

Speakers of the House of Commons

Speaker	Date	Constituency	Notes
Peter de Montfort	1258	–	
William Trussell	1327	–	Appeared as joint spokesman of Lords and Commons. Styled 'Procurator'
Henry Beaumont	1332 (Mar)	–	Appeared as joint spokesman of Lords and Commons.
Sir Geoffrey Le Scrope	1332 (Sep)	–	Appeared as joint spokesman of Lords and Commons. Probably Chief Justice.
William Trussell	1340	–	
William Trussell	1343	–	Appeared for the Commons alone.
William de Thorpe	1347-1348	–	Probably Chief Justice. Baron of the Exchequer, 1352.
William de Shareshull	1351-1352	–	Probably Chief Justice.
Sir Henry Green	1361-1363 ¹	–	Doubtful if he acted as Speaker.
<i>All of the above were Presiding Officers rather than Speakers</i>			
Sir Peter de la Mare	1376	–	
Sir Thomas Hungerford	1377 (Jan-Mar)	Wiltshire	The first to be designated Speaker.
Sir Peter de la Mare	1377 (Oct-Nov)	Herefordshire	
Sir James Pickering	1378 (Oct-Nov)	Westmorland	
Sir John Guildesborough	1380	Essex	
Sir Richard Waldegrave	1381-1382	Suffolk	
Sir James Pickering	1383-1390	Yorkshire	During these years the records are defective and this Speaker's service might not have been unbroken.
Sir John Bussy	1394-1398	Lincolnshire	Beheaded 1399
Sir John Cheyne	1399 (Oct)	Gloucestershire	Resigned after only two days in office.
John Dorewood	1399 (Oct-Nov)	Essex	Possibly the first lawyer to become Speaker.
Sir Arnold Savage	1401 (Jan-Mar)	Kent	
Sir Henry Redford	1402 (Oct-Nov)	Lincolnshire	
Sir Arnold Savage	1404 (Jan-Apr)	Kent	
Sir William Sturmy	1404 (Oct-Nov)	Devonshire	Or Esturmy

Sir John Tiptoft	1406	Huntingdonshire	Created Baron Tiptoft, 1426. The first Speaker to be raised to the peerage.
Thomas Chaucer	1407-1411	Oxfordshire	Reputedly the son of the poet.
-	1412	-	Speaker unknown
William Stourton	1413 (May-June)	Dorset	Styled 'Parlour'.
John Dorewood	1413 (June)	Essex	
Sir Walter Hungerford	1414 (May)	Wiltshire	Created Baron Hungerford 1426. Son of Sir Thomas Hungerford, the first Speaker.
Thomas Chaucer	1414	Oxfordshire	
Richard Redmayne	1415 (Nov)	Yorkshire	Or Redman
Sir Walter Beauchamp	1416 (Mar-May)	Wiltshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'
Roger Flower	1416-1419	Rutland	According to Dasent the first lawyer to become Speaker. Others have accorded the distinction to John Dorewood.
Roger Hunt	1420	Bedfordshire	Baron of the Exchequer.
Thomas Chaucer	1421	Oxfordshire	
Richard Baynard	1421	Essex	
Roger Flower	1422 (Nov-Dec)	Rutland	
Sir John Russell	1423-1424	Herefordshire	
Sir Thomas Walton	1425 (May-July)	Bedfordshire	Or Wauton
Sir Richard Vernon	1426 (Feb-June)	Derbyshire	
Sir John Tyrrell	1427-1428	Hertfordshire	
William Alington	1429-1430	Cambridgeshire	
Sir John Tyrrell	1431 (Jan-Mar)	Essex	
Sir John Russell	1432 (May-July)	Herefordshire	
Roger Hunt	1433 (July-Dec)	Huntingdonshire	
John Bowes	1435 (Oct-Dec)	Nottinghamshire	
Sir John Tyrrell	1437 (Jan-Mar)	Essex	
William Burley	1437 (Mar)	Shropshire	Or Borely
William Tresham	1439-42	Northamptonshire	
William Burley	1445 (Feb-Apr)	Shropshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'.
William Tresham	1447 (Feb-Mar)	Northamptonshire	
Sir John Say	1449 (Feb-July)	Cambridgeshire	
Sir John Popham	1449 (Nov, 8th)	Hampshire	Excused on the day of his election because of ill-health.

