



**GRAY'S
INN**

Historical List of Honorary Benchers since 1883

This list is for quick reference of Honorary Benchers since 1883, when the Inn first used the title.

Should you have any queries, please [contact the Archivist](#).

Name and Title	Dates	Date elected
Thomas O'Hagan, Lord O'Hagan	(1812-85)	21 Dec 1883
John David Fitzgerald, Lord Fitzgerald	(1816-89)	21 Dec 1883
William Watson, Lord Watson of Thankerton	(1827-99)	14 Apr 1886
Edward Gibson, Lord Ashbourne	(1837-1913)	14 Apr 1886
William Romilly, 2nd Baron Romilly	(1835-91)	18 Dec 1889
Alexander Burns Shand, Lord Shand	(1828-1905)	23 Mar 1892
Sir Edmund Barton	(1849-1920)	6 June 1902
Sir Wilfrid Laurier	(1841-1919)	3 May 1907
Alfred Deakin	(1856-1919)	3 May 1907
William ("Billy") Morris Hughes	(1862-1952)	11 May 1916
Prof Henry Goudy	(1848-1921)	6 June 1917
James Avon Clyde, later Lord Clyde	(1863-1944)	4 Apr 1919
James Montgomery Beck	(1861-1936)	17 Nov 1920
Paul Drennan Cravath	(1861-1936)	17 Nov 1920
Sir Robert Horne, later Viscount Horne	(1871-1940)	31 Jan 1923
Lyman Poore Duff, later Sir Lyman	(1865-1955)	7 May 1924
William Watson, later Lord Thankerton	(1873-1948)	4 May 1928
William Norman Tilley	(1868-1942)	26 Apr 1933
Very Rev Walter Robert Matthews	(1881-1973)	14 Nov 1934
Sir Shadi Lal	(1874-1945)	12 Apr 1935
Robert Gordon Menzies, later Sir Robert	(1894-1978)	8 July 1935
Winston Churchill, later Sir Winston	(1874-1965)	18 Feb 1942
Franklin Delano Roosevelt	(1882-1945)	15 Dec 1943
William Lyon Mackenzie King	(1874-1950)	17 July 1946
Jan Hendrik Hofmeyr	(1894-1948)	17 July 1946
Robert Falco	(1882-1960)	18 Nov 1946
Maj-Gen Iona Timofayevitch Nikitchenko	(1895-1967)	18 Nov 1946 (no evidence that he accepted)
John Clarke MacDermott, Lord MacDermott	(1896-1979)	7 May 1947
James Scott Cumberland Reid, Lord Reid of Drem	(1890-1975)	17 Nov 1948
Edward Brantwood Maufe, later Sir Edward	(1883-1974)	27 Nov 1951
Felix Frankfurter	(1882-1965)	15 Oct 1952

