

A talk by
Lieutenant General David Leakey CMG CVO CBE
followed by lunch in the Officers' Mess at Hermitage
Sunday 28th November 2021



Programme

0945-1015 Coffee/tea in Officers' Mess
1030-1200 Presentation
1200-1245 Drinks in the Officers' Mess
1245-1430 Lunch
By 1500 Guests depart

Lieutenant General David Leakey might not be an instantly familiar name because he has been known for the last seven years inside and outside of Parliament as 'Black Rod' and for his high profile role during the State Opening of Parliament summoning Members of Parliament to the House of Lords to hear the Queen's speech, having the Commons door slammed in his face and banging on it with the famous Black Rod: one of the United Kingdom's most recognised traditions around the world.

David Leakey has one of the most recognisable faces in British politics. He has been a TV and Radio panellist and commentator on Parliamentary issues and international affairs, State and Ceremonial occasions, appearing on Hard Talk and the Today programme as a General, and more recently The Westminster Hour, Broadcasting House, Daily Politics and Radio 5 Live (Emma Barnett Show). He also featured prominently in the recent 'fly on the wall' BBC documentary on the House of Lords: Meet the Lords and been parodied on television shows including The Last Leg.

A colourful and influential senior figure in the Houses of Parliament as "Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod" to give its full title, he was previously a General with a distinguished career commanding multi-national forces on NATO and EU operations (including counter-piracy in the Indian Ocean) and a succession of posts at the very top level of military, commercial, national, multinational organisations, and in the political complex of Parliament, Westminster, Whitehall and Brussels.

He has chaired boards and meetings of ambassadors and defence chiefs, a major commercial enterprise with an operating budget of £1,3Bn, a national charity, committees and boards in Parliament, in government departments and in not-for-profit areas.

He has lectured regularly in universities in UK and abroad, including Cambridge, Harvard and Yale, on the European Union, International Relations, Defence and Security, Parliamentary subjects and Leadership. In addition to his reputation for delivering stimulating key note addresses, he is in demand for his entertaining and humorous after dinner speeches.

His dynamic persona is a reflection of a fascinating life: born to a famous Kenya family, with a military pedigree of two Victoria Crosses and two generals, brought up in Jordan speaking Arabic, and then fluent in French and German, graduating in Law at Cambridge University, a senior general (performing a Beethoven piano sonata in concert live on TV) and then Black Rod, playing squash at national and international level, receiving a criminal conviction, a negotiator between the Bosnian factions at the famous Dayton Talks, and more besides.

CBE – 1996, for contribution to stabilisation and reconstruction in Bosnia, and command of a multinational brigade; and previously UK negotiator at the Bosnia Peace Talks in Dayton.

CMG - 2006, a primarily diplomatic honour, for leadership of the European Union Force and for diplomatic contribution to the international missions in Bosnia and the Balkans.

CVO – 2018, from the Queen in recognition of service in Parliament.

TALK – LIEUTENANT GENERAL DAVID LEAKEY

To:
 Brigadier Peter Walker OBE
 ABF The Soldiers' Charity
 3 Hatch Close
 Chapel Row, Reading
 Berkshire
 RG7 6NZ

Tel: 01189 712409
 Email: peter.walker@zen.co.uk

From:

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Tel:

E-mail :

Name	No of Tickets @ £40 each	Details of vehicles being brought to the event			Any Special Dietary Requirements or Mobility Limitations*
		VRN	Make	Colour	

* Unfortunately the Lecture Theatre is not suitable for access by wheelchairs.

I enclose a donation in addition to the cost of my tickets of £

I am unable to attend the event but would like to make a donation of £

Total Amount £

** I enclose a cheque made payable to “**ABF The Soldiers' Charity**” covering the total costs for my party and/or any donations.

** I wish to pay by BACS (your ticket requirements can be e-mailed to peter.walker@zen.co.uk) and request that an invoice is sent to me (to the e-mail address provided above) for the tickets as requested above. The invoice will include details of the Charity's bank account to enable the BACS payment to be made.

** Please delete as applicable

Signed: Date: