Cambridge Mayors, 1835 - 2000

1835 to 1836

Thomas Hovell

John Purchase, Mayor in 1760, was a well-established haberdasher and mercer. He sold his business to Joseph Hart in 1784 who formed a partnership with Joseph Ansell. In 1793, Ansell sold out to Thomas Hovell and the business became Hart and Hovell. In 1798, William Eaden joined the company and this was the forerunner of the department store W. Eaden Lilley, which occupied premises in Market Street, Cambridge.

1836 to 1837

Ebenezer Foster

Jointly founded Foster's Bank with his brother, Richard, in 1804. Ebenezer lived in Anstey Hall, Trumpington. Foster's Bank became Lloyds Bank in 1918 but the name Foster can still be seen over the door at the branch in Sidney Street. The family also owned three mills (it was for the mill workers that the bank was established). The university would not allow them to have railway lines running to the mills, so they built one right next to the railway line, later known as Spillers.

1837 to 1838

Charles Humfrey

J. Burleigh was one of those who received an allotment under the 1811 Barnwell Inclosure Award. He sold a plot to Charles Humfrey for a mansion: much of this area is now bordered by Clarendon Street, Elm Street, Emmanuel Road and Parker Street. The mansion, Clarendon House, was designed by William Wilkins. Humfrey, an architect, went on to acquire more property in the area. By 1845 he was in debt and he and his executors had to sell his bank and his Cambridge property over the next few years. The mansion was demolished later in the century and its site is now Parkside Community College. However a gazebo still exists in the garden of no. 2 Emmanuel Road and was restored in 1997 by the current owners, the city council and English Heritage. Humfrey designed the steeple of St. Clement's Church in 1821. Queen Victoria's coronation dinner on Parker's Piece took place during Mr Humfrey's year as mayor.

1838 to 1839

Henry Headly

Local ironmonger. Mr Headly sold his patent for plough shares (the heavy iron blade of a plough which cuts into the ground) in 1805.

1839 to 1840

Richard Foster

Jointly founded Foster’s Bank with his brother, Ebenezer, in 1804. Purchased Brooklands House, where he lived, in 1825. Foster’s Bank became Lloyds Bank in 1918 but the name Foster can still be seen over the door at the branch in Sidney Street. The family also owned three mills (it was for the mill workers that the bank was established). The university would not allow them to have railway lines running to the mills, so they built one right next to the railway line, later known as Spillers.

1840 to 1841

George Fisher

Owned brickworks, now the site of Alexandra Gardens. Banker.

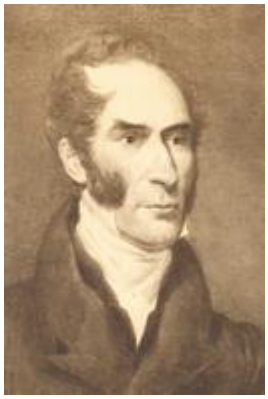
1841 to 1842

George Fisher

Second term: (1840 to 1841).

1842 to 1843

Thomas Stevenson



The oldest bookshop site in Britain is claimed to be 1 Trinity Street. Thomas Stevenson lived there and was a bookseller. Now the site of Bowes and Bowes.

1843 to 1844

Rowland M. Fawcett

Doctor of medicine, deputy lieutenant and justice of the peace. Lived Scrope Terrace, Trumpington Street. Died 1890.

1844 to 1845

W. Bishop

Chief and parish constables had issued to them a long or short staff respectively, paid for at the mayor's expense. Two chief constable saves still exist paid for by Mr. Bishop and which bear Mr. Bishop's name. He lived at 58 Regent Street.

1845 to 1846

John J. Deighton

Bookseller. In 1854 George Bell acquired Cambridge firm of J. and J.J. Deighton and it became Deighton Bell and Co based in Trinity Street.

1846 to 1847

Charles E. Brown

Father was postmaster at 24 Green Street and Charles was connected with the Cambridge Chronicle.

1847 to 1848

Charles F Foster

Fosters Bank family. Miller, corn, coal and timber merchant. Lived Pinehurst, Grange Road. Died in 1866.

1848 to 1849

Charles Finch

Iron founder. Lived in a large stone fronted house in All Saints Passage looking down Jesus Lane.

1849 to 1850

Henry S. Foster

Fosters Bank family. Principal promoter of the building now known as the Pitt Club, built by the Roman Bath Company. This project was not financially successful as people preferred to bathe in the river.

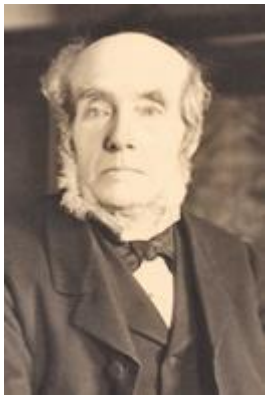
1850 to 1851

William Warren

Grocer with a shop in Bridge Street.

1851 to 1852

Elliot Smith



Auctioneer and land agent. Presented valuable articles to Trinity College which were found during the excavations at the site of The Dolphin, now Whewells Court.

1852 to 1853

Henry Hemington Harris

Lived in Park Lodge, Parker’s Piece. Auditor and an honorary secretary of the Mechanics’ Institute. Listed as a solicitor in the directories of the period.

1853 to 1854

Augustin G. Brimley

Wholesale grocer, hop and provision merchant. Brimley Road named after him.

1854 to 1855

Charles F. Foster

Second term (1847-48).

1855 to 1856

William Ekin

Ekin Brewery in Magdalene Street reputedly founded in 1780 and apparently owned by William Ekin from 1834. Ekin Road named after him.

1856 to 1857

Patrick Beales

Came from a family of corn and coal merchants. Saved from bankruptcy by Swann Hurrell, mayor 1857-1858.

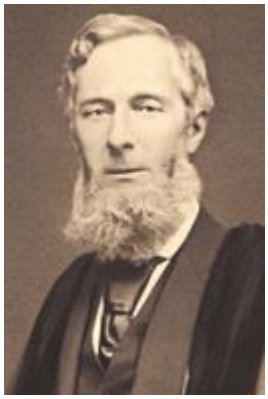
1857 to 1858

Swann Hurrell

Brother-in-law of Patrick Beales (mayor in 1866-67). He saved Mr. Beales from bankruptcy and took over Beales' corn and coal merchants' business. Hurrell Road named after him.

