

Brief Lives by W.F. Deedes. Pan Macmillan 2004.

From the prolific pen of our greatest living journalist, Bill Deedes, come some superb biographical vignettes of those he has known during a long life now in its tenth decade.

Writing with his customary wit, subtlety and insight, Lord Deedes sheds fresh perspectives on some of the most famous characters of the twentieth century, including Diana, Princess of Wales, Roger Bannister, Oswald Mosley, Noel Coward and Denis Thatcher. Through his knowledge and observation of his subjects, as well as in many cases his friendships with them, these portraits are readable and engaging as well as thought provoking.

Like their author, this is a collection to treasure.

Rabbi Dr Charles H Middleburgh