William Tresham	1449-1450	Northamptonshire	Murdered 1450.
Sir William Oldhall	1450-51	Herefordshire	
Thomas Thorpe	1453-1454	Essex	Beheaded 1461.
Sir Thomas Charlton	1454 (Feb-Apr)	Middlesex	Elected in place of Thomas Thorpe on the latter's imprisonment.
Sir John Wenlock	1455-1456	Bedfordshire	Killed at the Battle of Tewkesbury 1471. Styled 'Prolocutor'. Created Baron Wenlock 1461.
Sir Thomas Tresham	1459 (Nov-Dec)	Northamptonshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'. Beheaded 1471 (Son of William Thresham)
John Green	1460 (Oct)	Essex	
Sir James Strangeways	1461-1462	Yorkshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'.
Sir John Say	1463-1468	Hertfordshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'. Constituency previously Cambridgeshire.
–	1469-1471		No particulars known
William Alington	1472-1478	Cambridgeshire	Son of the former Speaker of the same name.
John Wood	1483 (Jan-Feb)	Sussex	Or Wode
William Catesby	1484 (Jan-Feb)	Northamptonshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'. Beheaded 1485.
Sir Thomas Lovell	1485-1486	Northamptonshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'.
Sir John Mordaunt	1487	Bedfordshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'.
Sir Thomas Fitzwilliam	1489-1490	Yorkshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'.
Sir Richard Empson	1491-1492	Northamptonshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'. Beheaded 1510 (On the same day as Edmond Dudley)
Sir Robert Drury	1495	Suffolk	
Sir Reginald Bray	1496 (Oct)	–	Not a Speaker in the true sense of the word as he presided over a Great Council rather than a Parliament.
Sir Thomas Englefield	1497	Berkshire	Or Inglefield
Edmond Dudley	1504	Staffordshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'. Beheaded 1510 (On the same day as Richard Empson)
Sir Thomas Englefield	1510 (Jan-Feb)	Berkshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'.
Sir Robert Sheffield	1512-1513	Lincolnshire	Styled 'Prolocutor'.
Sir Thomas Neville	1515 (Feb-Dec)	Kent	Styled 'Prolocutor'.
Sir Thomas More	1523 (Apr-Aug)	Middlesex	Styled 'Prolocutor'. Beheaded 1535.
Sir Thomas Audley	1529-1533	Essex	Styled 'Prolocutor'.
Sir Humphrey Wingfield	1533-1536	Great Yarmouth	The first Speaker to sit for a borough constituency.
Sir Richard Rich	1536 (June-July)	Colchester	
Sir Nicholas Hare	1539-1540	Norfolk	
Sir Thomas Moyle	1542-1544	Kent	

Sir John Baker	1545-1552	Huntingdonshire	Some authorities hold that Sir Thomas Moyle served a second term of office as Speaker in this Parliament.
Sir James Dyer	1553 (March)	Cambridgeshire	
Sir John Pollard	1553 (Oct-Dec)	Oxfordshire	
Sir Robert Brooke	1554 (Apr-May)	City of London	The first Speaker to represent the City of London.
Sir Clement Heigham	1554-1555	West Looe	
Sir John Pollard	1555 (Oct-Dec)	Chippenham	
Sir William Cordell	1558 (Jan-Nov)	Suffolk	
Sir Thomas Gargrave	1559 (Jan-May)	Yorkshire	
Thomas Williams	1563 (Jan-Apr)	Exeter	
Richard Onslow	1566-1567	Steyning	
Sir Christopher Wray	1571 (Apr-May)	Ludgershall	
Sir Robert Bell	1572-1576	Lyme Regis	
Sir John Popham	1581-1583	Bristol	
Sir John Puckering	1584-1587	Carmarthen	From 1586 his constituency was Gatton.
Thomas Snagge	1589 (Feb-Mar)	Bedford	
Sir Edward Coke	1593 (Feb-Apr)	Norfolk	
Sir Christopher Yelverton	1597-1598	Northamptonshire	
Sir John Croke	1601 (Oct-Dec)	City of London	Judge and Recorder of London.
Sir Edward Phelips	1604-1611	Somerset	
Sir Randolph Crewe	1614 (Apr-June)	Saltash	
Sir Thomas Richardson	1621-1622	St Albans	
Sir Thomas Crewe	1624-1625	Aylesbury	
Sir Heneage Finch	1626 (Feb-June)	City of London	
Sir John Finch	1628-1629	Canterbury	Impeached by the Long Parliament, October 1640, and fled to Holland, but returned at the Restoration.
Sir John Glanville	1640 (Apr-May)	Bristol	
William Lenthall	1640-1647	Woodstock	
Henry Pelham	1647 (July-Aug)	Grantham	Held office during Lenthall's temporary abandonment of the Speakership.
William Lenthall	1647-1653	Woodstock	Lenthall was restored to the Chair by the Army and remained in office until Cromwell's forcible dismissal of the Rump of the Long Parliament.

