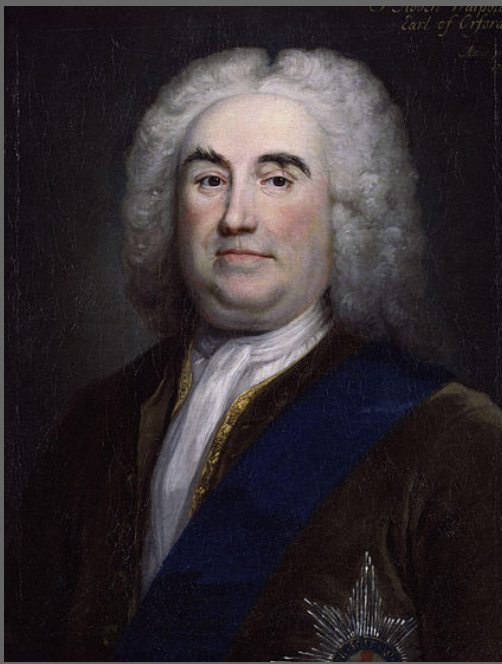


PRIME MINISTERS & THE INNS OF COURT



INNER TEMPLE LIBRARY



b. 1676 d. 1745

In office 1721-1742

Political Party: Whig

Lincoln's Inn member

SIR ROBERT WALPOLE

"Today often viewed as the first British Prime Minister, Sir Robert Walpole was described by contemporary opponents as the 'Screen-Master General', adept at pulling all the political strings."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Bribery Act 1729

Distress for Rent Act 1737

Gaming Act 1738

Papists Act 1722

Parliamentary Privilege Act 1737

Witchcraft Act 1735

Source: GOV.UK

<https://history.blog.gov.uk/2014/11/20/sir-robert-walpole-whig-1721-1742/>

SPENCER COMPTON, 1ST EARL OF WILMINGTON

"Spencer Compton, Earl of Wilmington, was a successful Speaker of the House of Commons. His tenure as First Lord of the Treasury was short and he died in office. He came to prominence after Sir Robert Walpole's lengthy administration and was only ever seen as a temporary replacement."



b. 1673 d. 1743

In office 1742-1743

Political Party: Whig

Middle Temple member

Source: GOV.UK

<https://history.blog.gov.uk/2014/12/03/spencer-compton-1st-earl-of-wilmington>



b. 1712 d. 1770
In office 1763-1765
Political Party: Whig
Inner Temple member

GEORGE GRENVILLE

"George Grenville came from a family of politicians. He became First Lord of the Treasury during a period of considerable political turbulence in the 1760s.

His imposition of new duties on the American colonies helped provoke the outbreak of the American War of Independence."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Stamp Act 1765

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/george-grenville>



b. 1759 d. 1806
In office 1783-1801; 1804-1806
Political Party: Tory & Whig
Lincoln's Inn member

WILLIAM PITT 'THE YOUNGER'

"At just 24 years old, William Pitt The Younger, son of Pitt the Elder, was the youngest Prime Minister in history. He died aged only 46. He was exhausted by the demands of an office whose modern conception he helped to establish, and of a peculiarly threatening international situation which frustrated many of his political goals."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Act of the Union 1800
East India Company Act 1784
Slave Trade Act 1788 (Dolben's Act)
Treason Act 1795

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/william-pitt>



b. 1757 d. 1844
In office 1801-1804
Political Party: Tory
Lincoln's Inn member

HENRY ADDINGTON, 1ST VISCOUNT SIDMOUTH

"Henry Addington's achievement as premier during a difficult period of international conflict has been underestimated. He rose to the premiership from a family background in the lesser gentry and professions, and he can claim to have delivered the first budget speech. His time in office marked significant developments in the evolution of British government and the British governing class."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Defence of the Realm Act 1803
Treaty of Amiens 1802

Source: GOV.UK
<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/henry-addington-1st-viscount-sidmouth>

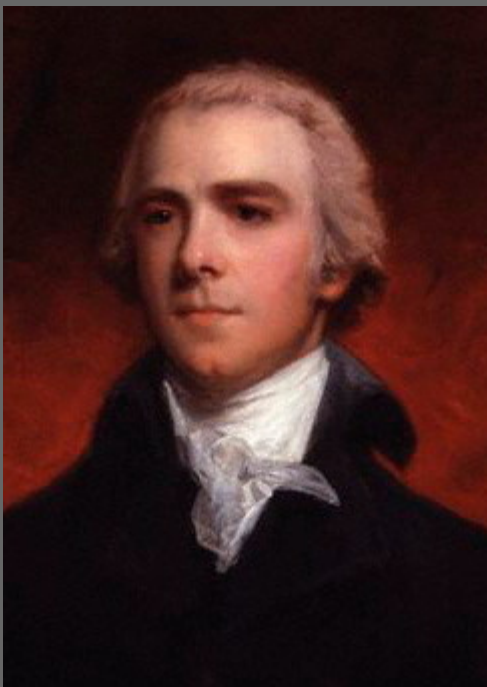
WILLIAM GRENVILLE, 1ST BARON GRENVILLE

"Despite the brevity of his time as Prime Minister, William Grenville's extended political career highlights the shifting patterns of British political alignments in the later Hanoverian period. As premier, he was responsible for one of the most important legislative measures of the early nineteenth century, the abolition of the slave trade in 1807."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Slave Trade Act 1807

