

**BIRTHDAY HONOURS 2014
DIPLOMATIC SERVICE AND OVERSEAS LIST**

NOTES ON HIGHER AWARDS

ORDER OF ST MICHAEL AND ST GEORGE

KCMG

Brendan GORMLEY MBE

Lately Chief Executive, Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC). For services to the UK emergency humanitarian response to disaster-affected people overseas

Brendan Gormley has been instrumental in the work to help save and improve millions of lives around the world. He became DEC's first Chief Executive in 2000 following a 24-year period working for Oxfam. His leadership has brought transformational change with an informal partnership growing into an internationally renowned British institution. He is recognised for his long-term contribution to helping some of the poorest communities overseas particularly those affected by major disasters like the 2004 Tsunami and Haiti earthquake, with DEC having raised over £1billion.

Christopher HOHN

Founder and UK Foundation Trustee, The Children's Investment Fund Foundation (CIFF). For services to UK philanthropy and international development

Chris Hohn set up the The Children's Investment Fund Foundation in 2002 and, as the sole benefactor, has led its expansion to become the UK's largest private charity for international development that works to improve the lives of children in poverty in developing countries. CIFF has made some of the largest single donations in the areas of HIV/AIDs, emergency humanitarian aid, climate change, disease eradication and malnutrition positioning the UK as a leader in global food security and nutrition and enhancing the UK's reputation for leadership on international development.

Philip LOWE

Lately Director General, European Commission, Brussels. For services to European policy

Philip Lowe has made a major contribution to the work of the European Commission since he joined in 1973 when the UK joined the European Community. He has served as Director General in Development, Competition and most recently Energy as well as Chef de Cabinet to Commissioners Bruce Millan and Neil Kinnock. Philip Lowe has played a leading role over a long and sometimes complex period including the financial crisis, during which he has worked to enhance competitive markets through the European Union.

Simon McDONALD CMG

HM Ambassador, Germany. For services to British foreign policy and British interests in Germany

Simon McDonald, whose career spans 30 years, has contributed significantly to enhancing the important bilateral relationship with Germany since he took on this role in 2010. His achievements in Germany have included leading a step change for British business which has helped the UK become Germany's leading trading partner as well as his work through the Eurozone crisis, building on a longer term career including as HM Ambassador to Israel and Foreign Policy Adviser to the Prime Minister.

Sebastian WOOD CMG

HM Ambassador, China. For services to British prosperity and British interests in China

Sebastian Wood has provided exceptional vision and leadership to the British representation in China, one of HMG's largest networks overseas, advancing British interests particularly UK prosperity, investment and financial services, digital diplomacy, human rights, climate change, the Olympics and enhancing the network of British Missions across China, building on a 28-year career including as Director Asia Pacific, FCO and Private Secretary to Lord Wilson, former Cabinet Secretary.

KNIGHT BACHELOR

Professor Tejinder Singh VIRDEE

Professor of Physics, Imperial College, London. For services to science

Professor Virdee is one of the UK's most distinguished physicists and, as one of the creators of the Compact Muon Solenoid (CMS) Experiment he has made outstanding contributions to science. The CMS experiment, at the Large Hadron Collider, CERN, Geneva, has delivered seminal results in particle physics, including, and along with the ATLAS experiment, the groundbreaking discovery of the Higgs Boson. Beyond his innovative work in particle physics, he is also a great campaigner for science, and promoter of science and education in Africa and India.