Rev. Francis Rous	1653 (July-Dec)	Devonshire	
William Lenthall	1654-1655	Oxfordshire	
Sir Thomas Widdrington	1656-1658	Northumberland	
Bulstrode Whitelocke	1657	Buckinghamshire	Appointed pro tem. during Widdrington's absence through illness.
Chaloner Chute	1659 (Jan-Mar)	Middlesex	
Sir Lislebone Long	1659 (Mar)	Wells	Recorder of London. Elected to the Chair owing to Chute's absence through illness, but was himself taken ill after only five days in office.
Thomas Bampfyld	1659 (Mar-Apr)	Exeter	Formally elected 15 April 1659 after the death of Chute.
William Lenthall	1659-1660	Oxfordshire	Rump dismissed by Lambert on 13 October 1659. Lenthall presided until the final dissolution of the Long Parliament, the excluded Members having been recalled on 13 February 1660.
William Say	1660 (Jan)	Camelford	Appointed pro tem. during Lenthall's absence through illness.
Sir Harbottle Grimston	1660 (Apr-Dec)	Colchester	
Sir Edward Turnour	1661-1671	Hertford	
Sir Job Charlton	1673 (Feb)	Ludlow	
Sir Edward Seymour	1673-1678	Totnes	
Sir Robert Sawyer	1678 (Apr-May)	Wycombe	Elected to the Chair after Seymour had been taken ill.
Sir Edward Seymour	1678-1679	Totnes	Formally re-elected on Sawyer's resignation through ill-health.
Sir William Gregory	1679 (Mar-July)	Weobley	Sir Edward Seymour was re-elected Speaker on the day this Parliament first met but the King decline to confirm the appointment. The election of Gregory followed a prolonged dispute resulting in a short prorogation.
Sir William Williams	1680-1681	Chester	The first Welsh Speaker.
Sir John Trevor	1685-1687	Denbigh	
Henry Powle	1689 (Jan-Feb)	Windsor	
Sir John Trevor	1690-1695	Yarmouth, Isle of Wight	Expelled from the House on 16 March 1695 for accepting a bribe.
Paul Foley	1695-1698	Hereford	
Sir Thomas Littleton	1698-1700	Woodstock	
Robert Harley	1701-1705	New Radnor	
John Smith	1705-1708	Andover	This Parliament was declared the first Parliament of Great Britain on 29 April 1707, and on the following 23 October Smith was formally re-elected as Speaker.
Sir Richard Onslow	1708-1710	Surrey	
William Bromley	1710-1713	Oxford University	
Sir Thomas Hanmer	1714-1715	Suffolk	

Sir Spencer Compton	1715-1727	Sussex	
Arthur Onslow	1728-1761	Surrey	Responsible for distancing the role of the Speaker from Government and established many of the practices associated with the Speaker today
Sir John Cust	1761-1770	Grantham	
Sir Fletcher Norton	1770-1780	Guildford	
Charles Wolfran Cornwall	1780-1789	Winchelsea	Constituency changed to Rye in 1784. Died in office.
William Wyndham Grenville	1789 (Jan-June)	Buckinghamshire	
Henry Addington	1789-1801	Truro	Constituency changed to Devizes in 1790. Addington was the last Speaker to continue as a Member of the House of Commons on vacating the Chair.
Sir John Mitford	1801-1802	Northumberland	The last Speaker to be appointed to judicial office on retiring from the Chair.
Charles Abbot	1802-1817	Woodstock	The first Speaker to receive a peerage in recognition of his services in office. Constituency changed to Oxford University in 1806.
Charles Manners-Sutton	1817-1834	Scarborough	Manners-Sutton became the first Speaker of the reformed House of Commons. Constituency changed to Cambridge University in 1833.
James Abercromby	1835-1839	Edinburgh	The first Scottish Speaker of the House of Commons.
Charles Shaw-Lefevre	1839-1857	North Hampshire	
John Evelyn Denison	1857-1872	North Nottinghamshire	
Henry Bouverie William Brand	1872-1884	Cambridgeshire	
Arthur Wellesley Peel	1886-1895	Warwick and Lemington	Youngest Son of Sir Robert Peel.
William Court Gully	1895-1905	Carlisle	
James William Lowther	1905-1921	Cumberland, Penrith Div.	Presided over conferences on Electoral Reform, 1916 and 1929-30, and on Devolution, 1919-20.
John Henry Whitley	1921-1928	Halifax	Declined to accept a peerage on retirement. Chairman of Governors of the BBC 1930-35.
Edward Algernon Fitzroy	1928-1943	Daventry	Died in office.
Douglas Clifton-Brown	1943-1951	Northumberland, Hexham Div.	Presided over conference on Electoral Reform, 1944.
William Shepherd Morrison	1951-1959	Cirencester and Tewkesbury	Appointed Governor General of Australia, 1959.
Sir Harry Hylton-Foster	1959-1965	Cities of London and Westminster	Died in office.
Dr Horace King	1965-1971	Southampton Itchen	
John Selwyn Lloyd	1971-1976	Wirral	
<i>Procedure for electing Speaker introduced by means of a tabled motion subject to amendments.</i>			
Thomas George Thomas	1976-1983	Cardiff West	Uncontested
Bernard Weatherill	1983-1992	Croydon North East	Uncontested