Source: GOV.UK
<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/william-wyndham-grenville-1st-baron-grenville>



b. 1759 d. 1834
In office 1806-1807
Political Party: Whig
Lincoln's Inn member



b. 1762 d. 1812

In office 1809–1812

Political Party: Tory

Lincoln's Inn member

SPENCER PERCEVAL

"Spencer Perceval enjoys the unfortunate distinction of being the only British Prime Minister to die at the hands of an assassin. His political career coincided with a period of upheaval created by the French Revolution. Having pursued a successful legal career, he was slowly drawn into politics."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Regency Bill 1810

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/spencer-perceval>



b. 1770 d. 1827

In office 1827

Political Party: Tory

Lincoln's Inn member

GEORGE CANNING

"George Canning was an enthusiastic follower of Pitt the Younger, resigning from his post as Paymaster General in 1801 when Pitt resigned as Prime Minister. Popular, witty and intelligent, he gained an early political following as an excellent public speaker. He was one of the first politicians to campaign heavily in the country, making many speeches outside Parliament and was known for his opposition to parliamentary reform and his advocacy of Catholic emancipation."

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/george-canning>



b. 1782 d. 1859

In office 1827-1828

Political Party: Tory

Lincoln's Inn member

FREDERICK ROBINSON, VISCOUNT GODERICH

"Viscount Goderich's tenure as Prime Minister was hampered by a lack of royal support and his own ill-health. His administration was overtaken by larger shifts in the political landscape, but he returned to high office after his departure from Downing Street."

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/frederick-robinson-viscount-goderich>



b. 1779 d. 1848

In office 1834; 1835-1841

Political Party: Whig

Lincoln's Inn member

WILLIAM LAMB, 2ND VISCOUNT MELBOURNE

"On Grey's resignation in 1834, King William IV appointed Lord Melbourne as the Prime Minister who would be the 'least bad choice'.

Without any strong political convictions, he held together a difficult and divided Cabinet and sustained support in the House of Commons through an alliance of Whigs, Radicals and Irish MPs."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Births and Deaths Registration Act 1836

Custody of Infants Act 1839

Dissenters' Marriage Bill 1836

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/william-lamb-2nd-viscount-melbourne>



b. 1788 d. 1850

In office 1834-1835; 1841-1846

Political Party: Conservative
Lincoln's Inn member

SIR ROBERT PEEL

"Sir Robert Peel's period in government – as prime minister and in other offices – was a milestone for social reform. Landmark legislation cut working hours for women and children, created cheap and regular rail services, and reorganised the policing of London, radically changing society."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Factory Act 1844

Importation Act 1846

Libel Act 1843

Lunacy Act 1845

Mines Act 1842

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/robert-peel-2nd-baronet>

BENJAMIN DISRAELI, EARL OF BEACONSFIELD

"Politician, novelist and bon viveur, Benjamin Disraeli was a man with many interests, but it was as a Conservative politician that Disraeli achieved lasting fame. PM for almost 7 years, he initiated a wide range of legislation to improve educational opportunities and the life of working people."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Artisans Dwelling Act 1875

Climbing Boys Act 1875

Conspiracy and Protection of Property Act 1875

Friendly Societies Act 1875

Pharmacy Act 1868

Public Health Act 1875

Source: GOV.UK

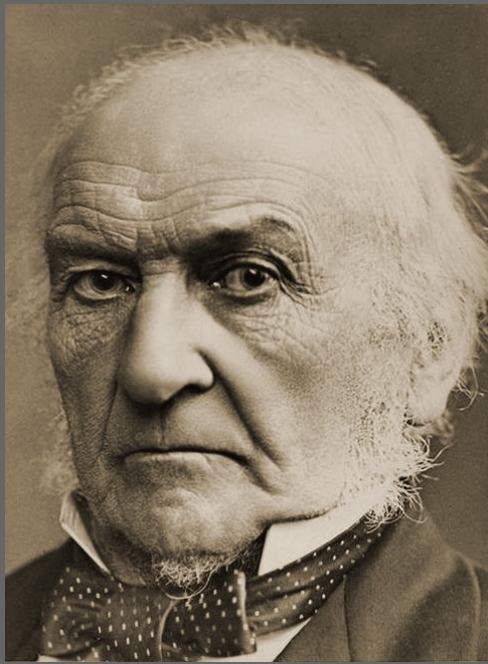
<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/benjamin-disraeli-the-earl-of-beaconsfield>



