

SIR HUGH SYKES

Master Cutler 1990/91

Background

His father was a clergyman and principal of a theological college in Bristol and his grandfather was rector of Hillsborough in Sheffield.

After reading Law at Cambridge he qualified as a chartered accountant in London and played first class rugby for Richmond.

Business

He spent 10 years at Steetley Company based in Worksop as Treasurer and then Managing Director (Finance). After a further four years in public companies he decided to develop and build up his own operations.

He purchased a bankrupt electric furnace company based in Bamford in 1972. In 1983 he floated it as a public company, Thermal Scientific plc. It became the third-fastest growing company on the junior stock exchange. He also developed and floated Technical Component Industries as a public company in 1985. These companies were sold to enable him to take up the role from 1988 to 1997 of Chairman of the Sheffield Development Corporation which was responsible for the regeneration of the East End of Sheffield.

Among a number of non-executive directorships he became Chairman of Yorkshire Bank and was on the board of the National Australia Bank.

Public Service and Charities

He worked extensively with the City Council in a number of regeneration projects including Sheffield One, Creative Sheffield and Renaissance South Yorkshire. He has also served on the board of the University of Sheffield, chaired the Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust, chaired the Sheffield Galleries and Museums Trust for 10 years from its set-up as a charitable organisation and has served on the board of numerous charities including the Westminster Abbey Restoration Trust. He was knighted in 1997 for his services to charity and urban regeneration.

Current Activities

Current activities include property management, running Brookfield Estate (including weddings) and charities including the Trust for Conservation Volunteers.

Family

He has been married for almost 40 years to Ruby and he has four sons and seven grandchildren.

October 2016