1858 to 1859

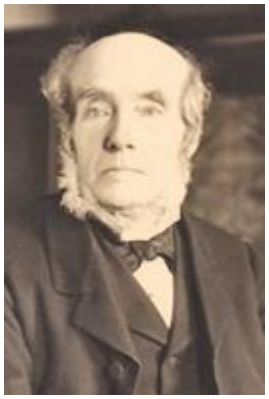
Charles Balls



Born Cambridge 1810. Auditor and director of Cambridge Water Company. Chairman of Cambridge Borough police court. Freeman of the borough. Resided in Cherry Hinton Hall. Conservative.

1859 to 1860

Elliot Smith



Second term (1851-52).

1860 to 1861

Charles Foster

Third term (first 1847-48; second 1854-55).

1861 to 1862

Charles Foster

Fourth term (first 1847-48; second 1854-55; third 1860-61).

1861 to 1862

Henry Smith

Alderman for East Barnwell Ward.

1863 to 1864

Henry H. Harris

Second term (first 1852-53)

1864 to 1865

Swann Hurrell

Second term (first 1857-58).

1865 to 1866

Swann Hurrell

Third term (first 1857-58, second 1864-65)

1866 to 1867

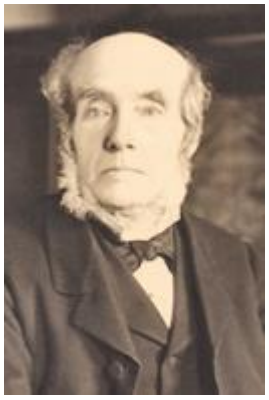
Patrick Beales

Second term (first 1856-1857).

1867 to 1868

Elliot Smith

Third term (first 1851-52; second 1859-60).



1868 to 1869

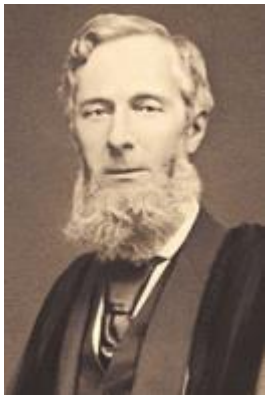
C. E. Brown

Second term (first 1846-47).

1869 to 1870

Charles Balls

Second term (first 1858-59).



1870 to 1871

Samuel Peed

Member of University and Town Waterworks Company. Solicitor

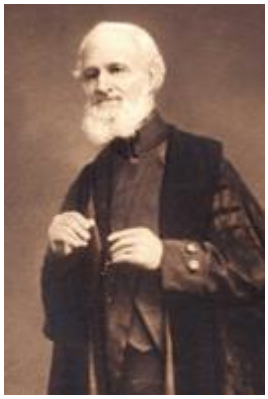
1871 to 1872

Samuel Peed

Second term (first 1870-71)

1872 to 1873

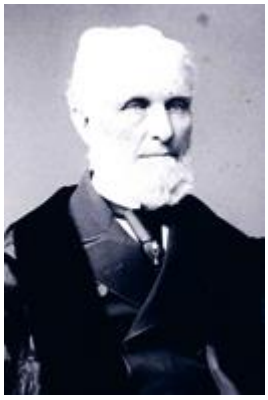
T. H. Naylor



Cambridge lawyer, who, until the late 1870s, acted as patron of many Chesterton village activities. Also served as recorder of Sudbury.

1873 to 1874

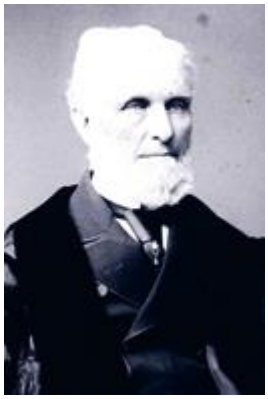
John Death



The foundation stone of the Corn Exchange, made from cornish granite from Cheesewring Quarry, was laid by the mayor, John Death. The builders used a quarter of a million local bricks in yellow, red and dark blue, interspersed with bands of fancy tiles.

1874 to 1875

John Death



Second term (1873-74) The new Corn Exchange opened on 6th November 1875 after a civic procession from the Guildhall and a dinner for local dignitaries. The Mayor said: 'It was a building worthy of the borough…to be devoted to very useful objects of popular amusements.' A promenade concert was held on 8th November featuring the Coldstream Guards and a local choral society. A mistake was made during the playing of the national anthem and later, rioters attacked the mayor's house. The following trial attracted the world's press and resulted in crowds of sightseers to the building, interfering with the corn trading.

1875 to 1876

Frederic Barlow

Solicitor with Barlow, Palmer and Neville, solicitors. Clerk to the Cambridge Improvement and Cam Purification Committee. Clerk to the Cambridge Division (judiciary).

1875 to 1876

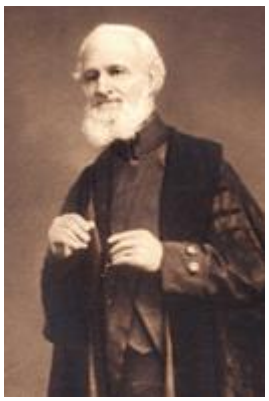
Frederic Barlow

Second term (first 1875-76)

1877 to 1878

T. H. Naylor

Second term (first 1872-1873)



1878 to 1879

Henry Rance

Born Ely. Conservator of the River Cam, a director of Accident Insurance Company and lessee of Barnwell Theatre. Also a director of the new Gas Company. Built luxurious mansion in St. Andrew's Street (known as Rance's Folly) which sported a magnificent dining room. It had four lifts and a roof-top tennis court. His reputation for hospitality was lavish and he spent many thousands of pounds a year entertaining. alderman for Trinity ward, but had to leave because of non-attendance at meetings for beyond the statutory period. His aldermanic seat was taken by Councillor Joshua Taylor.

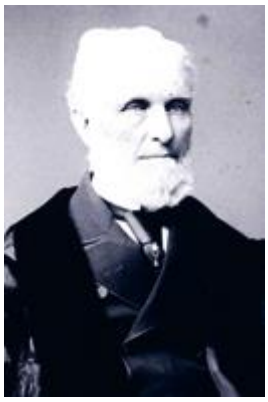
1879 to 1880

Henry Rance

Second term (first 1878-79).