b. 1804 d. 1881

In office 1868; 1874-1880

Political Party: Conservative
Lincoln's Inn member



b. 1809 d. 1898

In office 1868-1874; 1880-1885;
1886; 1892-1894

Political Party: Liberal
Lincoln's Inn member

WILLIAM EWART GLADSTONE

"In 1867, Gladstone became leader of the Liberal party following Palmerston's resignation, and became Prime Minister for the first time the following year. His policies were intended to improve individual liberty while loosening political and economic restraints."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Government of Ireland Bill 1886
Married Women's Property Act 1870
Newspaper Libel and Registration Act 1881
Representation of the People Act 1884
Sale of Goods Act 1893
Trade Union Act 1871
Trial of Lunatics Act 1883

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/william-ewart-gladstone>

ROBERT GASCOYNE-CECIL, 3RD MARQUESS OF SALISBURY

"Robert Gascoyne-Cecil took over the Conservative leadership on Disraeli's death in 1881, and reluctantly became prime minister of a minority administration in 1885. His first administration included legislation on housing the working class but within months an election cut short his term."

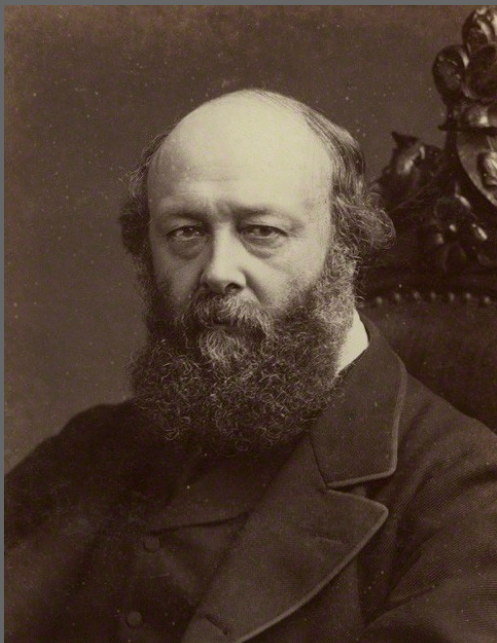
He became Prime Minister for the third and final time in 1895."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Free Education Act 1891
Local Government Act 1888
Prevention of Cruelty to, and Protection of, Children Act 1889
Workmen's Compensation Act 1897

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/robert-gascoyne-cecil>



b. 1830 d. 1903

In office 1885-1886; 1886-1892;
1895-1902

Political Party: Conservative
Lincoln's Inn member



b. 1852 d. 1928

In office 1908-1916

Political Party: Liberal

Lincoln's Inn member

H. H. ASQUITH

"As Prime Minister, Asquith presided over a period of national upheaval, with the issues of Irish Home Rule and women's suffrage dominating the era. He also brought Britain into the First World War."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Cinematograph Act 1909

Mental Deficiency Act 1913

Military Service Act 1916

National Insurance Act 1911

Old Age Pensions Act 1908

Parliament Act 1911

Perjury Act 1911

South Africa Act 1909

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/herbert-henry-asquith>

NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN

"In May 1937 Neville Chamberlain succeeded Baldwin as Prime Minister, and was elected Conservative leader."

War was brewing in Europe and had already exploded in Spain. Chamberlain was unwilling to go down in history as responsible for an inevitably destructive war, without doing everything possible to prevent it. "

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Factories Act 1937

Holiday with Pay Act 1938

Housing Act 1938

Infanticide Act 1938

Trading with the Enemy Act 1939

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/neville-chamberlain>



b. 1869 d. 1940

In office 1937-1940

Political Party: Conservative

Lincoln's Inn member



b. 1874 d. 1965

In office 1940–1945; 1951–1955

Political Party: Conservative

Gray's Inn Honorary Bencher

SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL

"Following Neville Chamberlain's resignation in 1940, Churchill was chosen to succeed him as Prime Minister of an all-party coalition government.

