

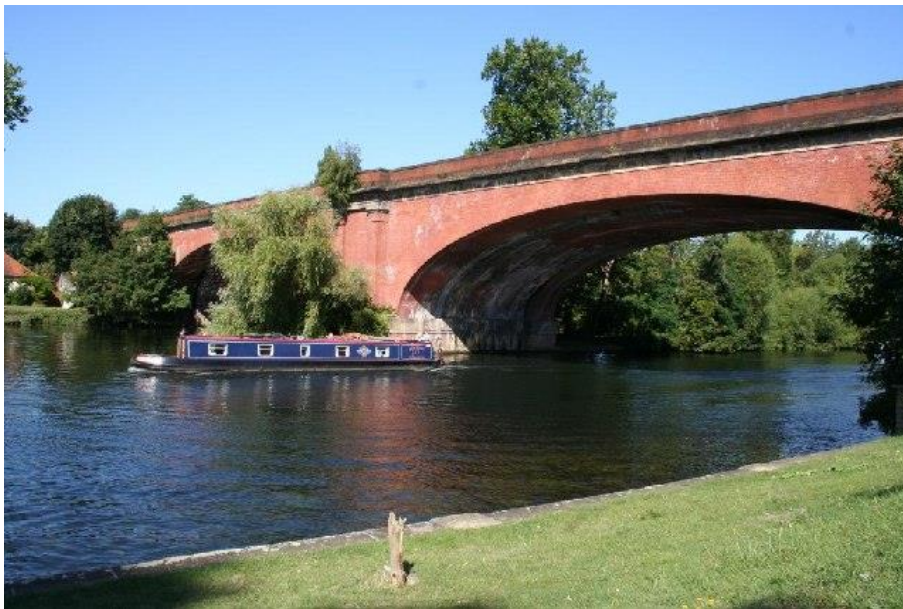
Maidenhead



Maidenhead Bridge, designed by Sir Robert Taylor in 1777, and the Thames Riviera Hotel.

Founded in the mid 1800s (no one knows precisely when), Maidenhead Rowing Club was originally located in a timber and corrugated iron structure sandwiched between the hotel and the A4 road bridge. In 1998, with the help of lottery funding, the club moved to a large, modern, purpose-built clubhouse on the other side of the river. The club's most successful oarsman of recent times was Eric Sims, winner of 5 Henley medals, one of them in partnership with Steve Redgrave. These days the club has a strong junior section and was one of the first clubs on the Thames to form a recreational section.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?reload=9&v=NzkDU7JMIRk>



Maidenhead Railway Bridge (also known as The Sounding Arch because of its spectacular echo) was designed by the Great Isambard Kingdom Brunel, and completed in 1838. Today, the Maidenhead Bridge forms a key crossing along the eastern section of the Great Western main line. The Maidenhead Bridge features in *Rain, Steam and Speed – The Great Western Railway*, painted by Turner in 1844. During July 2012, the Maidenhead Railway Bridge was upgraded to a Grade I listed structure in light of its historical importance; to this day, the arches of the structure remain the flattest to have ever been constructed.

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