1880 to 1881

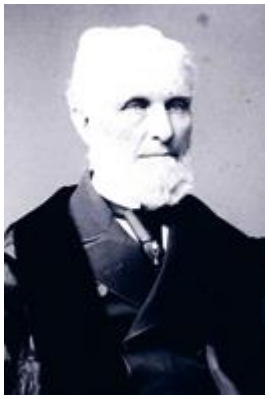
John Death



Third term (first 1873-74; second 1874-75)

1881 to 1882

John Death



Fourth term (first 1873-74; second 1874-75; third 1880-81). The last of the series of attempts on Queen Victoria's life came in 1882. A Scottish madman, Roderick Maclean, fired a bullet towards the Queen, then seated in her carriage, but missed. A special meeting of the council, chaired by the mayor, John Death, took place immediately after the assassination attempt to send an address of commiseration formally to the Queen.

1882 to 1883

Henry Rance

Third term (first 1878-1879; second 1879-80)

1883 to 1884

W. B. Redfarn

Written references to this gentleman list his name as Redfern, and Redfern Close in Cambridge is named after him. On the wall outside the council chamber the engraved list of names of past mayors has clearly been changed from an “e” to an “a”. He founded an amateur dramatic club called Bijou in circa 1875. In 1896 he rebuilt St. Andrew’s Hall, St. Andrew’s Street as the New Theatre. Made sketches of Cambridge and the surrounding countryside. Sketches of old buildings in the town were published under the title Old Cambridge.

1884 to 1885

W. B. Redfarn

Second term (first 1883-84)

1885 to 1886

W. B. Redfarn

Third term (first 1883-84; second 1884-85)

1886 to 1887

W. B. Redfarn

Fourth term (first 1883-84; second 1884-85; third 1885-86)

1887 to 1888

Edward Bell

Born in Cambridge in 1827. Corn and seed merchant and maltster in a family business, based in Peas Hill, going back 150 years. Represented Market ward on town council for 20 years. Conservator of the River Cam, income tax commissioner and a trustee of all the town charities connected with the corporation. Edward Bell’s younger sister, Alice, through her husband’s work on the overland telegraph system in Australia, gave her name to the town of Alice Springs.

1888 to March 1889

Edward Bell

Second term: (first 1887 to 1888). Died in office.

Apr. 1889 to Nov. 1889

F. C. Wace

Fellow of St. John’s College and served as Senior Proctor for the university. Also served as an alderman on Cambridgeshire County Council. During his period of mayoralty, and with the assistance of the town clerk (J.E.L. Whitehead), he transcribed and translated all the royal charters of the town of Cambridge.

1889 to 1890

F. C. Wace

Second term (first April 1889 – November 1889).

1890 to 1891

F C Wace

Third term (first April 1889-November 1889; second 1889/90).

1891 to 1892

George Kett

Represented Market Ward. George Kett was a member of the building firm Rattee and Kett. Over a period of 40 years, he compiled a family tree tracing his family back to Robert Kett of the Kett’s Rebellion which took place in 1549.

1892 to 1893

Samuel L. Young

Draper with premises in Fitzroy Street which later became Laurie and McConnal's (a store which closed in 1977). He was elected to the town council in 1884 representing East Barnwell ward. Supporter of Christ Church and a Guardian of the Poor. Died 1905. Liberal.

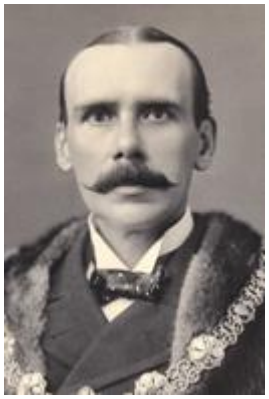
1893 to 1894

E. H. Parker

High steward of the borough and vice-chairman of Barclays Limited. Articled to Messrs Francis and Co., solicitors, educated at King's College qualifying as a lawyer, and becoming a partner with Francis and Co. Later went into banking – for Mortlock and Co. which later became Barclay's. The Royal Agricultural Show took place in Cambridge during his year of mayoralty when the Prince of Wales visited. Chairman of Cambridge Gas Company.

1894 to 1895

Thomas Hyde Hills



Lived at St. Peter’s Terrace, Trumpington Street. Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians. Worked for Hills, Wingate and Cooke, surgeons, based at 60 St. Andrew’s Street, 69 Bridge Street and 17 St. Peter’s Terrace. Alderman for Castle ward.

1895 to 1896

William C. Hall

Represented Fitzwilliam ward and lived in Pembroke Street.

1896 to 1897

Sir Horace Darwin

Fifth son and ninth child of British naturalist Charles Darwin. He founded the Cambridge Instrument Company in 1881. His mayoralty was dedicated to bringing town and gown together. He was knighted in 1918. His wife, Ida, was involved in mental health services in the area, and the Ida Darwin Hospital at Fulbourn is named after her.

1897 to 1898

Samuel R. Ginn

Born Cambridge. Elected to serve St. Matthew’s ward in 1891. Solicitor (Messrs Ginn and Co). Clerk to the Lieutenancy, Clerk of the Peace for the County and clerk to the County Council. Administered the Prince of Wales Relief Fund during the war. Liberal.

1898 to 1899

G. Kett

Second term: (first 1891-1892)

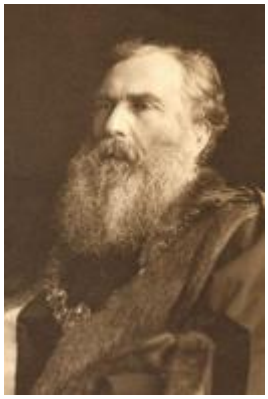
1899 to 1900

Alfred Tillyard

Born in Norwich. Taught at the Leys School. Called to the Bar, but never practiced. Edited the Cambridge Independent Press. Elected to the town council in 1895. He also served as a county councillor and as a governor of the Perse School. Mr. Tillyard was especially appointed to consider the question of amalgamating the borough with Chesterton. Elder of St. Columba’s Presbyterian Church.Tillyard’s son was Master of Jesus College.

1900 to 1901

Henry M. Taylor



Lived at The Yews, Queens' Road. Barrister-at-Law and Fellow of the Royal Society. University Member of the Council and Fellow of Trinity College.

