

SIR JEREMY MIRTH SULLIVAN (R59-63)

He was born on 17 September 1945 and after leaving the College went to King's College, London. He was a 2nd Lieutenant in the Suffolk & Cambs Regiment of the Territorial Army in 1963-5.

He was called to the Bar (Inner Temple) in 1968 and in the same year started three years as a law lecturer at City of London Polytechnic. He took Silk in 1982, was a Recorder from 1989 until 1997 and was appointed a Deputy High Court Judge in 1993. He served as attorney general to the Prince of Wales between 1994 and 1997 and was a governor of Highgate School for 12 years until 2003.



He has been a judge of the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division, since 1 October 1997 and was knighted in the same year.

Notable rulings include :-

- May 2006 - said that nine Afghans who hijacked a plane and forced it to Stansted airport in 2000 should be allowed "discretionary leave" to stay in the UK. The decision allowed them to work and possibly be entitled to state benefits, despite not receiving full refugee status. The decision was later upheld - three appeal court judges dismissed an appeal by Home Secretary John Reid.
- Later in 2006 - ruled that government control orders on six terror suspects were so strict that they broke Article 5 of the European Convention on Human Rights, which outlaws indefinite detention without trial. Again the Court of Appeal later upheld the decision that the orders - which kept the men inside for 18 hours a day - were too severe and should be quashed.
- February 2007 - judgment that the government's 2006 Energy Review had been "misleading" and "seriously flawed" in its handling of the UK nuclear energy debate. He said "something has gone clearly and radically wrong" with the government's consultation exercise on proposals to build a new generation of nuclear power stations. "

He has been involved in other high-profile cases - in July 2006 he rejected rail firm GNER's bid to prevent a rival company operating on its London to Sunderland route. He was one of two High Court judges who ruled that schools - not parents or magistrates - must decide whether pupils can be taken out of class for holidays in term-time. He also ordered that North Stoke Primary Care Trust should provide a woman with her next treatment of breast cancer drug Herceptin - after the trust had originally said it was not convinced of the drug's safety or cost-effectiveness. Back in 2004, Sir Jeremy condemned the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) for the way it treated a farming couple in the wake of the BSE crisis.

On 15 December 2008 it was announced that he was going to be appointed a Lords Justices of Appeal. The full announcement read "Her Majesty The Queen has been pleased to approve that The Honourable Mr Justice Jeremy Mirth Sullivan be appointed as a Lord Justice of Appeal on the retirement of Lord Justice Tuckey, with effect from 12 January 2009."

He lists his hobby as the Wotton Light Railway in Buckinghamshire.