Betty Boothroyd	1992-2000	West Bromwich West	First woman appointed to the post of Speaker.
Michael John Martin	2000-2009	Glasgow Springburn	Constituency changed to Glasgow North East from 2005. First Roman Catholic to be appointed as Speaker since the Reformation.

Following the election of Michael Martin under the 1972 rules, The Procedure Committee recommend that the 1972 system for electing the Speaker be replaced by a ballot-based system. John Bercow was the first Speaker to be elected by secret ballot governed by SO No.1B

John Bercow	22/06/2009	Buckingham	First member of the Jewish faith to be appointed as Speaker.
John Bercow	2010 re-elected ²	Buckingham	
John Bercow	2015 re-elected ²	Buckingham	

Notes:

1. He declared the cause of summons in 1362 and appeared again in 1363, on both occasions addressing Parliament in English, but it is doubtful whether he acted as Speaker.
2. Under SO No.1A the re-election of the former Speaker at the start of a Parliament is by a question to the House. If the House votes against the reappointment of the former Speaker, then a secret ballot takes place under SO No.1B

Sources:

Laundy, Philip (1964) *The Office of Speaker*, Cassell, London
 Wilding, Norman and Laundy, Philip (1972), *An Encyclopaedia of Parliament*, 4th edition
 Dasent, Arthur, *The Speakers of the House of Commons*
[Archived House of Commons Information Office Factsheet M2, The Speaker](#)

Chairmen and Deputy Chairmen of Ways and Means

Chairman of Ways and Means and Deputy Speaker *	Date appointed	Constituency	Notes
Henry FitzRoy	1855	Lewes	
William Nanthaniel Massey	1859	Salford	
John George Dodson	1865	Sussex Eastern	
John Bonham Carter	1872	Winchester	
Henry Cecil Raikes	1874	Chester	
Lyon Playfair	1880	Edinburgh and St Andrews Universities	
(Sir) Arthur Otway	1883	Rochester	
Leonard Courtney	1886	Bodmin	
John William Mellor	1893	Sowerby	
James Lowther GCB	1895	Penrith	Later became Speaker
(Sir) John Grant Lawson Bt	1905	Thirsk and Malton	
Alfred Emmott GCMG	1906	Oldham	
John Henry Whitley	1911	Halifax	Later became Speaker
James Hope	1921 - Feb 1924	Sheffield Central	
(Sir) Robert Young	Feb - Oct 1924	Newton	
James Hope	Dec 1924 - 1929	Sheffield Central	
(Sir) Robert Young	1929	Newton	
(Sir) Dennis Herbert KBE	1931	Watford	
Douglas Clifton Brown	Jan - Mar 1943	Hexham	Later became Speaker
James Milner	1943	Leeds South East	
Charles Williams	1945	Torquay	
James Milner	Aug 1945 - Oct 1951	Leeds South East	
(Sir) Charles MacAndrew	1951	Bute and Northern Ayrshire	
(Sir) Gordon Touche Bt	1959 -Jan 1962	Dorking	
(Sir) William Anstruther-Gray	1962	Berwick and Anstruther	
Horace King	Nov 1964 - Oct 1965	Southampton Itchen	Later became Speaker
(Sir) Samuel Storey Bt	1965	Stretford	
(Sir) Eric George Fletcher	1966	Islington East	
Sydney Irving	1968	Dartford	
(Sir) Robert Grant-Ferris Kt	1970	Nantwich	
George Thomas	1974	Cardiff West	Later became Speaker
Henry Oscar Murton	1976	Poole	
Bernard Weatherill	1979	Croydon North East	Later became Speaker
(Sir) Harold Walker	1983	Doncaster Central	