1901 to 1902

G. Kett

Third Term: (1891-1892; 1898-1899). During this mayoralty, medallions were commissioned by the Council to commemorate Edward VII Coronation. Alderman for New Town Ward.

1902 to 1903

Philip H. Young

Cambridge born and educated at Perse School. Elected to represent Petersfield Ward in 1899 and his particular interest on the Town Council was education. He was also a Trustee of Hobson's Conduit and of Hobson's Workhouse Charity. Grocer with premises on Hills Road. Keen philatelist and Chairman of Cambridge Permanent Building Society. Liberal.

1903 to 1904

Dr. James H. C. Dalton

Born in Cheshire. Studied medicine at Trinity College, Cambridge. Elected to represent Castle Ward in 1898 and became an Alderman in 1900 for St. Andrew's Ward. Dr. Dalton wrote papers relating to smallpox vaccination.

1904 to 1905

Algernon S. Campkin

Pharmacist in Rose Crescent. Authority on canine species and his interests included botany and swimming. Prominent in photography circles. Made an Alderman in 1905.

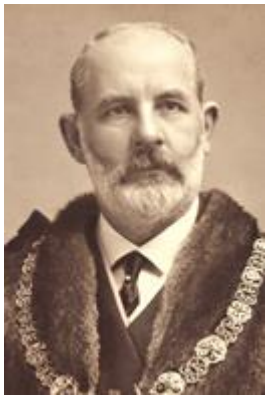
1905 to 1906

Sir Walter Durnford

Provost of King’s College and Principal of Cambridge University day training school for elementary teachers. In 1906 he produced Aeschylus’ *Eumenides* and launched Rupert Brooke on his Cambridge stage career. Durnford Way named after him.

1906 to 1907

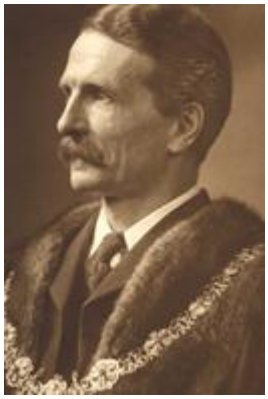
George Stace



Ran ladies' outfitting business based in Petty Cury. Alderman for Petersfield Ward.

1907 to 1908

H. G. Whibley



Town Governor of Hobson's Workhouse Charity. Served on Education Committee and Finance and General Purposes Committee. Alderman for Castle Ward.

1908 to 1909

William P. Spalding

Stationer in Sidney Street. Produced a street directory annually for Cambridge from 1874 to the onset of the Second World War.

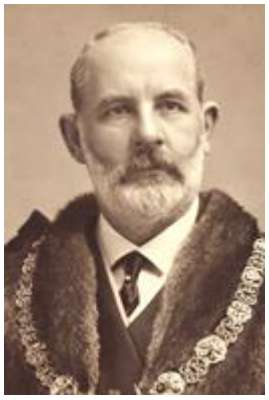
1909 to 1910

William P. Spalding

Second term: (1908 to 1909)

1910 to 1911

George Stace



Second term (1904/05).

1911 to 1912

Algernon S. Campkin

During this mayoralty of Mr. Campkin the first meeting of the newly-constituted and enlarged borough took place on 1 st April, 1912. The borough now included parts of Chesterton, Grantchester, Trumpington and Cherry Hinton.

1912 to 1913

Walter H. Francis

Cambridge born. Educated at Trinity Hall. Represented Fitzwilliam Ward from 1902. Solicitor at firm Francis, Francis and Collin based at 18 Emmanuel Street.

1913 to 1914

Joseph A. Sturton

Owned a retail chemist's in Fitzwilliam Street and Thurston's bakery in St. Andrew's Street. Supported the Baptist Chapel in Tenison Road.

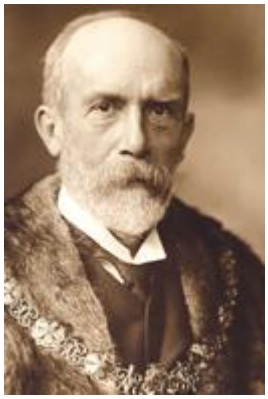
1914 to 1915

W. Luard Raynes

Represented Castle Ward on the Council from 1908 and was appointed an Alderman in 1922. Served as a Conservator of the River Cam. Member of the Senate, University of Cambridge (Pembroke). Made an Honorary Freeman of the City in 1951.

1915 to 1916

George Turner



Elected to the Town Council in 1913 and served to 1924. Elected an Alderman in 1919. Governor of the Perse School. Chairman of a tribunal which, during the war, decided whether men were indispensable at home. Son of Postmaster of Cambridge. Educated at St. Catharine's College and became a schoolmaster. Received an OBE for his work. Stood as Liberal, and then became Conservative.

1916 to 1917

Lt. Col. Barnet W. Beales

Born in Cambridge and educated at the Perse School. Tailor and robe maker in Sidney Street. Became a councillor for Market Ward in 1903 and an Alderman in 1918. Chairman of Fire Brigade Committee, Governor of the Perse School and of the Hobson Workhouse Charity.

1918 to 1919

Ralph Starr

Born in London and came to Cambridge in his early youth attending the British (Brunswick) School. Studied photography and opened a studio in Cambridge. Was secretary of the Mutual Improvement and Debating Society at Holy Trinity Church and served as a Churchwarden. Elected to represent St. Matthew's Ward in 1904 and became an Alderman in 1922. Armistice was declared two days into his mayoralty so the transition from war time living to peace took place during his term in office. Chaired Public Works and Town Planning Committee for many years.

1919 to 1920

George P. Hawkins

Born in Cambridge. Representative of the fourth generation of the family business G.P. Hawkins, one of the largest catering and bakery concerns in the area. Owned the Dorothy Restaurant (familiarly known as "The Dot") in Sidney Street. Elected to the Council in 1897 for St. Matthew's Ward. Director of Gas Company, Public Water Company and a keen oarsman. Hawkins Road named after him. Conservative.

1920 to 1921

Benjamin C. Jolley

A prominent Wesleyan Methodist who lived in Meadowcroft, Chesterton, where a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built in his garden in 1904. This later became Pye Conference Centre. Jolley Way named after him.

