

A Quiz celebrating 150 years of Bedford Park

Printed copies are available at Festival events and
 the Quiz can also be found on the Festival website:
<https://www.bedfordparkfestival.org/e/378/bedford-park-150th-anniversary-quiz>

The first prize is a framed original lithograph of Tower House,
kindly donated by Stephen Foster of Foster Books

Round 1: Growing up in Bedford Park

1. Who grew up in Bedford Park and was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature?
2. Who grew up in Bedford Park and was made a Companion of Honour?
3. Who grew up in Bedford Park and won a Pulitzer Prize?
4. Who grew up in Bedford Park and was knighted in the 2025 King’s Birthday Honours?
5. What was the name of Sybil Pearce’s charwoman at 17 Blenheim Road and who was the cook general?
6. How old was Terry Jardine of Lonsdale Road when he heard London’s first V2 rocket explode in Staveley Road?
7. Which role did Lucy Briers play in the BBC’s 1995 Pride & Prejudice alongside later Bedford Park resident Colin Firth?
8. The house where economist and journalist Stephanie Flanders grew up has a plaque commemorating her famous father. What is the address?

Round 2: Bedford Park Writers and Books

1. Which writer was said to be the model for the Russian exile in E Nesbit’s The Railway Children?
2. Which dramatist received an Oscar nomination for writing the original screenplay for the first Beatles film, A Hard Day’s Night?
3. Where in Bedford Park did the creator of King Kong, The Four Just Men and Sanders of the River live and what was his name?
4. In which novel did GK Chesterton parody Bedford Park as ‘Saffron Park’?
5. Which playwright made so much money from his farce The Magistrate that he was able to move from Bedford Park and build a house in Harley Street?
6. Where did John Betjeman write that Bedford Park was “the most significant suburb built in the last century, probably the most significant in the western world.”

Round 3: Bedford Park Architecture and Art

1. Which artwork by which artist was first to be displayed on the W4Plinth and can also be seen on the Chiswick Timeline?
2. Who designed the Chiswick School of Art?
3. Who painted the 1881 picture of St Michael & All Angels Church displayed on its website?
4. Who painted The Train, Bedford Park (1897) from a rooftop in Bath Road?
5. What years are displayed on the St Michael & All Angels Centenary tile created by Eleanor Greeves?
6. Why was EW Godwin replaced as the Bedford Park Estate architect, according to the Bedford Park Society’s ‘History of the garden suburb’?
7. Which artist lived at No 7 Queen Anne’s Gardens and painted the original sign for the Tabard pub?
8. Where is the original pub sign now?
9. Which Bedford Park artist created ‘the most popular painting of World War 1 and a fresco in St Michael & All Angels Church’?
10. Who ‘opened’ the Enwrought Light sculpture commemorating WB Yeats?

Round 4: Elsewhere in 1875

1. Name two of the four prime ministers who were among 300 of the ‘great and good’ entertained by Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales at Chiswick House in 1875.
2. How big was the original painting of them all (a copy hangs in Chiswick House)?
3. Who wrote “The picture highlights Victoria’s remarkable position as Europe’s great matriarch. She had nine children and most of them made dynastic marriages into Europe’s royal houses.”
4. Which festive treat was launched in 1875 and by whom?
5. Which Gilbert & Sullivan opera opened in 1875?
6. What was the impact of the 1875 Sale of Food and Drugs Act on Cadbury and other chocolate firms?

Round 5: The saving of Bedford Park

1. In what year was Jonathan Carr’s Tower House demolished and what stands in its place?
2. What was the name of the house which was replaced by an old people’s home in yellow brick that led to the creation of the Bedford Park Society?
3. In what month and year was “a Betjeman broadside sounded in defence of Bedford Park?”
4. Who wrote “Alas I have lost the battle over Bedford Park” and to whom?
5. Where during the first Festival was the original ‘Exhibition that saved Bedford Park’ displayed?
6. Who owns the original drawing of ‘The Battle of Bedford Park’?
7. Within a month of the first Festival, 356 buildings were recommended for Grade II listing. Which Ministry of Housing & Local Government inspector made the recommendation?

Round 6: The Bedford Park Festival

1. Who wrote in the first Festival programme in 1967: “As London grows bigger and bigger, it becomes increasingly important that there should be a real sense of community in the various areas. To foster such a spirit in Bedford Park is the object of this Festival and I hope that it will be supported by all who live in the area. Since it is one of the tasks of the Church to be a centre of community I hope, too, that your parish church of St Michael & All Angels will be increasingly at the heart of the community.”
2. Who opened the first Festival in 1967?
3. Who organised the first Bedford Park Open Gardens in 1983 and wrote a book called Gardening in Bedford Park?
4. Which Bedford Park composer is being celebrated with two works this year to mark 150 years of Bedford Park?
5. Where did Cadbury first meet Pears in Bedford Park?

Round 7: The Community at Bedford Park 1875-2025

1. Why did John Butler Yeats choose to live in Bedford Park?
2. Who described WB Yeats as ‘perhaps the best talker I ever met, except his old father’?
3. What were George Bernard Shaw’s associations with Bedford Park?
4. At what address did the theatre designer Edward Gordon Craig live?
5. Peter Blake exhibited in the first Bedford Park Art Exhibition in 1967. What else did he create in that year?



Tie-breaker
Never knowingly undersold: Which might be better for you:
Cadbury’s, Pears’ or Bedford Park?

In the event of more than one person scoring the top marks, the prize will be awarded to the person who, in the judges’ opinion, gives the best answer to this question (marks will be awarded for wit rather than accuracy).

How to enter
Written entries should be submitted to St Michael & All Angels Parish Office,
Priory Avenue, London W4 1TX by midnight on Monday June 30th 2025.
Please write your answer(s) clearly alongside the questions above
and fill in the form below.
Or email entries to newsletter@smaaa.org.uk putting ‘Quiz 150’ in the subject box.

Name:…………………………………………………………………………………………..

Phone number or email address:……………………………………………………………

Tie-breaker (in not more than 20 words)……………………………………………………

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Some sources

You may find some or all of the following sources useful: Chiswick Timeline: A History in Art and Maps; Chiswick Book Festival ‘Writers Trail’ and ‘Writers Tales’; Arts Society Chiswick Outside Art Trail;
 [ChiswickW4.com](http://ChiswickW4.com); <https://chiswickcalendar.co.uk>; Brentford & Chiswick Local History Journal; Mainly About Bedford Park People; WB Yeats Bedford Park Artwork Project; Notes to the Bedford Park Society Exhibition: The Community at Bedford Park; the Bedford Park Festival and St Michael & All Angels websites; Foster Books; Chocolate Wars by Deborah Cadbury.

For further information please email newsletter@smaaa.org.uk.