



Harkness Fellows Association

# Harkness Events

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## Sir David Normington GCB

### Is the Civil Service Broken?

**MONDAY 12<sup>th</sup> MAY 2014**

**North Library, Athenaeum, Pall Mall**

**6.30pm for 7.00pm Tickets: £20 (HFA members) £23 (non-members)**

**Special price of £15 per head for second and further guests.**

We are fortunate in having Sir David Normington to address us on a significant and topical issue.

Sir David is the First Civil Service Commissioner, and Commissioner for Public Appointments. He was Permanent Secretary of the Department for Education from 2001 to 2005, and Permanent Secretary of the Home Office until 2011, so he has had frontline experience of key Government Departments facing important challenges.

He is a graduate of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, and his career began in the Department of Employment where he was responsible for the programme of trade union reform. He has been called "something more akin to James Bond than a top civil servant", and his various hobbies include ballroom dancing.

At a time when there have been allegations of the politicisation of public appointments: the hollowing out of the Civil Service: and criticisms that what was seen as a Rolls Royce Civil Service is now failing to deliver effectively, which affects us all, it will be fascinating to hear Sir David's views on all this

**There will be a reception from 6.30pm; wine, soft drinks and light snacks will be on offer. This should be an interesting and highly topical event so please put the date in your diary, and let Peter know as soon as possible if you can attend. Guests are, of course, most welcome. The dress code at the Athenaeum is suits and ties for men and "elegant" for women (no jeans, no trainers, no leggings).**

**RSVP to Peter Vlahos [harkness@acu.ac.uk](mailto:harkness@acu.ac.uk) Tel: 020 7380 6704 Harkness Fellows Association  
c/o ACU, Woburn House, 20-24 Tavistock Square, London WC1H 1HF**

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