Churchill, who also adopted the self-created position of Minister for Defence, was active both in administrative and diplomatic functions in prosecuting the British war effort. Some of his most memorable speeches were given in this period, and are credited with stimulating British morale during periods of great hardship. "

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Education Act 1944

Treachery Act 1940

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/winston-churchill>

CLEMENT ATTLEE

"Clement Attlee was leader of the Labour Party from 1935 to 1955, and served as Britain's Prime Minister from 1945 to 1951. As Prime Minister, he enlarged and improved social services and the public sector in post-war Britain, creating the National Health Service and nationalising major industries and public utilities. Attlee's government also presided over the decolonisation of India, Pakistan, Burma, Ceylon and Jordan, and saw the creation of the state of Israel upon Britain's withdrawal from Palestine."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Children Act 1948

Coal Industry Nationalisation Act 1946

Legal Aid and Advice Act 1949

National Health Service Act 1946

National Insurance Act 1946

Town and Country Planning Act 1947

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/clement-attlee>



b. 1883 d. 1967

In office 1945–1951

Political Party: Labour

Inner Temple member



b. 1897 d. 1977

In office 1955-1957

Political Party: Conservative

Middle Temple Honorary Bencher

SIR ANTHONY EDEN

"Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden is best known for his controversial handling of the Suez crisis in 1956, during the second year of his premiership."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Clean Air Act 1956

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/anthony-eden>



b. 1894 d. 1986

In office 1957-1963

Political Party: Conservative

Middle Temple Honorary Bencher

HAROLD MACMILLAN

"Prime Minister Harold 'Supermac' Macmillan distanced the UK from apartheid, sped up the process of decolonisation and was heavily involved in negotiating the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Barristers (Qualification for Office) Act 1961

Geneva Convention Act 1957

Homicide Act 1957

Life Peerages Act 1958

Malaysia Act 1963

Suicide Act 1961

Trinidad and Tobago Independence Act 1962

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/harold-macmillan>



b. 1916 d. 2005

In office 1970-1974

Political Party: Conservative
Gray's Inn Honorary Bencher

SIR EDWARD HEATH

"Sir Edward Heath was Prime Minister during a time of industrial upheaval and economic decline during which he led Britain into the European Community."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Biological Weapons Act 1974
British Library Act 1972
Courts Act 1971
European Communities Act 1972
Immigration Act 1971
Industrial Relations Act 1971
Juries Act 1974
Misuse of Drugs Act 1971

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/edward-heath>



b. 1912 d. 2005

In office 1976-1979

Political Party: Labour
Inner Temple Honorary Bencher

JAMES CALLAGHAN

"James Callaghan is the only 20th-century British Prime Minister to have held all 4 major offices of state: Chancellor of the Exchequer, Home Secretary, Foreign Secretary and Prime Minister."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Dangerous Wild Animals Act 1976
Police Act 1976
Race Relations Act 1976
Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/james-callaghan>



b. 1925 d. 2013

In office 1979-1990

Political Party: Conservative

Lincoln's Inn member

Gray's Inn Honorary Bencher

MARGARET THATCHER

"Baroness Thatcher, the 'Iron Lady', was the first female British Prime Minister and the longest serving PM for over 150 years.

Her government followed a radical programme of privatisation and deregulation, reform of the trade unions, tax cuts and the introduction of market mechanisms into health and education."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Family Law Reform Act 1987

Football Spectators Act 1989

Housing Act 1980

Local Government Finance Act 1998 (Poll Tax)

Malicious Communications Act 1988

Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/margaret-thatcher>

SIR JOHN MAJOR

"As Prime Minister Sir John Major oversaw Britain's longest period of continuous economic growth and the beginning of the Northern Ireland Peace Process."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Dangerous Dogs Act 1991

Disability Discrimination Act 1995

Environmental Protection Act 1990

Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 1990

Local Government Finance Act 1992

National Lottery Act 1993

Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1992

War Crimes Act 1991

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/john-major>



b. 1943

In office 1990-1997

Political Party: Conservative

Middle Temple Honorary Bencher



b. 1953

In office 1997–2007
Political Party: Labour
Lincoln's Inn member

TONY BLAIR

"Tony Blair, the longest serving Labour Prime Minister, oversaw the Northern Irish peace process, public sector reform and the response to the 9/11 and 7/7 terrorist attacks."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Civil Partnership Act 2004
Constitutional Reform Act 2005
Data Protection Act 1998
Female Genital Mutilation Act 2003
Freedom of Information Act 1998
Gender Recognition Act 2004
Human Tissue Act 2004
Racial and Religious Hatred Act 2006
Scotland Act 1998
Special Educational Needs and Disability Act

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/history/past-prime-ministers/tony-blair>



b. 1966

In office 2010–2016
Political Party: Conservative
Middle Temple Honorary Bencher

DAVID CAMERON

"David Cameron was Prime Minister from May 2010 until July 2016. He led a Conservative and Liberal Democrat coalition government from 2010 until 2015 and continued as Prime Minister from May 2015 leading a Conservative government. He was elected the Conservative MP for Witney in West Oxfordshire in 2001."

LEGISLATION PASSED:

Academies Act 2010
Digital Economy Act 2010
Fixed Term Parliaments Act 2011
Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012
Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013
Modern Slavery Act 2015
Succession to the Crown Act 2013

Source: GOV.UK

<https://www.gov.uk/government/people/david-cameron>