1921 to 1922

G. P. Hawkins

Second term: (1919-1920).

1922 to 1923

George H. Lavender

Stood for East Chesterton Ward in 1913 and was defeated by 5 votes. Stood again six months later for South Chesterton and won. Made an Alderman in 1925. War Memorial was unveiled by the Duke of York during his term in office. Alderman Lavender ran a drapers business on the corner of King's Parade and Bene't Street and lived in Chesterton Road. For 54 years he was involved with Sunday School work.

1923 to 1924

Harold B. Bailey

Became a borough councillor in 1913, serving on Finance and Paving, Drainage and Lighting Committees. His father owned the Star Brewery in Cambridge. Harold Bailey partnered a Mr. H. Tebbutt and acquired Panton Brewery. The business was known as Bailey and Tebbutt, making "B and T" a household word. The business was sold to Greene King in 1925 and Mr. Bailey died later that year. Conservative.

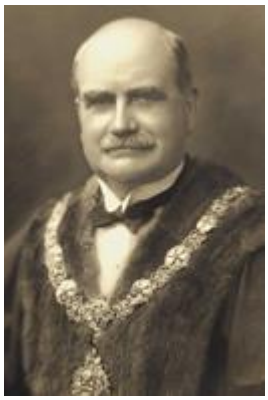
1924 to 1925

Eva Hartree

The first Lady Mayor of Cambridge who served on the Council for 20 years. She was a Member of the Executive Committee of the British National Council of Women (and served as President for one period) and Secretary of the Cambridge Branch of the League of Nations. Passionate about music. Moved to London on the death of her husband where she worked with refugees.

1925 to 1926

Edward O. Brown



Born in Barnwell and educated at the Perse School. Helped to found the Boys Brigade of Cambridge. Represented Abbey Ward from 1912 and became an Alderman in 1925. The General Strike took place during Alderman Brown’s year in office. Alderman Brown devoted his salary towards entertainment in order to attract conferences to Cambridge. The Cambridgeshire Hunt met on Market Hill and a kill made in the borough. The head was stuffed and inscribed and presented to the Mayor! Died in 1949.

1926 to 1927

John S. Conder

Did much to procure allotments in Cambridge. Represented Cherry Hinton in 1910 when the area was still a parish. Two years later (in 1912) Cherry Hinton became part of the Borough and the ward was known as Cambridge Without. Fen Causeway and Chesterton bridges were opened during Mr. Conder's mayoralty. Liberal.

1927 to 1928

Edward W. Amies

At the age of 14 started to work for the Conservative Party. Stood for election in 1918 in Market Ward. Became an Alderman in 1929. Opened Midsummer Fair three years in succession. Founder member of the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce. Conservative.

1928 to 1929

John E. Purvis

Joined the Council in 1908 and became an Alderman in 1925. Did extensive work for the YMCA. Chairman of Sewage Disposal Committee. Mr. Purvis' work for the University involved setting up the Diploma of Public Health. University member.

1929 to 1930

Harry Franklin

Stood for Council in 1919. Member of the Young Men's Christian Association. Honorary Divisional Coal Officer in connection with the Coal Emergency Act.

1930 to 1931

Edwin Jackson

First appointed to the Council in 1919. Senior partner in Messrs Munsey and Co., jewellers. Chairman of Cambridge Permanent Benefit Building Society and Director of Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company. Died in 1938 aged 73.

1931 to 1932

W. Luard Raynes

Second term (First 1914/15)

1932 to 1933

Florence Ada Keynes

Came to Cambridge in 1882, having previously studied at Newnham College. Elected to the Council in August, 1914 when it became possible for married women to become candidates in local elections. The last Mayor to formally proclaim Stourbridge Fair before its demise in 1933. Very interested in the development of the Folk Museum. Retired from many aspects of public life in 1939.

1933 to 1934

Alexander A. Spalding

Alderman A.A. Spalding was instrumental in co-founding (with Sir Arthur Marshall and Wing Commander Lockyer of the Cambridge University Air Squadron) No. 104 (City of Cambridge) Squadron Air Training Corps. Alderman for St. Matthew’s Ward.

1934 to 1935

Ralph Starr

Second term (First 1918/19)

1935 to 1936

Herbert T. Wing

First elected to the Council in 1918; served as a Bailiff from 1930; elected an Alderman in 1933. Was a manager of Richmond Road School (appointed by the Council). Hon. Treasurer of Cambridge Borough Women's Unionist Association.Chaired Public Works and Town Planning Committee for ten years. Conservative.

1936 to 1937

William L. Briggs

First Labour Mayor. Commenced work on railway at age 15. Elected to the Council for Romsey Ward in 1920, serving for 36 years. Chaired Education Committee. Awarded OBE in 1941 for his Civil Defence activities. Served as a JP. Received an honorary degree from the University of Cambridge in 1951. Bill Briggs Court named after him. Labour.

1937 to 1938

Ernest Saville Peck

Represented Trumpington Ward from 1924. Local pharmacist and one time president of Royal Pharmaceutical Society's Collections. Enthusiastic collector of bell-metal mortars (used by alchemists). Officially mentioned by Secretary of State for War for "valuable war service". Served as an Alderman for Fitzwilliam Ward.

1938 to 1939

Alexander A. Spalding

Second term (First 1933 to 1934). Second World War was declared two months before this mayoralty of Mr. Spalding ended.

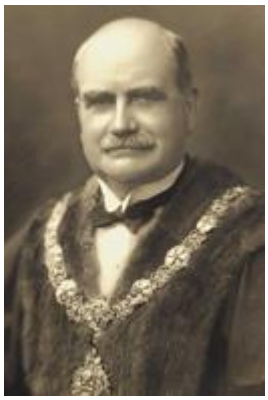
1939 to 1940

W. J. Wing

Elected for Castle Ward in 1930. Served for 17 years on the Town Council. First air raid on Cambridge took place during his term in office as Mayor when houses in St. Matthew's Terrace were demolished. Interested in the Finance and Library Committees, chairing the latter for many years. Cam Conservator. Banker, working for Barclay's for 38 years. Served on the original committee that inaugurated the Trustees Savings Bank. Also served on the first committee of the Cambridge Hundred Houses Society. Associated with Church of England Young Men's Societies. Died in 1947.

