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More recent information is available through the following links:

**[People, Events and Places: The Speaker of the House of Commons](#)
(PDF)**

[The Speaker web pages](#)

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Factsheet G2 General Series

Revised December 2005

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House of Commons Information Office

A Selective Booklist on the House of Commons

The following is a list of books which provide information on the work and history of the House of Commons and Parliament in general. There are also details of a number of general politics books which may be of interest. They are mainly suitable for adult readers, without, in general, demanding special knowledge of the subject. The list also has a section on books for younger readers. This list is by no means exhaustive.

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Reference works

BUTLER, David & BUTLER, Gareth - TWENTIETH CENTURY BRITISH POLITICAL FACTS 1900-2000

[Macmillan; 8th edition; 2000; ISBN 0333772210 (hardback); ISBN 0333772229 (paperback)]

Compendium of political, parliamentary and electoral facts and statistics.

DOD'S CONSTITUENCY GUIDE 2006

[Vacher Dod publishing; 2005; ISBN 090570259X (paperback)]

Local electoral, political, economic and social characteristics for each constituency.

DOD'S PARLIAMENTARY COMPANION

[Dod's Parliamentary Companion; Annual]

Contains brief biographies and photographs of MPs and Peers, together with other useful information on Parliament.

PMS PARLIAMENTARY COMPANION

[PMS Publications; Quarterly; ISSN 09650415]

Concise directory of Parliament, Government, political parties, the judiciary and other areas of public life.

ROTH, Andrew & CRIDDLE, Byron - PARLIAMENTARY PROFILES, 2001-2005

[Parliamentary Profiles; 2004; A – D volume published; ISBN 0900582499 (paperback)

2005; E – K volume published; ISBN 0900582502 (paperback)]

A set of volumes published during each Parliament, providing substantial pen portraits of all Members of Parliament.

THE TIMES GUIDE TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS 2005

[Harper Collins; 2005; ISBN 0007211821 (hardback)]

New edition published after each general election. Brief biographies and photographs of MPs; general election results; political party manifestos.

VACHER'S PARLIAMENTARY COMPANION

[Vacher's Publications; Quarterly; ISSN 09580328]

Information includes lists of MPs and Peers; ministerial responsibilities and party spokesmen; government departments and executive agencies.

WALLER, Robert & CRIDDLE, Byron - THE ALMANAC OF BRITISH POLITICS

[Routledge; 7th edition; 2002; ISBN 0415268338 (hardback); ISBN 0415268346 (paperback)]

Provides a comprehensive analysis of all the parliamentary constituencies describing social, economic and political characteristics and including recent electoral history.

General

BARNETT, Hilaire – BRITAIN UNWRAPPED: GOVERNMENT AND CONSTITUTION EXPLAINED
[Penguin; 2002; ISBN 0140291709 (paperback)]

BLACKBURN, Robert, KENNON, Andrew & WHEELER-BOOTH, Michael – GRIFFITHS & RYLE ON PARLIAMENT: FUNCTIONS, PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES.
[Sweet & Maxwell; 2nd edition; 2002; ISBN 0421609109 (hardback)]
Authoritative and comprehensive guide to Parliament

CHILDS, Sarah – NEW LABOUR'S WOMEN MPs: WOMEN REPRESENTING WOMEN
[Taylor and Francis; 2004; ISBN 0714685666 (paperback)]

CHILD, Susan - POLITICO'S GUIDE TO PARLIAMENT
[Politico's; 2nd edition; 2002; ISBN 190230182X (paperback)]
Useful guide to role, structure and procedure.

COWLEY, Philip – REVOLTS & REBELLIONS
[Politico's; 2002; ISBN 1842750291 (hardback)]
Analysis of parliamentary voting behaviour across the political spectrum.

COXALL, Bill, ROBINS, Lynton & LEACH, Robert – CONTEMPORARY BRITISH POLITICS
[Palgrave Macmillan; 4th edition; 2003; ISBN 140390507X (paperback)]
A concise but definitive introduction to British politics, making comparisons throughout between the UK and other democratic political systems.

FIELD, John – THE STORY OF PARLIAMENT IN THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER
[Politico's; 2002; ISBN 1842760313 (hardback)]
Surveys the history and development of Parliament both as a building and as an institution. Full of historical detail.

FLYNN, Paul - COMMONS KNOWLEDGE: HOW TO BE A BACKBENCHER
[Seren; 1997; ISBN 1854112066 (paperback)]
Entertaining compendium of advice for new MPs on how to survive at Westminster.

GORDON, Caroline – YOUR PARLIAMENT: MAKE IT WORK FOR YOU
[Hansard Society; 2004; http://www.hansardsociety.org.uk/assets/your_parliament.pdf]
Straightforward, brief guide to Parliament and its work.

