notable people to have lived in Chiswick was the artist William Hogarth , who lived in Chiswick from 1749 , when he bought the house now known as Hogarth 's House . Hogarth lived in the house until his death in 1764 . He is buried in St Nicholas 's churchyard . The house later belonged to the poet and translator of Dante , Henry Francis Cary , who lived there from 1814 to 1833 .

Also in the 18th century , between 1716 and 1719 , the poet Alexander Pope , author of The Rape of the Lock , lived in Chiswick ? in the building which is now the Mawson Arms at the corner of Mawson Lane . Another 18th @-@ century resident was the actor Charles Holland , who was born in Chiswick in 1733 .

= = = Nineteenth century = = =

In the 19th century , the Italian writer , revolutionary and poet Ugo Foscolo , died in exile at Turnham Green in 1827 , and was buried at St Nicholas Churchyard , Chiswick .

The inventor of the electric telegraph , Francis Ronalds , lived on Chiswick Lane from 1833 to 1852 . Another engineer , John Edward Thornycroft was born in Chiswick in 1872 ; his father , John Isaac

Thornycroft , had founded the Chiswick @-@ based John I. Thornycroft & Company shipbuilding company in 1864 , which Thornycroft later joined and developed . The artist Montague Dawson , regarded as one of the best 20th @-@ century painters of the sea , was born in Chiswick in 1895 .

The poet W. B. Yeats lived in Woodstock Road as a boy from 1879 , and came back in 1887 to live in Blenheim Road , where , inspired by Chiswick Eyot , he wrote The Lake Isle of Innisfree .

The Pissarro family of painters , the impressionist Camille Pissarro , his eldest son Lucien , as well as Felix and Ludovic @-@ Rodo lived in 62 Bath Road , Chiswick around 1897 ; with Camille Pissarro painting a series of notable landscapes of the area . The landscape artist Lewis Pinhorn Wood lived at Homefield Road from 1897 to 1908 .

= = = Twentieth century = = =

In the twentieth century , the novelist E. M. Forster (1879 ? 1970) lived at 9 Arlington Park Mansions in Chiswick from 1939 until at least 1961 .

Notable people born before the Second World War include the theatre and film director Peter Brook (1925-) , zoologist and broadcaster Aubrey Manning (1930-) , and marine geologist Frederick Vine (1939-) . Rock musicians John Entwistle (1944 ? 2002) and Pete Townshend (1945-) of The Who were both born in Chiswick during the Second World War .

Those born in Chiswick during the post @-@ war period include the musician Phil Collins (1951-) ; the singer Kim Wilde (1960-) ; the illustrator Clifford Harper (1949-) ; the photographer Derek Ridgers (1952-) ; the actress Kate Beckinsale (1973-) ; and comedian Mel Smith (1952 ? 2013) .

Among those who have lived in Chiswick are the novelist Anthony Burgess (1917 @-@ 1993) , who lived at 24 Glebe Street in the mid @-@ 1960s ; the actor Hugh Grant (1960-) , who grew up in Chiswick , living next to Arlington Park Mansions on Sutton Lane ; the singer Bruce Dickinson (1958-) of the band Iron Maiden ; the TV presenter Kate Humble (1968-) from 1997 to 2010 ; the actress Elizabeth McGovern (1961-) and her husband the film director Simon Curtis (1960-) ; and the model Cara Delevingne (1992-) . The playwright Michael Frayn (1933-) and his daughter the film maker and novelist Rebecca Frayn live in Chiswick . Chiswick residents in 2016 include the singer Sophie Ellis Bextor , the BBC journalists Jeremy Vine , Rageh Omaar and Fergal Keane , the actor Phyllis Logan , the TV presenters Sarah Greene , Gavin Campbell and Mary Nightingale , and the journalist Alice Arnold .

= = Demography and housing = =

= = In literature = =

The novel Vanity Fair (1847 / 8) by William Makepeace Thackeray opens at Miss Pinkerton 's Academy for Young Ladies in Chiswick Mall . Louis N. Parker 's play Pomander Walk (1915) has the imagined setting of " a retired crescent of five very small , old @-@ fashioned houses near Chiswick , on the river @-@ bank They are exactly alike : miniature copies of Queen Anne mansions " .

= = Nearest places = =