1940 to 1941

Edward O. Brown



Second term (First 1925/2)

1941 to 1942 and 1942 to 1943

Sir Montagu Butler

Undergraduate at Pembroke, later to become College Master, a position he held for 11 years. Most of his working life was spent in India. In l933 he became Lieutenant-Governor of the Isle of Man. First elected to the Council in 1940.

1943 to 1944

W. L. Briggs

Second term (First 1936 to 1937)

1944 to 1945

George Wilding

Elected to the Council in 1926 for a 3 year term. Re-elected in 1935. Alderman in 1945. Trustee of Hobson's Conduit (Town Council appointee) and a Governor of the Perse School for Boys (appointed by Gonville and Caius College). Served on the Council for around 25 years. Conservative

1945 to 1946

Lady Alice Bragg

Widow of Sir Lawrence Bragg. Awarded a CBE in 1972 for services to marriage guidance. Member of the council of the Magistrates' Association and also on the Royal Commission for Divorce. Retired from the Council in 1953 after nine years service. University representative.

1946 to 1947

Francis Doggett

“Frank” Doggett retired from the Council in 1967 after more than forty years unbroken service. Employed by Cambridge Instrument Company for fifty years, 30 of which were spent as chief draughtsman of scientific instrument design. Special Constable during the First World War. Conservative.

1947 to May 1949

Geoffrey F. Hickson

Chaired the Education Committee for 18 years. Served on the Council for more than 30 years. Secretary to the University Board of Extra Mural Studies. First Chairman of Bell Educational Trust. Made an Honorary Freeman of the City in 1974. University representative.

1949 to 1950

William G. James

First elected to the Council in 1938 and became an Alderman 11 years later. Managing Director of Coulson and Son, Cambridge building firm. Served for many years as Chairman of the Public Works Committee and took a particular interest in planning. Served in Suffolk Yeomanry during the First World War and awarded the Military Cross in 1918. Conservative.

1950 to 1951

Archibald C. Taylor

Managing Director of Cambridge Daily News, and an involvement with that newspaper for 40 years. Was Mayor when Cambridge received City status. Educated at Cambridge University. First elected to the Council in 1932. Conservative.

1951 to 1952

Henry O. Langdon

Known as “Harry”. Joined the Council in November, 1936 for West Chesterton Ward and became an Alderman in 1949. Langdon House in Scotland Road, Cambridge, named after him. Conservative.

1952 to 1953

Stewart T. Bull

Educated at High Grade School in Cambridge. Also a member of Cambridgeshire County Council where he served as Chairman. Dairy farmer and distributor. Elected to the Council in 1941 and served for over 25 years. Keen Methodist. Conservative.

1953 to 1954

Thomas H. Amey

Entire working life spent on the railways. First elected to the Borough Council in 1945 retiring as an Alderman in 1974. His particular interest on the Council was education. Made an Honorary Freeman of the City in 1974. Labour.

1954 to 1955

Howard R. Mallett

Associated with the Boy Scouts Movement for nearly 50 years. His particular interests on the Council were health and education. He also served on the County Council. Worked as an official at the Cambridge University Library. Throughout the war, Mr. Mallett sent a monthly news bulletin to many local Scout groups which kept alive a cohesive county when many leaders were away. Awarded an OBE in 1957. Howard Mallett Youth Club in New Street named after him. Independent then Conservative.

1955 to 1956

Edward T. Halnan

Joined the Council in 1938 and served for almost 30 years. Animal nutrition expert and lectured on agricultural physiology. University representative

1956 to 1957

C. Elliot Ridgeon

Born (in 1904) in Cambridge. Studied at Trinity Hall. Entered family business of builders merchants Cyril Ridgeon and Son Limited. Joined the Council in 1946. Keenly interested in the Baptist Movement. Conservative.

1957 to 1958

Bertram J. S. White

Director of Joshua Taylor's, city departmental store. Served on Council for ten years. Particular interest on the Council was traffic problems, an interest maintained after Mr. White left the Council, when he still undertook traffic counts for consideration at committee. Conservative.

1958 to 1959

Leonard D. V. Wordingham

Born in Norwich. First elected for Abbey Ward in 1945 and later represented East Chesterton Ward. Worked for the railway for 50 years. Director of City Football Club and played for Cambridge Town. Labour.

1959 to 1960

Wallace Cole

First elected to the Council in 1949. Spent most of his working life in insurance, and served as President of the Insurance Institute of Cambridge. Member of Cambridge Rotary Club and took active involvement with the Cambridge Sea Cadets and the Scouting Movement. Conservative.

1960 to 1961

Cecil A. Mole

Trained as a tailor and later became director of Johnson’s men’s outfitters. Elected to the Council in 1947. Chaired the Planning Committee. Served in the Royal Army Service Corps during the 2WW and later commissioned to Indian Army for four years. Conservative.

1961 to 1962

Arthur Halcrow

Born in Cambridge. Served on the Council from 1950 for almost 15 years. Was Sub-Librarian at Trinity College, an active cricketer and oarsman. Conservative.

1962 to 1963

Geoffrey F. Hickson

Second term (1947 to May, 1949)

1963 to 1964

John B. Collins

First elected to the Council in 1949 and served until 1952 when he lost his seat. Re-elected in 1953. Secretary of the Eastern Counties Federation of Master Builders. Served as a Ceremonial Bailiff. Chairman of the Council's Civil Defence Committee. Member of Great St. Mary's Church where he sang in the choir. Trustee of the Ancient Order of Foresters. Conservative.

1964 to 1965

P. Jack Warren

Mr. Warren was born in Newton, Cambridgeshire. He joined the Army as a boy of 14 in 1919. He trained as an artificer in the Royal Artillery and stayed in the RA for 26 years. Left Army in 1945 as a W.O.1 (RSM) after having served in India for seven years. Immediately started career with the University of Cambridge, firstly in the Cavendish Laboratory where he stayed for six months. He then went to the Department of Geology where he stayed for a further 26 years, retiring in 1971 as Chief Technician. His interests included the arts, particularly the theatre and he served as Trustee of the Arts Theatre of Cambridge and was Chairman of the Cambridge Festival Association. He served on the Council for 30 years. Made an Honorary Freeman of the City in 1980. Jack Warren Green named after him. Labour.