JONES, Bill - POLITICS UK
[Prentice Hall; 5th edition; 2004; ISBN 0130994073 (paperback)]
Highly regarded student textbook on the core elements of politics in the UK.

NORTON, Philip – THE BRITISH POLITY
[Longman; 4th edition; 2001; ISBN 0801318440 (paperback)]
Text on the institutions and processes, continuity and change of British politics

NORTON, Philip – PARLIAMENT IN BRITISH POLITICS
[Palgrave Macmillan; 2005; ISBN 1403906661 (hardback) 140390667X (paperback)]
Examines the role and significance of Parliament in the British political system.

RIDDELL, Peter - PARLIAMENT UNDER BLAIR
[Politico's; 2000. ISBN 1902301609 (paperback)]
A discussion of Parliament's position within the constitution, its effectiveness and the challenges it faces, updating previous book *Parliament Under Pressure*.

ROGERS, Robert & WALTERS Rhodri - HOW PARLIAMENT WORKS

[Pearson Longman; 5th edition; 2004; ISBN 058243744X (paperback)]

Authoritative and readable guide to the day-to-day workings of both Houses of Parliament. It also examines the European dimension and considers wider issues such as Parliamentary effectiveness and reform.

SONES, Boni, MORAN, Margaret & LOVENDUSKI, Joni – WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT: THE NEW SUFFRAGETTES

[Methuen Publishing; 2005; ISBN 1842751409 (hardback)]

Based on interviews with a cross-party group of women MPs, this book analyses the history and future of women in Parliament

WRIGHT, Tony (editor) - THE BRITISH POLITICAL PROCESS: AN INTRODUCTION

[Routledge; 2000; ISBN 0415049652 (hardback); ISBN 0415049660 (paperback)]

Introductory text for students, edited by the MP with contributions by House of Commons Library staff.

Specific aspects

Buildings

CANNADINE, David et al. - HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT: HISTORY, ART AND ARCHITECTURE

[Merrell; 2000; ISBN 1858941121 (hardback)]

Large format book with pictures of the building together with narrative about its history.

COOKE, Sir Robert - THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER

[Burton Skira Ltd, distributed by Macmillan London Ltd; 1987; out of print; ISBN 0333459237]

Elegant publication which describes the history, art and architecture of the Palace.

FELL, Bryan & MACKENZIE, K.R. - THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT: A GUIDE TO THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER (revised by D.L. Natzler)

[The Stationery Office; 15th edition; 1994; ISBN 0117015792 (paperback)]

Comprehensive and well established guide to the buildings of Parliament.

GERHOLD, Dorian - 900 YEARS OF WESTMINSTER HALL

[James and James; 1999; ISBN 0907383890 (hardback); ISBN 0907383882 (paperback)]

Fully illustrated history of the oldest part of the Palace.

JONES, Christopher - THE GREAT PALACE: THE STORY OF PARLIAMENT

[BBC Books; 1983; out of print; ISBN 0563201789]

Contains numerous anecdotes concerning the buildings of Parliament and the history and traditions of both Houses.

MACDONALD, Peter – BIG BEN: THE BELL, THE CLOCK AND THE TOWER

[Sutton Publishing; 2004; ISBN 750938277 (hardback)]

Tells in anecdotal style the story of the clock, reveals how it was named; how the music was composed; how it was cast and how it is maintained up to the present day.

PORT, M.H. - THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT

[Yale University Press; 1976; out of print; ISBN 0300020228 (hardback)]

An authoritative study of the design, construction and decoration of the Parliamentary building.

ROSS, John – BIG BEN AND THE CLOCK TOWER (revised by Dr. Mark Collins)
[The Stationery Office; 2002; ISBN 0117029742 (paperback)]

Devolution

BOGDANOR, Vernon - DEVOLUTION IN THE UNITED KINGDOM
[OUP; New edition; 2001; ISBN: 0192801287 (paperback)]

Places the recent developments of devolution in the United Kingdom into their historical context.

TRENCH, Alan (editor) – THE DYNAMICS OF DEVOLUTION: THE STATE OF THE NATIONS
2005

[Imprint Academic; 2005; ISBN: 184540036 (paperback)]

Detailed annual survey of the progress of devolution in the constituent parts of the U.K. Similar volumes on earlier years are available from the same publishers.

O'NEILL, Michael (editor) – DEVOLUTION AND BRITISH POLITICS

[Longman; 2004; ISBN 0582472741 (paperback)]

A comprehensive and effective review of the origins and development of the devolution process.

