

ESHER & WALTON CONSERVATIVES

# Association Spring Lunch



Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014

San Marco Restaurant, Hersham Green 12:30pm

*Guest Speaker:* **Crispin Blunt MP**  
*with:* **Dominic Raab MP**

(For Mr Blunt's biography please see overleaf)

Tickets: **£20.00** *(includes 2 courses & coffee)*

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Please return this slip to: **EWCA, 3 Bridle Close, Kingston upon Thames, KT1 2JW**

Please send me ..... ticket/s for the Spring Lunch, I enclose a cheque for £.....  
*(payable to: **EWCA**)*

Or I wish to pay by credit card: Card number: .....

Card Expiry: ...../.....

Name: .....

Address: .....

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Postcode: .....Tel. Number: .....



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## About Crispin Blunt:



Crispin Blunt was born in 1960 and was educated at Wellington College and The Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, where he won the Queen's Medal, gaining a Regular Commission. He read Politics at the University of Durham between 1981 and 1984, where he was elected President of the Union Society in 1983. In 1991 he gained an MBA at Cranfield University School of Management.

In 1979, Crispin was commissioned as an Army Officer into the 13th/18th Royal Hussars (Queen Mary's Own) and served until 1990. During the 1980's he was stationed in Cyprus, Germany and the UK, serving as a Troop Leader, Regimental Operations Officer and Armoured Reconnaissance Squadron Commander, resigning his commission as a Captain in 1990 in order to stand for Parliament.

Crispin contested his first Parliamentary seat in West Bromwich East for the Conservative Party in 1992. Between 1991-1993 Crispin, was a self employed representative of Forum of Private Business, and a Political Consultant. In 1993 Crispin was appointed as Special Adviser to Malcolm Rifkind the Secretary of State for Defence, and worked in the same capacity when Malcolm Rifkind became Foreign Secretary between 1995 and 1997.

In May 1997, Crispin was elected to Parliament as Member for Reigate in Surrey. He was appointed to the House of Commons Defence Select Committee and in May 2000 Crispin joined the House of Commons Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Select Committee.

In June 2001, Crispin was re-elected as Member of Parliament for Reigate with an increased majority of 8025. Iain Duncan Smith appointed him to the Opposition front bench as Shadow Minister for Northern Ireland in September 2001. In July 2002 he was appointed as deputy to Tim Yeo, Shadow Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, where he had shadow ministerial responsibility for trade, energy and science. Crispin resigned this position in May 2003 and served again on the Defence Select Committee from December 2003 to October 2004, when Crispin returned to the Conservative front bench as an Opposition Whip under Michael Howard.

He was Chairman of the Conservative Middle East Council from 2003 to 2008 and has served as an officer for the Conservative Parliamentary Friends of India.

In January 2009, Crispin was appointed as Shadow Home Affairs Minister with particular responsibility for Security and Counter-Terrorism by David Cameron.

In May 2010, Crispin was re-elected with a majority of 13,591 and was appointed Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Justice upon the formation of the Coalition Government. Crispin served as Minister responsible for Prisons, Probation, youth and criminal justice until September 2012 before returning to the backbenches after 8 years continuous service on the Conservative party's frontbench. Policies that were of particular personal interest included the introduction of payment by results, restorative justice and work in prisons. Other significant criminal justice achievements included the abolition of the indeterminate sentence for public protection and the criminalisation of squatting in residential property.

An avid Cricketer, Crispin is a member of the MCC and the Lords and Commons Cricket Club and still enjoys representing the Parliamentary side in his spare time.