



# Banker and Philanthropist

## A Portrait of Anthony de Rothschild

David Kynaston

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- A detailed account of the fascinating man whose life was inextricably linked to major historical events and whose cultural impact was felt widely
- Provides access to previously unseen photographs, diaries and letters
- The engaging text is written by eminent social historian David Kynaston

In this evocative new book, historian David Kynaston tells the fascinating story of Anthony de Rothschild (1887–1961). Through access to never previously consulted diaries and letters, a three-dimensional picture emerges of a complex and thoughtful man guiding the City's most famous merchant bank through the turbulent years between the 1920s and 1950s.

In politics he was open-minded and constructive whilst in his philanthropy, not least through his leading role in helping Jewish refugees (especially children) to leave Nazi Germany for England, he was thoughtful and generous. Austere on the surface but warm beneath, impatient equally of fools and ideologues, always searching for how he could contribute to make a better world – Anthony de Rothschild deserves, arguably more than almost anyone else in the 20th-century City, to be known properly by later generations.

**David Kynaston** has been a professional historian since 1973. His many books include a four-volume history of the City of London, the centenary history of the Financial Times, and a history of the Bank of England. He is currently engaged on a multi-volume history of post-war Britain, so far reaching 1962.