John Erskine Read	(1888-1973)	5 May 1953
John George Diefenbaker	(1895-1979)	20 Nov 1958
Sir Alfred Kingsley North	(1900-81)	20 July 1965
Sir Fred Pritchard	(1899-1982)	20 July 1965
Earl Warren	(1891-1974)	1 Sep 1965
Edward Richard George Heath, later Sir Edward	(1916-2005)	8 July 1970
Charles James Dalrymple Shaw, Lord Kilbrandon	(1906-89)	22 July 1971
Robert Lecourt	(1908-2004)	8 Feb 1972
John ("Jack") Ross Marshall, later Sir John	(1912-88)	2 May 1972
Sir (Edward) Denis Blundell	(1907-84)	18 Dec 1973
Nagendra Singh	(1914-88)	18 Dec 1973
Gordon William Humphreys Richardson, Lord Richardson of Duntisbourne	(1915-2010)	18 Dec 1973
Sir John (Samuel) Richardson, bart, later Lord Richardson	(1910-2004)	20 Nov 1974
Dr Trevor Cawdor Thomas	(1914-85)	20 Nov 1974
(Walter) Ian (Reid) Fraser, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton	(1911-89)	18 Dec 1974
Bernard Chenot	(1909-95)	28 Nov 1975
Vicomte Walter Jean Oscar Louis Marie Ganshof van der Meersch	(1900-93)	28 Nov 1975
Oswald Terry	(1907-83)	17 Nov 1976
Francis Henry Cowper	(1906-90)	28 July 1977
Very Rev Sydney Hall Evans	(1915-88)	2 Nov 1977
Sir Zelman Cowen	(1919-2011)	7 Feb 1978
Sir Jack Isaac Hai Jacob	(1908-2000)	19 July 1978
Alfred Thompson Denning, Lord Denning	(1899-1999)	17 Jan 1979
Sir Ellis Emmanuel Innocent Clarke	(1917-2010)	27 Nov 1979
Sir David Stuart Beattie	(1924-2001)	26 March 1980
Dr John Morris, QC	(1910-84)	23 Apr 1980
Sir Charles Russell	(1912-92)	15 Oct 1980
Most Rev Robert Alexander Kennedy Runcie	(1921-2000)	25 Nov 1980
Hon Sir Shridath Surendranath "Sonny" Ramphal		23 July 1981
Prof Alexander Chloros	(1926-82)	23 July 1981
Rt Hon Sir Ninian (Martin) Stephen	(1923-2017)	24 Nov 1981
James Wellwood	(1902-85)	3 Feb 1982
Arnold Weinstock, Lord Weinstock of Bowden	(1924-2002)	28 Apr 1982
Sandra Day O'Connor		21 July 1982
Prof Sir Guenter Treitel		3 Nov 1982
Thomas George Thomas, Viscount Tonypany	(1909-97)	13 Dec 1982
William Philip Sidney, Lord De L'Isle & Dudley, Viscount De L'Isle	(1909-91)	13 Dec 1982
Prof Randolph Quirk, later Lord Quirk	(1920-2017)	20 Apr 1983
Derek Curtis Bok		20 July 1983
Gp-Capt (Geoffrey) Leonard Cheshire, later Lord Cheshire	(1917-92)	20 July 1983
Rt Hon Margaret Hilda Thatcher, later Baroness Thatcher	(1925-2013)	9 Nov 1983
Sir James (Rufus) Astwood		8 July 1985
Spyros Achilleos Kyprianou	(1932-2002)	6 Nov 1985
Prof Sir Thomas Smith, QC	(1915-88)	25 Nov 1986
Prof John Meurig Thomas		25 Nov 1986
Helen Mary Warnock, Baroness Warnock	(1924-2019)	25 Nov 1986