Michael Morris	1992	Northampton South
Sir Alan Haslehurst	1997	Saffron Walden

Chairman of Ways and Means and Deputy Speaker	Date elected	Constituency	Notes
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Since June 2010, Deputy Speakers are elected by the House in a secret ballot at the start of each Parliament

Lindsay Hoyle	2010	Chorley
Lindsay Hoyle	2015	Chorley

** An 1885 Standing Order gave the Chairman the duties and authority of the Speaker to allow for the Speaker's absence. The Deputy Speaker Act of 1855 enshrined these powers in statute.*

First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means	Date	Constituency	Notes
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Arthur Frederick Jeffreys	1902	Basingstoke	
Laurence Hardy	1905	Ashford	
James Caldwell	1906	Lanarkshire Midlothian	
John Henry Whitley	1910	Halifax	
(Sir) Donald Maclean KBE	1911	Peebles and Selkirk	
(Sir) Edwin Cornwall	1919	Bethnal Green North East	
E.dward Algernon Fitzroy	1922	Daventry	Later became Speaker
(Sir) Cyril Entwistle	1924	Kingston upon Hull South West	
E.dward Algernon Fitzroy	1922	Daventry	Later became Speaker
(Sir) Dennis Herbert KBE	1928	Watford	
Herbert Dunnico	1929	Consett , Durham	
Robert Bourne	1931	Oxford	
Douglas Clifton Brown	1938	Hexham	Later became Speaker
James Milner	Jan - Mar 1943	Leeds South East	
Charles Williams	1943	Torquay	
(Sir) Charles MacAndrew	May - Jul 1945	Bute and Northern Ayrshire	
Hubert Beaumont	July 1945-1948	Batley and Morley	
Frank Bowles	1948	Nuneaton	
(Sir) Charles MacAndrew	1950	Bute and Northern Ayrshire	
(Sir) Rhys Hopkin Morris	1951	Camarthen	
(Sir) Gordon Touche Bt	1956	Dorking	
(Sir) William Anstruther-Gray	1959	Berwick and Anstruther	
(Sir) Robert Grimston Bt	1962	Westbury	
(Sir) Samuel Storey Bt	1964	Stretford	
Roderic Bowen	1965	Ceredigion	
Sydney Irving	1966	Dartford	
Harry Philip Heggie Gourlay	1968	Kirkcaldy	
Betty Harvie Anderson	1970	East Renfrewshire	
Edward Lance Mallalieu	1973	Brigg	

Henry Oscar Murton	1974	Poole	
(Sir) Myer Galpern Kt	1976	Glasgow Shettleston	
(Sir) Bryant Goodman Irvine	1979	Rye	
Ernest Armstrong	1982	North West Durham	
(Sir) Arthur Paul Dean	1987	Woodspring	
Geoffrey Lofthouse	1992	Pontefract and Castleford	
Michael Martin	1997	Glasgow Springburn	Later became Speaker
Sylvia Lloyd Heal	2000	Halesowen and Rowley Regis	

First Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means	Date elected	Constituency	Notes
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Nigel Evans	2010	Ribble Valley	Resigned September 2013
Eleanor Laing	2013	Epping Forrest	Elected October 2015
Eleanor Laing	2015	Epping Forrest	

Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means	Date appointed	Constituency	Notes
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Edward Lance Mallalieu	1971	Brigg	
Henry Oscar Murton	1973	Poole	
<i>office vacant</i>	1974	-	
(Sir) Myer Galpern Kt	1974	Glasgow Shettleston	
(Sir) Bryant Goodman Irvine	1976	Rye	
Richard Cranshaw	1979	Liverpool Cranshaw	
Ernest Armstrong	1981	North West Durham	
(Sir) Arthur Paul Dean	1982	Woodspring	
Betty Boothroyd	1987	West Bromwich West	Later became Speaker
(Dame) Janet Fookes DBE	1993	Plymouth Drake	
(Sir) Michael Lord	1997	Central Suffolk and North Ipswich	

Second Deputy Chairman of Ways and Means	Date elected	Constituency	Notes
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Dawn Primarolo	2010	Bristol South	
Natascha Engle	2015	North East Derbyshire	Previously Chair of the Backbench Business Committee

Sources:

David Butler et al *British Political Facts* Palgrave Macmillan, 2011

Hansard