

# William Goode (colonial administrator)

**Sir William Allmond Codrington Goode** GCMG KStJ (8 June 1907 – 15 September 1986) was a British colonial administrator who served as Governor of Singapore from 1957 to 1959, and Governor of North Borneo from 1960 to 1963.

# Early life

Goode was born in <u>Twickenham</u>, Middlesex, and attended <u>Oakham School</u> and <u>Worcester College</u>, Oxford.[3]

## Career

Goode joined the Malavan Civil Service in 1931, studying law in his spare time. [3] He was admitted to the bar by Gray's Inn in 1936. From 1936 to 1939 he served as district officer, Raub, and thereafter as assistant financial secretary of Singapore in 1939. [3] He was appointed assistant commissioner for civil defence, Singapore in 1940, serving in the Singapore Volunteer Corps as a lance corporal during the Second World War. After the colony's capitulation in 1942, he was taken prisoner by the Japanese and sent to work in Siam on the Burma Railway from 1943 to 1945. He remained in Malaya after the war, and in 1948 became deputy economic secretary to the Federation. In 1949 he was posted to Aden as chief secretary, where he also acted as governor from 1950 to 1951. He returned to Singapore as colonial secretary in 1953 and became the colony's last British governor in 1957. [4] In 1959, as part of transitional arrangements, he was made Yang di-Pertuan Negara of the State of Singapore from June to December, and United Kingdom Commissioner. [5] From 1960 to 1963 he was the last governor and Commander-in-Chief of North Borneo. [6]

# Awards and honours

He was invested with Companion of the <u>Order of St Michael and St George</u> (CMG) in the <u>1952 New Year Honours</u> and Knight Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (KCMG) in 1957. [8]

#### Sir William Goode

GCMG KStJ



#### 23rd Governor of North Borneo

#### In office

21 April  $1960^{[1]} - 15$  September 1963

Monarch Elizabeth II

Preceded by Roland Turnbull

Succeeded by Office abolished

#### 1st Yang di-Pertuan Negara of Singapore

#### In office

3 June 1959 – 2 December 1959<sup>[2]</sup>

Monarch Elizabeth II

Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew

Preceded by Position established

Succeeded by Yusof Ishak

#### 4th Governor of Singapore

#### In office

9 December 1957 - 2 June 1959

Monarch Elizabeth II

Chief Minister Lim Yew Hock

Preceded by Robin Black

Succeeded by Office abolished

### 1st Chief Secretary of Singapore

#### In office

February 1955 – 9 December 1957

He was knighted with Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem (KStJ) in 1958. [9]

He was made Grand Commander of the Order of St Michael and St George (GCMG) in the 1963 New Year Honours [10] shortly before his retirement to Berkshire, England.

# Personal life

In 1938, Goode married Mary Harding. She died in 1947 and three years later he married Ena Mary McLaren. [3]

Goode died in Goring-on-Thames in 1986, aged 79.

# References

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# **External links**

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| Monarch                             | Elizabeth II   |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Preceded by                         | Office established   |
| Succeeded by                        | Edgeworth Beresford David  |
| 3rd Colonial Secretary of Singapore |  |
| In office                           |  |
| 30 July 1953 – February 1955        |  |
| Monarch                             | Elizabeth II   |
| Preceded by                         | Wilfred Lawson Blythe  |
| Succeeded by                        | Office abolished   |
| Personal details                    |  |
| Born                                | 8 June 1907 <u>Twickenham</u> , <u>Middlesex</u> , <u>England</u>                  |
| Died                                | 15 September 1986 (aged 79) Goring-on-Thames, South Oxfordshire, England           |
| Spouses                             | Mary Harding<br>( <u>m.</u> 1938; died 1947)<br>Ena Mary McLaren ( <u>m.</u> 1950) |
| Children                            | 1  |

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