Rt Hon Sir Donald Murray	(1923-2018)	23 July 1987
Noor Mohamed Hassanali	(1918-2006)	4 Nov 1987
Sir David Hopkin	(1922-97)	20 Jan 1988
HRH Grand Duke Jean of Luxembourg	(1922-2019)	15 June 1988
Ole Due	(1931-2005)	2 Nov 1988
Prof Ian Scott		2 Nov 1988
Benno C Schmidt Jr		22 Nov 1988
Prof Benjamin Wortley, QC	(1907-89)	19 Dec 1988
Prof Robert Heuston	(1923-95)	19 Dec 1988
Rt Hon Kenneth Clarke, QC, MP		16 Feb 1989
Sir Ti-Liang Yang		24 Mar 1989
Pathmanathan Ramanathan	(1932-2006)	5 July 1989
Andreas Nicolas Loizou	(1926-2002)	5 July 1989
Enoch Dumbutshena	(1920-2000)	5 July 1989
Lord Hope of Craighead		21 Nov 1989
Prof Krzysztof Skubiszewski	(1926-2010)	16 Jan 1991
David H Souter		16 Jan 1991
Dr Francis Mann	(1907-91)	2 July 1991
Ralph Francis Alnwick Grey, Lord Grey of Naunton	(1910-99)	26 Nov 1991
Prof James Crawford		26 Nov 1991
Rt Hon Sir David Edward		17 March 1992
Dame Josephine Barnes	(1912-99)	24 Nov 1992
Sir Vincent Frederick Floissac	(1928-2010)	24 Nov 1992
Hon Chief Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed		14 Jan 1993
Prof Dr Christian von Bar		25 Nov 1993
Rt Hon Sir Robert Carswell, now Lord Carswell		25 Nov 1993
Judge Alister Kneller	(1927-2005)	23 Nov 1995
Hon Sir Joaquim Gonsalves-Sabola	(1929-2008)	23 Nov 1995
Herr Bundespräsident Roman Herzog	(1934-2017)	28 Apr 1994
Rt Hon Sir Michael Hardie Boys		24 Nov 1994
Rt Hon Alastair (Borthwick) Nicholson		24 Nov 1994
Rt Hon Sir (James) Michael (Anthony) Nicholson		24 Nov 1994
Sir Mark Weinberg		24 Nov 1994
Rt Hon Sir Anthony Campbell		24 Nov 1994
Gil Carlos Rodriguez Iglesias	(1946-2019)	23 Nov 1995
Mme Noelle Lenoir		23 Nov 1995
Rt Hon Michael Anthony De La Bastide		5 Nov 1996
Rt Hon Sir John Sheil		5 Nov 1996
Rev Canon Eric James	(1925-2012)	16 Dec 1997
Rt Hon Sir Brian Kerr, now Rt Hon Lord Kerr of Tonaghmore		16 Dec 1997
Hon Henry Litton		15 Dec 1998
Matthew Ngulube		15 Dec 1998
Judge Stephen M Schwebel		15 Dec 1998
Prof Dr Guido Alpa		15 Dec 1998
Prof Dr Jutta Limbach	(1934-2016)	15 Dec 1998
Hon Mrs Lavinia Wallop		15 Dec 1998
Rt Hon Sir Paul Girvan, now Rt Hon Lord Justice Girvan		15 Dec 1998
Sir Charles Frossard	(1922-2012)	25 Nov 1999

Guy Canivet		25 Nov 1999
Rt Hon Sir Liam McCollum		25 Nov 1999
Rt Hon Sir Patrick Coghlin, now Rt Hon Lord Justice Coghlin		25 Nov 1999
Clarence Thomas		23 Nov 2000
Hon Louise Arbour		23 Nov 2000
Richard Banda		23 Nov 2000
Hon Sir John Gillen		23 Nov 2000
Sir John Collyear		23 Nov 2000
Prof Paul Craig		23 Nov 2000
David Machin		23 Nov 2000
Hon Dame Silvia Cartwright		22 Nov 2001
Prof Dr Dr Claus-Dieter Ehlermann		22 Nov 2001
Hon Sir Richard McLaughlin		22 Nov 2001
General the Lord Ramsbotham		22 Nov 2001
Rt Hon Dame Joan Sawyer		22 Nov 2001
Arthur Marriott, QC	(1943-2015)	22 Nov 2001; elected a Full Bencher Sep 2012
John Clitheroe		14 Nov 2002
Rt Hon Harriet Harman, MP		14 Nov 2002
Rt Hon Beverley McLachlin		14 Nov 2002
Hon Justice Anthony Smellie		14 Nov 2002
Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve		14 Nov 2002
Rt Hon Lord Woolf		13 Nov 2003
Ahmad Tejan Kabbah	(1932-2014)	13 Nov 2003
Hon Sir Ronald Weatherup		13 Nov 2003
Prof Baron Walter van Gerven	(1935-2015)	13 Nov 2003
Joshua Rozenberg		13 Nov 2003
Tyronne Fernando	(1941-2008)	13 Nov 2003
Dominique de Villepin		26 Feb 2004
Sir David Brewer		11 Nov 2004
Judge Dominique Hascher		11 Nov 2004
Hon Geoffrey Ma Tao-Li		11 Nov 2004
Michael Napier		11 Nov 2004
Hon John Dyson Heydon		7 Dec 2004
Katherine Dandrieux Lisfranc		10 Nov 2005
Peter Stockwell		10 Nov 2005
Peter Hurst		9 Nov 2006
Judge Johann Kriegler		9 Nov 2006
Timothy Workman		9 Nov 2006
Most Rev & Rt Hon Dr John Sentamu		9 Nov 2006
Prof Paul L Davies		18 Jan 2007
Prof David Ibbetson		8 Nov 2007
Rt Hon Lord Patten of Barnes		8 Nov 2007
Hon Lady Smith		8 Nov 2007
Hon Tan Sri Dato' Seri Siti Norma Yaakob		8 Nov 2007
Maj-Gen David Jenkins		4 Apr 2008

