

Sir John Douglas Cockcroft CBE

The honorary degree of Doctor of Science was conferred upon Sir John Douglas Cockcroft by the Chancellor Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn KCMG OBE at the ceremony of conferring of honorary degrees held on 29 August 1952 as part of the University of Sydney's Centenary celebrations.

Sir John Douglas Cockcroft, CBE, MA PhD *Cambridge* MScTech *Manchester* Hon LLD *Toronto* Hon DS *Oxford*, FRS, was Director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment, Ministry of Supply, England.



The Vice-Chancellor Emeritus Professor S H Roberts (on left) presenting Sir John Douglas Cockcroft to the Chancellor Sir Charles Bickerton Blackburn for the award, *Sydney Morning Herald* photo, with copies held by the University of Sydney Archives.

Citation

Presented by the Vice-Chancellor, Emeritus Professor S H Roberts:

Mr Chancellor, John Douglas Cockcroft is a name with which to conjure in the story of the British Commonwealth and of contemporary civilization in general. Born in 1897, he attended the University of Manchester and became a Fellow of St. John's College within the University of Cambridge from 1928 to 1946; he was also the Jacksonian Professor of Natural Philosophy in the University of Cambridge from 1939 to 1946.

The name of John Douglas Cockcroft is associated in the minds of most people with atomic research. In 1941 he became the Chief Superintendent of the Air Defence Research and Development Establishment in the Ministry of Supply, and then he took that part in atomic research for which the world at large honours him. Since 1946 he has been the Director of the Atomic Energy Research Establishment. His honours are legion; he has obtained recognition and distinctions from countries as far apart as Sweden and the United States. The University of Sydney feels proud to add his name to its list of Honorary Graduates.

Mr Chancellor, I present to you Sir John Douglas Cockcroft, Commander of the Order of the British Empire, Fellow of the Royal Society, Master of Arts, Doctor of Philosophy, Doctor of Science.

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