

The Wardens of Churchill Hall

From the opening of Churchill Hall in 1956 to 2018 when the role of Warden ended in all the University's halls of residence, Churchill Hall has only had five Wardens. Three within the space of three years. They were as follows:

Dr Alan Reynolds (1956-1972)



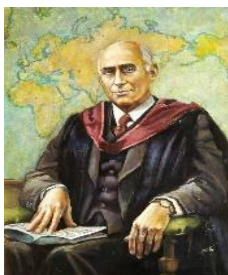
The first Warden on the opening of the Hall was Mr (later Dr) Alan Reynolds, who had previously been Sub-Warden of Wills Hall. He was a Bristol graduate, founding member and JCR president of Wills Hall, and an Ex-President of the Students' Union who lectured in English at the University from 1947 to 1975. He was to remain Warden till 1972 and was awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters by the University in 1977.

Dr Reynolds' background was rather conventional, but he created a more informal Hall than was normal at the time. He was remembered as having carried out his duties with good humour, patience and discretion, and very much laid the foundation of Hall.

Mr. Roy Parker (1972-1975)

The second warden was Mr Roy Parker, the first married Warden, who as a consequence did not live in Warden's flat in K House but move into the Holme Cottage with his family. Mr Parker was to remain Warden for only three years, before leaving due to family circumstances to take up a full time post in the School of Education.

Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Graves (1975-1976)



Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Graves, a Bristol graduate with a distinguished war record, who lectured in Geography and had been warden of Burwalls Hall before becoming the Warden of Wills Hall (1973-82), was acting Warden for the academic year 1975/76.

Dr Alan Rump (1976-2009)

Following this period of three wardens in three years Dr Alan Rump, a very talented musician, who was also an economics graduate, but by 1976 a music lecturer. Who went on to become the Senior Warden and later the University's Director of Student Services until his retirement in 2009. Dr Rump had had a very different Style to his predecessors and had to lead the Hall through some very difficult times.

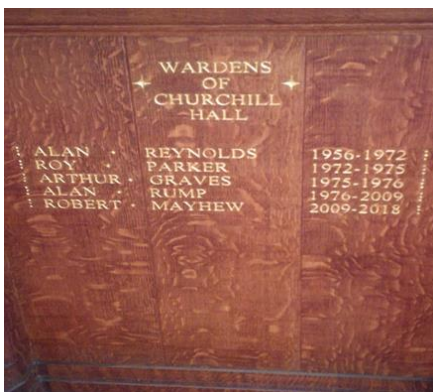
He was to remaining warden for an unprecedented 33 years until this retirement. During his period as Warden Churchill became a mixed Hall in 1978, lost both Claverton and Waltham but gained M/R blocks as well as the hexagon common room.

Professor Robert Mayhew (2009-2018)



The fifth and final Warden was Professor Robert Mayhew, who was Professor of Historical Geography and Intellectual History, (who later became Senior Tutor at Pembroke College, Cambridge) became warden in 2009 and guided the Hall through some turbulent years. He remained Warden until the overall change in the management of all the University Halls of Residence resulting in the ending of the system of Hall Wardens, and bringing his period of Wardenship to an early end.

The Engraved Stall



To mark the service of the Wardens of Wills and Churchill Halls during the 2019 annual Alumni Service in the Dame Monica Wills Chapel an engraved stall was unveiled listing the five wardens of Churchill Hall.

It is matched by a similar stall listing the wardens of Wills Hall on the overset side of the Chapel.