

PEERS WITH NEW ZEALAND CONNECTIONS

Noel Cox

Peers who have lived in New Zealand, were born in New Zealand, or who have or had other strong links to this country are included in the following list. I have excluded those who were only here while holding official posts, including that of Governor-General, unless they received a peerage predominantly for services in New Zealand. It will be noted that some of these nineteen individuals possess titles with territorial designations naming places in New Zealand.

A number of others were created for services to the Imperial Crown in New Zealand, or for wider services of which a significant element was based in New Zealand. Royal peerages have been excluded from this survey. Descriptions of the armorial bearings of each peer with a New Zealand connection will follow in later issues of this journal.

Earls

Jellicoe GCB OM GCVO PC (the Right Honourable Sir John Rushworth Jellicoe), 1st Viscount Jellicoe of Scapa (UK 1918), and Earl Jellicoe and Viscount Brocas of Southampton (UK 1925). Jellicoe led the Grand Fleet during the first two years of the First World War, being in command at the Battle of Jutland. Governor-General of New Zealand 1920-24, he died 1935. The 2nd earl lives in England, as do all the members of his family.

Mount Edgumbe (the Right Honourable Robert Charles Edgumbe), 8th Earl of Mount Edgumbe (GB 1789), 8th Viscount Mount Edgumbe and Valletort (GB 1781), 10th Baron Edgumbe of Mount Edgumbe in the county of Cornwall (GB 1742). Succeeded 1982. His lordship lives in the United Kingdom. The Edgumbe family, one of the most distinguished in the west country, have lived in New Zealand since the 1860s although the current earl and his immediate predecessor both went to England on succeeding to the title. Members of his family live in both New Zealand and England, with his heir in New Zealand.

Viscounts

Bledisloe GCMG KBE PC (the Right Honourable Sir Charles Bathurst), Viscount Bledisloe, and Baron Bledisloe, of Lydney, county of Gloucester, created 1935. Governor-General 1930-35, died 1958. Created viscount for services in New Zealand. The 2nd viscount lives in England, as does his family.

Bolingbroke and St John (the Right Honourable Sir Kenneth Oliver Musgrave St John), 7th Viscount Bolingbroke and Baron St John of Lydiard Tregoze (GB 1712), 8th Viscount St John and Baron St John of Battersea (GB

1712), and 11th baronet (England 1611). Succeeded 1974. His lordship lives at 15 Tonbridge Mews, Shrewsbury Street, Christchurch (PO Box 25 069).

Oxfuird (the Right Honourable Sir John Donald Alexander Arthur Makgill), 12th Viscount of Oxfuird (Scotland 1651), 12th Lord Macgill of Cousland (Scotland 1651) and 12th baronet (Nova Scotia 1627). Born 1899, the eldest son of Sir George Makgill, Bt (*de jure* 11th Viscount), his claim to the title was established 1977. Viscount Oxfuird died 1986. His heir lives in the United Kingdom, as did his lordship in later life.

Barons

Citrine (the Right Honourable Ronald Eric Citrine), 3rd Baron Citrine, of Wembley, county of Middlesex (UK 1946). He succeeded 1997. His lordship lives at Paihia. There is no heir to the title.

de Villiers (the Right Honourable Arthur Percy de Villiers), 3rd Baron de Villiers, of Wynberg, Cape of Good Hope (UK 1910). Succeeded 1934. His lordship lives in New Zealand (PO Box 66, Kumeu, Auckland). The barony was created for the first Chief Justice of South Africa.

Fairlie GCMG (Rear Admiral the Right Honourable Sir David Boyle), 1st Baron Fairlie, of Fairlie, in the county of Ayr (UK 1897). He succeeded as the 7th Earl of Glasgow 1890. Governor of New Zealand 1892-97. The 4th baron (and tenth earl) lives in the United Kingdom.

Freyberg VC GCMG KCB KBE DSO PC (Lieutenant-General the Right Honourable Sir Bernard Cyril Freyberg), 1st Baron Freyberg, of Wellington, New Zealand, and of Munstead in the county of Surrey (UK 1951). Governor-General 1946-52, died 1963. The 3rd baron lives in England, as does his family. Lord Freyberg's armorial bearings are described in the New Zealand Armorialist 32.