Dorit Beinisch	2 Oct 2008
Rt Hon Lord Dear	2 Oct 2008
Hon Robert French	2 Oct 2008
Prof Dame Hazel Genn	2 Oct 2008
Sir Geoffrey Rowland	2 Oct 2008
Rt Hon Lord Phillips of Worth Matravers	2 Oct 2008
Justice Sonia Sotomayor	8 Oct 2009
Prof Jane Stapleton	8 Oct 2009
Martin Shaw	21 Oct 2010
Prof Jan Paulsson	21 Oct 2010
Hon Justice Susan Crennan	21 Oct 2010
Her Ladyship the Hon Justice Uma Hawa Tejan-Jalloh	21 Oct 2010
Prof David Wootton	10 Feb 2011
His Honour Neil Denison	13 Oct 2011
Monty Raphael QC	13 Oct 2011
Dame Ursula Brennan	13 Oct 2011
Robert Coren	18 Oct 2012
Dame Janet Gaymer	18 Oct 2012
Judge Howard Riddle	18 Oct 2012
Prof Sir John Baker	17 Oct 2013
Dr Tim McInerney	17 Oct 2013
Judge Dean Spielmann	17 Oct 2013
Hon Mr Justice Robert Tang	17 Oct 2013
Robert Swannell	9 Oct 2014
District Judge Michael Walker	9 Oct 2014
Mme Françoise Kamara	9 Oct 2014
Hon Justice Susan Kiefel	13 Nov 2014
Sir Richard Collas	14 Oct 2015
Master Barbara Fontaine	14 Oct 2015
Neil MacGregor	14 Oct 2015
Prof Richard Susskind	14 Oct 2015
Brig Tony Faith	15 Jun 2016
Chief Master Matthew Marsh	26 Oct 2016
Chief Justice Georgina Wood	26 Oct 2016
Keith Lawrey	26 Oct 2016
Clare Noon	26 Oct 2016
Lucien Wong	18 Jan 2017
Justice Elena Kagan	25 Oct 2017
Dame Hilary Mantel	25 Oct 2017
Chief Justice Margaret Ramsay-Hale	25 Oct 2017
Prof Gillian Douglas	18 Oct 2018
Dame Katherine Grainger	18 Oct 2018
Gopal Subramaniam	18 Oct 2018
Chief Justice Narinder Hargun	18 Oct 2018

Chief Justice Richard Malanjum	15 Jan 2019
Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1933-2020)	17 Oct 2019
Sean Hagan	17 Oct 2019
Sir Iain Macleod	17 Oct 2019
Dame Janice Pereira	17 Oct 2019
Justice Helen Winkelmann	21 Oct 2020
Peter Callens	21 Oct 2020
Professor Douglas Jones	21 Oct 2020
Justice Horner	21 Oct 2020
Alderman Vincent Keaveny	21 Oct 2020
Mrs Justice Keegan	21 Oct 2020
Mr Justice Maguire	21 Oct 2020
Dame Catherine Elizabeth Bingham DBE	13 Oct 2021
Baroness Brady CBE	13 Oct 2021
Justice Amy Coney Barrett	13 Oct 2021
Justice Janak De Silva	13 Oct 2021
Justice Sarah Derrington	13 Oct 2021
Chief Justice Narin Ferdi Sefik	13 Oct 2021