

Sir Dick Pantlin CBE

Dick Pantlin was born in England in Farnham, Surrey, in 1919. He was educated at Felsted School, a private school in Essex in membership of the Headmasters Conference (HMC), and later continued his studies at the Alliance Française in Paris.

During the Second World War he served in the Royal Marines, rising to the rank of Major.

After the war he worked in Henrijean International Insurance Brokers in Brussels and was promoted to become the Co-Managing Director of the company from 1952. He married in 1946 and had two sons.

His interest in education was intense. In 1969 he founded the British School of Brussels and was its Honorary President until his death in 2008. In 1980 he founded the Council of British Independent Schools in the European Communities (now COBIS). He was Chairman of COBISEC for 15 years and then Honorary President until his death. From 1988 to 1997 he was a Trustee of St George's English School in Rome.

In addition to his work promoting British education in Europe he was also active in the world of commerce. He was President of the British Chamber of Commerce in Belgium and Luxembourg from 1975 to 1977 and in 1975 he founded the Council of British Chambers of Commerce in Continental Europe (COBCOE) and was its President from 1975 to 1978.

During his life he published numerous articles for British expatriates on themes such as education, British nationality and UK voting legislation.

In 1971 he was appointed an Officer of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire for services to the British Community in Brussels and was raised to Commander of the Order in 1997 for services to British commercial interests in Belgium. He was Knighted in 1993 for services to British interests and the British community in Europe.