



Press & Public Relations
Department.

Phone: 01-222 0151/8
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Conservative Central
Office.
32 Smith Square,
London SW1P 3HH

Release Time: IMMEDIATE Wednesday 21st
November 1984 743/84

ENFIELD SOUTHGATE BY-ELECTION

The first press conference of the by-election will be held on Monday, 26th November 1984, at the Enfield Southgate Conservative Club, 814 Green Lanes, Winchmore Hill, London N21 2RT, at 9 a.m.

Press conferences will then take place daily (Monday to Friday) at 9 a.m. at the Club.

Conservative candidate: Michael Portillo.

The Campaign Press Officer will be Bill Haresnape.
Press inquiries to 01 360 8829.

The Conservative Agent is Anthony Dey and his office number is 01 360 2210.

POLLING DAY: THURSDAY, DECEMBER 13th 1984



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Biography: Michael Portillo, MA.

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~~Michael Portillo was born in May, 1953, at Bushey, Hertfordshire.~~

He was educated at Harrow County School for Boys and Peterhouse, Cambridge, where he obtained a first class degree in history.

Shortly after leaving university he worked for three years in the Conservative Research Department. During the 1979 General Election he was a special adviser to Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

After the election he was special adviser to David Howell (Secretary of State for Energy), 1979-81. Later he held a senior position with an American oil company and also gained experience of working in television on current affairs. During that time he was also unpaid speechwriter for the then Party Chairman, Cecil Parkinson. In 1983 he was special adviser to Mr Parkinson (Secretary of State for Trade and Industry). In November 1983 he became special adviser to Nigel Lawson (Chancellor of the Exchequer).

Michael Portillo has since university been heavily involved in politics, and is particularly interested in privatisation, tax reform, wider ownership, and energy policy.

At the General Election in June 1983 he contested Birmingham, Perry Barr. He was Patron of the Birmingham, Perry Barr, Conservative Association and is Deputy Chairman of Battersea Conservative Association; and a former member of the executive committee of Islington North (where he contested a council seat in 1978).

Michael and Carolyn Portillo met at school and married in 1982. Mrs Portillo, is a qualified chartered accountant and is now in banking in the City of London. Michael Portillo's father is a retired BBC producer and civil servant, while his mother is a retired school teacher. His general interests include music.

He was adopted as prospective Conservative candidate for Enfield Southgate at a general meeting of the Association in November 1984, following the death of the sitting MP, Sir Anthony Berry, in the IRA bomb blast at the Grand Hotel, Brighton, during the Party Conference.