1965 to 1966

Horace G. Ives

Served on the Council for 11 years and was a member of the Traffic and Parking Committee. Gave 31 years service to Cambridge Police, a great many of them as road safety lecturer in Cambridge schools. Liberal.

1966 to 1967

Marcus N. N. Bradford

Became a councillor for the Borough of Cambridge in 1950 representing Market Ward. Mr. Bradford was a prisoner of war in Japan. His family owned and managed the University Arms Hotel in Regent Street, Cambridge. He became an Alderman for Coleridge Ward in 1967, an Honorary Alderman in 1970 and remained an Honorary Councillor until his death in 1997. Conservative.

1967 to 1968

Ernest A. Gill

First elected to the Council, representing Romsey Ward, in 1958. Worked for many years as a Co-Operative insurance agent. Member and Elder at Cherry Hinton Road United Reformed Church. Member of Royal British Legion. Labour.

1968 to 1969

Herbert C. Finbow

Director of family-run removal firm. Joined the Council in 1950. Chaired the Housing Committee and served on Finance and Establishment Committees. Director of Cambridge City Football Club. Conservative.

1969 to 1970

George Dean

Born in Yorkshire. Came to Cambridge in 1931 and was employed by Cambridge University Press. Active worker for Cambridge Round Church were he played the organ for children's services. Service in Royal Navy during the 2WW. Chaired the Council's Finance Committee. Conservative.

1970 to 1971

Brian Cooper

Fellow and Bursar of Clare College, a University member of the Council. He was a university lecturer in mechanical engineering. University students given the right to vote at City Council elections during this year for the first time. University Member.

1971 to 1972

Jean Barker

Born in London. Was one of Lloyd George's land-girls in Churt, Surrey, and later in Naval Intelligence at Bletchley Park. First woman chairman of Cambridge City Conservative Association. Served as Chairman of Cambridge Branch of Guide Dogs for the Blind Association and on the committee of the Cambridge and County Folk Museum. Became a Life Peer in 1980 taking the title the Baroness Trumpington – from the area she represented on the Council for fourteen years. Conservative.

1972 to 1973

Peter C. Wright

Born in Romsey Town, Cambridge in 1930. Councillor Wright undertook his National Service with the 8th Royal Tank Regiment at Catterick for 6 months and for 18 months with the 4th Royal Tank Regiment at Shandur, Egypt, as a Wireless Operator in Centurion Tanks. He was employed for many years by the Biochemistry Department of the Animal Physiology for Agricultural Research Council. He was elected to the Council in 1959, with particular interest in Housing. He served on the Council for 33 1/2 years. Labour.

1973 to 1974

Stanley C. Bowles

Mr. Bowles served on the Council from 1965 to 1974 and chaired several committees during that time. His particular interest on the Council was Planning. He worked for Cambridge Water Company, starting as an office boy and retiring over 50 years later, as the Company's Distribution Engineer. Last Mayor to serve before the reorganisation of Local Government in 1974. Conservative.

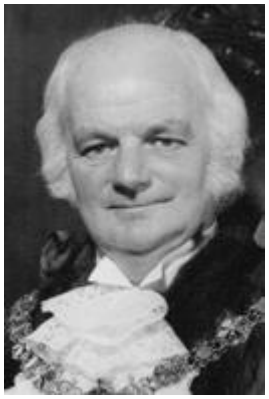
1974 to 1975

P. Jack Warren

Second term. (1964/65). Alderman Warren Chaired the District Council during Local Government Reorganisation. Labour.

1975 to 1976

Robert May



Born 1st May, 1912 in Bradford, Yorkshire. Apprenticed to building trade. Service in Auxiliary Air Force, RAF and RAFVR from 1936 to 1956. Served as a school governor and served on the Accident Prevention Council. Commenced service on the City Council in 1963 and retired from the Council in 1983. Robert May Close named after him. Labour.

1976 to 1977

Robert E. Wright

Born in Spalding, Lincolnshire. In 1946 was a founder member of the bakery school at Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology. He was a confectioner in Cambridge and commenced his service with the City Council in 1963. He was a keen bowls player for Cambridgeshire and County. He retired from the Council in 1984. Conservative.

1977 to 1978

Maurice J. Garner

Born in Cambridge in 1928, Councillor Garner served as a Legal Executive with a local firm of solicitors. He was a semi-professional entertainer for 23 years and one of his key interests on the Council was his service on the Arts and Entertainments Committee. Mr. Garner was Mayor during Her Majesty The Queen's Silver Jubilee Year. He joined the Council in 1966 and retired from the Council in 1984. Conservative.

1978 to 1979

Alec Molt

Mr. Molt was born in Cambridge. In 1939-45 he served with the Royal Artillery and Chindits in Norway, Tobruk, Ceylon, Burma and Germany He worked for the Cambridge Co-Operative Society in the solid fuel department, and was Secretary of the Shop Distributive and Allied Workers Union (Co-Op Branch). His main interest on the Council was industrial relations and he chaired the Joint Staff Consultative Committee. He retired from the Council in 1982 after eleven years service. Labour.

1979 to 1980

Donald R. H. MacKay

Mr. MacKay was born in Cambridge. He managed D. MacKay (Engineering) Limited, an ironmongery and hardware business on East Road, Cambridge. Very much an “outdoor” man, he was very interested in climbing and belonged to the Yorkshire Rambling Club. He was instrumental in obtaining the climbing wall at Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall. His main interest on the Council was Planning, and he served on the Authority for thirteen years. Conservative.

1980 to 1981

Doris M. Howe

Born in Chelsea, London. Served in WRAF during the war and met future husband who was also serving in the RAF. Joined the City Council in 1964 although had been active in politics for some 14 years prior to that. Her particular interest on the Council was Housing. She enjoyed reading, dressmaking and painting. Labour.

1981 to 1982

Percy O. Reed

Born in Cambridge. Joined the Council in 1968. Managing Director of P.O. Reed Limited, Hairdressers. Councillor Reed served on a number of the Council's committees and served as Chairman of the Public Health committee for several years. He was Band Master of the Cambridge Salvation Army Band for 20 years and also served as Songster Leader. Conservative.