Islington GCMG DSO PC (the Right Honourable Sir John Poynder Dickson-Poynder), 1st Baron Islington, of Islington, in the county of London (UK 1910). He succeeded to the family baronetcy 1884. Governor of New Zealand 1910-12. The title is now extinct.

Lyveden (the Right Honourable Ronald Cecil Vernon), 6th Baron Lyveden, of Lyveden in the county of Northampton (UK 1859). Succeeded 1973. The Vernon family have lived in New Zealand since 1895, the present baron at 20 Farmer Street, Te Aroha.

Newall GCB OM GCMG CBE AM (Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Right Honourable Sir Cyril Louis Norton Newall), 1st Baron Newall, of Clifton-upon-Dunsmoor in the county of Warwick (UK 1946). Governor-General of New Zealand 1941-46, died 1963. The 2nd baron lives in England, as does his family.

Norrie GCMG GCVO CB DSO MC (Lieutenant-General the Right Honourable Sir Charles Willoughby Moke Norrie), 1st Baron Norrie, of Wellington, New Zealand, and of Upton, Gloucestershire (UK 1957).

Governor-General 1952-57, died 1977. The 2nd baron lives in England, as does his family.

Rutherford OM FRS (the Right Honourable Sir Ernest Rutherford), 1st Baron Rutherford, of Nelson, New Zealand, and of Cambridge in the county of Cambridgeshire (UK 1931). Born 1871, died 1937. The title became extinct on his death

Barons (life peers)

Ballantrae KT GCMG GCVO DSO OBE (Brigadier the Right Honourable Sir Bernard Edward Fergusson), Baron Ballantrae, of Auchairne, Ayrshire, and of The Bay of Islands (UK 1972). Governor-General 1962-67, died 1980. Succeeded by son as Sir Charles Fergusson of Kilkerran (Nova Scotia 1703), who lives at Kilkerran, Maybole, Ayrshire KA19 7SJ. Lord Ballantrae's armorial bearings are described in the New Zealand Armorialist 65.

Cooke of Thorndon KBE PC (the Right Honourable Sir Robin Brunskill Cooke), Baron Cooke of Thorndon, of Wellington in New Zealand and of Cambridge in the county of Cambridgeshire (UK 1996). His Lordship received a life peerage to enable him to sit in the House of Lords in a judicial capacity. Address- 4, Homewood Crescent, Karori, Wellington; House of Lords, London SW1A 0PW, United Kingdom. Lord Cooke of Thorndon's armorial bearings are described in the New Zealand Armorialist 64.

Elworthy KG GCB CBE DSO LVO DFC AFC (Marshal of the Royal Air Force the Right Honourable Sir Samuel Charles Elworthy), Baron Elworthy, of Timaru in New Zealand, and of Elworthy in the county of Somerset (UK 1972). His lordship was born in Timaru, and retired to New Zealand after a long and distinguished career in the Royal Air Force. He died in 1993. Lord Elworthy's armorial bearings are described in the New Zealand Armorialist 25.

Grey of Naunton GCMG GCVO OBE (the Right Honourable Sir Ralph Francis Alnwick Grey), Baron Grey of Naunton, of Naunton in the county of Gloucester (UK 1968). His lordship, who was born in New Zealand, enjoyed a long and successful career in Her Majesty's Overseas Civil Service.

Porritt GCMG GCVO CBE (Brigadier the Right Honourable Sir Arthur Espie Porritt), Baron Porritt, of Wanganui in New Zealand, and of Hampstead (UK 1963). Created 1973 UK baronet, of Hampstead in the county of London. His lordship was born in Wanganui, and enjoyed world-wide eminence as a surgeon. He was Governor-General of New Zealand 1967-72. The peerage was conferred upon his lordship upon his retirement, and the baronetcy as President of Royal College of Surgeons. He died in 1994. Lord Porritt's armorial bearings are described in the New Zealand Armorialist 10 and 64.