



BRIEFING PAPER

Number 06579, 15 August 2019

Parliamentary Private Secretaries to Prime Ministers since 1906

By Sarah Priddy

This List notes Parliamentary Private Secretaries to successive Prime Ministers since 1906.

Parliamentary Private Secretaries are not members of the Government although they do have responsibilities and restrictions as defined by the [Ministerial Code](#) available on the Cabinet Office website.

The [Commons Library briefing on Parliamentary Private Secretaries](#) contains information on the history and development of the position of Parliamentary Private Secretary in general as well as discussing the role and functions of the post and the limitations placed upon its holders.

Parliamentary Private Secretaries to Prime Ministers since 1906

Prime Minister	Parliamentary Private Secretary	
Boris Johnson (2019 to present)		
	Alex Burghart	25 Jul 2019 - present
Theresa May (2016 to 2019)		
	Andrew Bowie	29 Dec 2018 - 24 Jul 2019
	Seema Kennedy	27 Jun 2017 - 4 Apr 2019
	George Hollingbery	18 Jul 2016 - 21 Jun 2018
David Cameron (2010-16)		
	Gavin Williamson CBE	Oct 2013 - Jul 2016
	Sam Gyimah	Sep 2012 - Oct 2013
	Sir Desmond Swayne	May 2010 - Sep 2012
Gordon Brown (2007-10)		
	Anne Snelgrove	2009-10
	Jon Trickett	2008-10
	Angela E. Smith	2007-09
	Ian Austin	2007-08
Tony Blair (1997-2007)		
	Keith Hill	2005-07
	David Hanson	2001-05
	Bruce Grocott	1997-2001
	Ann Coffey	1997-98
John Major (1990-97)		
	Sir John Ward	1994-87
	Sir Graham Bright	1990-94
Margaret Thatcher (1979-1990)		
	Peter Morrison	1988-90
	Sir Mark Lennox-Boyd	1988-90
	Archie Hamilton	1987-88
	Michael Alison	1983-87
	Ian Gow	1979-83
James Callaghan (1976-79)		
	Roger Stott	1977-79
	Jack Cunningham	1976-77
Harold Wilson (1974-76)		
	John Tomlinson	1975-6
	Kenneth Marks	Apr-Dec 1975
	William Hamling	1974-75
Edward Heath (1970-74)		
	Sir Timothy Kitson	1970-74

Harold Wilson (1964-70)		
	Eric Varley	Nov 1968-Oct 1969
	Harold Davies	Jan 1967-Jun 1970
	Peter Shore	1965-66
	Ernest Fernyhough	1964-67
Sir Alec Douglas-Home (1963-4)		
	Sir Francis Pearson	Nov 1963-Oct 1964
Harold Macmillan (1957-63)		
	Sir Knox Cunningham	1959-63
	Anthony Barber	1958-59
	Robert Allan	1955-58
Sir Anthony Eden (1955-57)		
	Robert Allan	1955-58
	Robert Carr	Apr-Dec 1955
Sir Winston Churchill (1951-55)		
	Christopher Soames	1952-55
Clement Attlee (1945-51)		
	Arthur Moyle	May 1946-May 1951
	Geoffrey De Freitas	1945-46
Sir Winston Churchill (1940-45)		
	Sir George Harvie-Watt	Jul 1941-Jul 1945
	Brendan Bracken	1940-41
Neville Chamberlain (1937-40)		
	Alexander Douglas-Home	1937-40
Stanley Baldwin (1935-37)		
	Sir Thomas Dugdale	Nov 1935-May 1937
	Geoffrey Lloyd	Jun-Nov 1935
James Ramsay MacDonald (1929-35)		
	Sir John Worthington	Dec 1931-Jun 1935
	Sir Frank Markham	Aug-Oct 1931; 1931-32
	Sir Ralph Glyn	Aug 1931-Jun 1935
	Robert Morrison	Jun 1929-Aug 1931
	Lauchlan MacNeil Weir	1929-31

Stanley Baldwin (1924-29)		
	Hon. Charles Rhys	1927-29
	Sir Sidney Herbert	Nov 1924-1927; Aug 1923-Jan 1924
James Ramsay MacDonald (1924)		
	Lauchlan MacNeil Weir	Jan-Nov 1924
Stanley Baldwin (1923)		
	Sir Sidney Herbert	Aug 1923-Jan 1924
Andrew Bonar Law (1922-23)		
	Sir John Davidson	1922-23
David Lloyd George (1916-22)		
	Sir Philip Sassoon	1920-22
	Sir William Sutherland	Jan 1919-Feb 1920; Dec 1916-18
	Hon. Waldorf Astor	1918
	David Davies (Montgomeryshire)	1916-18
	Sir John Barran	1916-18
Herbert Asquith (1908-16)		
	Sir John Barran	1916-18
	Hon. Charles Lyell	1908-15
	Hon Geoffrey Howard	1908-09
Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman (1905-08)		
	Herbert Carr-Gomm ¹	1906-08

Notes:

1. Assistant Private Secretary

Sources:

1. *British Political Facts*, 2011
2. *Who's Who of British Members of Parliament* Stenton and Lees, Vols II, III, IV
3. *Who's Who 2011*
4. House of Commons Library *Parliamentary Private Secretaries 1970-2000*
5. *Dod's Parliamentary Companion*
6. No 10 Website

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