1982 to 1983

Peter J. Cowell

Born in Cambridge. First joined the Council in 1973 representing the King's Hedges area. Served on a number of the Council's committees and chaired both Licensing and Planning. Postman for 37 years. He served as a City Magistrate for around 20 years and also as a school governor. He also took a very active role in the City's twinning links with Heidelberg and Szeged. He was made a Deputy Lieutenant of the County and also was awarded the Honorary Freedom of the City of Cambridge. Labour.

1983 to 1984

Millicent A. “Betty” Suckling

Born in Cambridge. First joined the Council in 1973. Served in Civil Defence and was Group Secretary for National Savings until its demise. Secretary at the Board of Trade during the War, then at a firm of local solicitors and finally at the Faculty of Law. Councillor Suckling served on a number of the Council’s committees and also on various outside bodies such as the Board of Management of the Cambridge Festival Association, the Folk Museum and the Cambridge-Heidelberg Partnership Association. Councillor Suckling died in September, 1988. Conservative.

1984 to 1985

Edward G. Cowell

Born in Cambridge. Brother to Peter Cowell (who served as Mayor four times). Served in the RAF for eight years. Worked for various Cambridge-based companies and retired from his post as a Porter at New Hall. Was a Cambridge University and College representative on the Eastern Area University Committee, and also took a keen interest in the development of the Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall and the Cambridge-Heidelberg Partnership Association. Member of the Royal British Legion and organised the Royal British Legion Cambridgeshire Branch Festival of Remembrance for 18 years. Labour.

1985 to 1986

A. James Johnson

Began working life as an Apprentice Chef at Peterhouse and graduated through departments to become head chef in 1946, a position he retained until his retirement in 1976. He was a fellow of the East Anglia Cookery and Food Association and was a prominent and respected judge at the Hotel Olympia Salon Culinaire and many catering and food exhibitions throughout East Anglia. He served as a member of the Special Constabulary for 36 years, retiring as Commandant. Councillor Johnson joined the City Council in 1969 and for a period of time served as Chairman of the Amenities and Recreation Committee and the Staff Panel. He also served as Chairman of the Conservators of the River Cam. Conservative.

1986 to 1987

John Woodhouse

Born in Bethnal Green, London, in 1947. John Woodhouse became a councillor in 1980 serving the Cherry Hinton Ward. He was actively involved with all aspects of community life, especially with clubs for the elderly and for the youth of the area. He was a member of a semi-professional band in the 1960s and in the 1970s was a semi-professional entertainer in the London area. He instigated the Mayor's Day Out for local senior citizens which started in 1986 and continues to the present day. Labour.

1987

Terry Sweeney

Terry Sweeney was born in Barton Mills, Suffolk in 1940, although his family came to Cambridge very soon afterwards. He worked as an articled clerk for a local firm of Chartered Accountants until 1960 and then joined the Civil Service working in the Lord Chancellor's Department. He was first elected to the Council in 1972 and was particularly interested in Housing matters. He resigned from the mayoralty in the summer of 1987, and Councillor Peter Cowell was elected to the office for the remainder of the mayoral year. Labour.

1987 to 1988

Peter Cowell

Second term: (1981/82; l991/92 and l998/99). Labour.

1988 to 1989

Lavena A. D. Hawes

Born in Malawi, but educated in England, Lavena Hawes was first appointed to the City Council in 1973. She did nursing for 4 ½ years during the war. Her particular interests were in the arts, particularly visual art, and she served as a Governor of St. Matthew's School. Liberal Democrat.

1989 to 1990

John Woodhouse

Second term (1986 to 1987). Labour.

1990 to 1991

Dr. George A. Reid

Born in New Cross in South East London. Fellow of St. John’s College since 1964, a Tutor since 1978 and then Bursar. University Lecturer in Mathematics. Member of the Bar of Lincoln’s Inn. Served on the Council of the Senate and the General Board of the Faculties of the University. Elected to the Council in 1976 and served on numerous Council committees. Also served on governing bodies of various schools. Conservative.

1991 to 1992

Peter Cowell

Third term: (1981/82; l987/88 and 1998/99). Labour

1992 to 1993

Barry Gardiner

Originally from Glasgow where he was born in 1959, Barry moved to Cambridge in 1984. Worked for a time as the Scottish Secretary of the Student Christian Movement, but it was after his year as J.F. Kennedy Memorial Scholar at Harvard that Barry arrived in Cambridge to do further research in political theory. Barry worked as an arbitrator of shipping casualties. He became Member of Parliament for Brent North in 1997. Labour.

1993 to 1994

Alex MacEachern

Councillor MacEachern was born in Inverness, Scotland. He was Manager of Psychiatric Services at Fulbourn Hospital until his retirement in 1988. He served as Chairman of the Crossroads Care Scheme and as Vice-Chairman of the Community Health Council. He was elected to serve the Cherry Hinton Ward in 1990. Labour.

1994 to 1995

Joye Rosenstiel

Born in Bournville, Birmingham. Involved in political and community activities since moving to Cambridge in 1978, and was first elected to the Council in 1982. Her main interests on the Council were community development and housing. Her other main area of activity was with the voluntary sector, working with Age Concern, and with the Cruse Bereavement organisation. Liberal Democrat.

1995 to 1996

Sonja Froggett

First elected to the Council in 1988 representing Trumpington Ward. She was a medical practitioner, specialising in psychiatry, and worked at the Department of Mental Health at Fulbourn Hospital. Her particular interests on the Council were planning and the environment. Conservative.

1996 to 1997

John Durrant

Born in Woodbridge, Suffolk and moved to Cambridge in 1960. First joined the City Council in 1987 representing Abbey Ward. Served as Deputy Leader of the Council as Chair of Property Sub-Committee and of the Planning Committee. Was a school governor and was particularly interested in local history. Labour.

1997 to 1998

Daphne Roper

Born in London, moving to Cambridge in 1983. Joined the City Council in 1991 representing Newnham Ward. Self employed book seller, specialising in the Middle East. Labour.

1998 to 1999

Peter Cowell

Fourth term: (l982/83; l987/88 and l991/92). Labour.

1999 to 2000

Richard Smith

First joined the Council in 1980 representing Abbey Ward. Was a schoolteacher for 37 years. Also served as a City Magistrate. Served on most of the Council's committees and chaired Environmental Health, General Purposes, Leisure, the Joint Staff Employer Forum, Finance and Property and Administration. Was a school governor and a Director of Cambridge United Football Club. Dedicated many years to schools' football. Labour.