

## DAME STELLA RIMINGTON

Stella Rimington was educated at Nottingham Girls' High School and is a graduate of Edinburgh University. After taking a postgraduate course in archives administration at Liverpool University she worked as an archivist in the Worcestershire County Record Office and then in the India Office Library in London.

Following her marriage, she accompanied her husband on a diplomatic posting to the British High Commission in New Delhi, where in 1967 she started part time work for the Security Service (MI5). On her return to London in 1969 she joined MI5 full time and she retired in 1996 as Director General, the first woman to hold the post and the first Director General to be publicly named on appointment. Before becoming Director General, she was successively Director of Counter Subversion, Counter Espionage and Counter Terrorism

More recently she was Non Executive Director on the Board of Marks & Spencer and of the oil and gas company, BG Group. Amongst other appointments she has been Chairman of the Institute of Cancer Research and Trustee of the Royal Marsden Cancer Hospital in London as well as a Governor of Town Close House School Norwich and of St Felix School in Southwold. She is currently a Trustee of the charity 'Refuge' which works against domestic violence, a Board member of the International Spy Museum in Washington DC and Patron of the Friends of Castle Acre Church, Norfolk.

Her latest career is as an author; her autobiography 'Open Secret' was published in 2001 and she has since published nine novels. The ninth, 'Breaking Cover', which is available now in hardback, will be published paperback in June 2017 by Bloomsbury.

Stella was appointed Dame Commander of the Order of the Bath in 1996. She has received honorary degrees from Nottingham and Nottingham Trent Universities, Liverpool, Exeter, London Metropolitan and Edinburgh. She has two daughters, three granddaughters and two grandsons.

2016

