

## Chancellors of the University

The Chancellor acts as the ceremonial figurehead of the University. The formal responsibilities of the Chancellor are set out in the [University's Legislation \(/university/governance/Legislation/index.aspx\)](#). He/she chairs the Annual Meeting of the University Court; he/she presides at Degree Congregations and confers degrees of the University.

The Chancellor also has an important ambassadorial role for the University, working with the [Vice-Chancellor \(/university/welcome/vcprofile.aspx\)](#) and the [Pro-Chancellor \(/university/governance/Council/membership/ed-smith.aspx\)](#) to represent the University in the external community. He/she is an advocate of the University working to raise the University's profile and advance its interests nationally and internationally.

The University has had seven Chancellors since it received its [Royal Charter \(/university/governance/Legislation/index.aspx\)](#) in 1900:



The Rt Hon Joseph Chamberlain

1900-1914

He was one of the main proponents of the founding of the University of Birmingham and was its first Chancellor. His papers can be found in the Cadbury Research Library. He is also commemorated by a memorial in Chamberlain Square in central Birmingham.

[\(/Images/Past-Chancellors/Rt-Hon-Joseph-Chamberlain.jpg\)](#)



The Rt Hon Robert Cecil, 1st Viscount Cecil of Chelwood

1918-1944

Lord Robert's career brought him many honours. He was created first Viscount of Chelwood in 1923, was elected Chancellor of Birmingham University (1918-1944), and was given the Nobel Peace Prize in 1937.

[\(/Images/Past-Chancellors/Viscount-Cecil-of-Chelwood.jpg\)](#)



The Rt Hon Anthony Eden, Earl of Avon

1945-1973

He was a Conservative politician, and Prime Minister from 1955 to 1957. He was also Foreign Secretary for three periods between 1935 and 1955, including during the Second World War.

[\(/Images/Past-Chancellors/Rt-Hon-the-Earl-of-Avon.jpg\)](#)

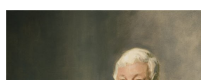


Sir Peter Scott

1973-1983

He was an ornithologist, conservationist, painter, naval officer and sportsman. Scott was knighted in 1973 for his contribution to the conservation of wild animals. He had been a founder of the World Wildlife Fund.

[\(/Images/Past-Chancellors/Sir-Peter-Scott.jpg\)](#)



Sir Alex Jarratt

1983-2002

He is a businessman and former senior civil servant. As Chancellor of the University he chaired a Committee of Vice-

Chancellors and Principals studying higher education policy; the committee's influential report became known as the Jarratt Report.



[\(/Images/Past-Chancellors/Sir-Alex-Jarratt.jpg\)](#)



Sir Dominic Cadbury

2002-2013

Sir Dominic was made Chancellor of the University on 2 May 2002. He is currently a Senior Adviser to the Financial Services Authority. He was knighted in the Queen's Birthday Honours List in June 1997. He was Chairman of Cadbury Schweppes where he spent his career. For six years he was Chairman of the Wellcome Trust, and he was also Chairman of The Economist and of Misys plc. He has been involved in many aspects of education through the CBI where he was Chairman of its Education & Training Committee and was Deputy Chairman of the Qualifications & Curriculum Authority. He is Vice-President of Edgbaston High School for Girls; he was a Fellow of Eton College and a Trustee of the Teaching Awards Trust which honours outstanding teachers at an annual "Oscar" ceremony shown every year on BBC TV.



Lord Bilimoria of Chelsea CBE, DL

2014-

Lord Bilimoria of Chelsea, CBE, DL was installed as the University's seventh Chancellor on 17th July 2014. He is the founder of Cobra Beer, Chairman of the Cobra Beer Partnership Limited and of Molson Coors Cobra India, both joint ventures with the global brewing company, Molson Coors. Lord Bilimoria is also the founding Chairman of the UK India Business Council and was appointed Commander of the British Empire (CBE) in 2004 for services to business and entrepreneurship. He was appointed an Independent Crossbench Peer in the House of Lords in 2006 and was made Baron Bilimoria of Chelsea in the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, the first ever Zoroastrian Parsi to sit in the House of Lords.

