

EARL'S COURT SQUARE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

Protecting and enhancing Earl's Court Square and the lives of the people who live and work here

The Rt. Hon. Michael Portillo MP joins us for An evening at the Poets' House, 21 Earl's Court Square Tuesday the 14th October 2003 at 7.00 pm

(By kind permission of Jacob & Tina Stott)

We are fortunate to be represented in the constituency of Kensington and Chelsea by one of the most charismatic Members of Parliament, The Rt. Hon. Michael Portillo MP, who is a former Secretary of State for Employment as well as Defence. He is also now a star television presenter. He will speak at about 8 p.m. then answer some of our questions before meeting us individually and drawing the raffle.

The £10 price of the tickets includes wine and light refreshments.

Bookings, by residents of the square only, will be limited to 4 per applicant.
Tickets by application in advance only. Attendance is limited to 140.

To make this event a great success, do please:

Buy tickets with the application form enclosed and arrive in good time
Send prizes (Bottles, vouchers, paintings etc.) for the draw to:
Avril Kennedy, Basement flat, 3 Earl's Court Square

Our venue No. 21 in the Square – THE POETS' HOUSE

Formerly the home of The Poetry Society, established in 1909 to encourage Poets and poetry, which came to Earl's Court Square in 1950 and for 40 years continued its good work here in our midst.

In 1993 the Poetry Society moved to Endell Street in Soho and No. 21 was bought by Henry Digby as his family home.

Since 1999 it has been the family home of the Stott's, to whom we are grateful for this evening's hospitality.

Beautifully restored to its original state as a single dwelling house, it is now the most handsome in the square and a heritage treasure.

The Rt. Hon. Michael Portillo MP Member of Parliament for Kensington and Chelsea

Michael Portillo was born in North London in 1953. His father, Luis, had come to Britain at the end of the Spanish Civil War; his mother, Cora, was brought up in Fife. She met Luis while an undergraduate at Oxford.

Michael attended Harrow County grammar school, then Peterhouse College, Cambridge. There he gained a first class degree in History.

After a year's work in a shipping company, he moved to the Conservative Research Department in 1976; in 1979 he was responsible for briefing Margaret Thatcher and for the next two years, was special adviser to the then Secretary of State for Energy.

Michael contested the Birmingham seat of Perry Bar at the 1983 Election but was unsuccessful.

For further information, email: ecsrachair@btinternet.com

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In December 1984 he won the by-election in Enfield Southgate, caused by the murder of Sir Anthony Berry MP in the Brighton bombing. He held the seat for thirteen years, losing it in the 1997 landslide general election.

Michael was back in Parliament in 1999 after successfully contesting a by-election in Kensington and Chelsea .

He has made a number of television programmes including *Art that shook the world: Richard Wagner's Ring*, *Portillo in Euroland* and *Elizabeth I* in the BBC2 series *Great Britons*.

Michael is a member of the International Commission on Missing Persons in the former Yugoslavia and is a Board member of BAE Systems plc.

The money raised from this event will go towards the Earl's Court Square Residents' Association funds and will be used for environmental improvements in the Square.