PILKINGTON, Colin – DEVOLUTION IN BRITAIN TODAY

[Manchester University Press; 2002; ISBN 0719060753 (hardback)]

An analysis of the history, concept and constitutional implications of a devolved UK government.

Elections

BUTLER, David & KAVANAGH, Dennis - THE BRITISH GENERAL ELECTION OF 2005

[Palgrave Macmillan; 2005; ISBN 1403942528 (hardback); ISBN 1403944261 (paperback)]

The seventeenth in the series of Nuffield Election Studies, covering all aspects of each general election since 1945.

CHILD, Susan – POLITICO'S GUIDE TO ELECTION PRACTICE & LAW

[Metheun Publishing; 2002; ISBN 1902301811 (hardback)]

Demonstrates the complexities of election practice and law in an easy to read format.

COLEMAN, Stephen & WARD, Stephen (editors) - SPINNING THE WEB: ONLINE
CAMPAIGNING IN THE 2005 GENERAL ELECTION

[Hansard Society; 2005; ISBN 0900432829]

Useful analysis of the use of the internet and other information communication technologies in the 2005 general election.

COOK, Chris & RAMSDEN, John (editors) - BY-ELECTIONS IN BRITISH POLITICS

[UCL Press; 1997; ISBN 1857285344 (hardback); ISBN 1857285352 (paperback)]

A detailed account of notable by-elections including an analysis of recent trends and a full listing of results.

FARRELL, David M - ELECTORAL SYSTEMS: A COMPARATIVE INTRODUCTION

[Palgrave; 2001; ISBN 033380161X (hardback); ISBN 0333801628 (paperback)]

Surveys the principal types of electoral system in use today.

HARRIS, Phil – POLITICAL MARKETING

[Butterworth – Heinemann; 2000; ISBN 0750645377 (hardback)]

This volume examines the marketing concept as it applies to contemporary party politics.

INDEPENDENT COMMISSION ON VOTING SYSTEMS REPORT (THE "JENKINS COMMISSION REPORT")

[Cm 4090; 1997/98; The Stationery Office; 2 volumes; Volume 1: Report; ISBN 0101409028; Volume 2: Evidence on CD; ISBN 0101409032; Also available on the internet at <http://www.official-documents.co.uk>.]

The commission was charged by the Blair Government with recommending the best alternative voting system or combination of systems.

JOYCE, Peter – POLITICO'S GUIDE TO UK GENERAL ELECTIONS 1832 – 2001

[Methuen Publishing; 2004; ISBN 1842751018 (paperback)]

Provides a short description of what took place at each general election.

LEONARD, Dick & MORTIMORE, Roger - ELECTIONS IN BRITAIN: A VOTERS GUIDE

[Palgrave Macmillan; 5th edition; 2005; ISBN 1403942552 (hardback) 1403942560 (paperback)]

Good, practical guide to the workings of the British electoral system.

NORRIS, Pippa (editor) - BRITAIN VOTES 2005

[OUP; October 2005; ISBN 0198569408 (paperback)]

Anatomy of the 2005 general election.

RALLINGS, Colin & THRASHER, Michael (editors) - BRITISH ELECTORAL FACTS 1832 – 1999

[Ashgate; 6th edition; 2000; ISBN 1840140534 (hardback)]

Contains facts and figures on all types of election.

ROSSITER, David – THE BOUNDARY COMMISSIONS: REDRAWING THE UKS MAP OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

[Manchester University Press; 1999; ISBN 0719050839]

Despite their importance in British political life, very little has been written about the Commissions and how they work, and much that has been written focuses on the short-term issues of the electoral impact of a new set of constituencies. This volume is an in depth study of the Commissions themselves.

WATTS, Duncan – BRITISH ELECTORAL SYSTEMS

[Sheffield Hallam University Press/The Politics Association; 2000; ISBN 0863398332 (paperback)]

Apart from an examination of the debate on electoral reform for Westminster elections this study includes coverage and analysis of elections for the devolved assemblies in Scotland and Wales and for the European Parliament.

Modernisation and Reform

BALDWIN, Nicholas (editor) – PARLIAMENT IN THE 21ST CENTURY

[Politicos; 2004; ISBN 1842751034 (hardback)]

Essays from thirty politicians and academics on all aspects of parliamentary reform.

BRAZIER, Alex, FLINDERS, Matthew & MCHUGH, Declan - NEW POLITICS, NEW PARLIAMENT? A REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY MODERNISATION SINCE 1997

[Hansard Society for Parliamentary Government; 2005; ISBN 0900432624]

GIDDINGS, Philip (editor) – FUTURE OF PARLIAMENT: ISSUES FOR A NEW CENTURY
[Palgrave Macmillan; 2005; ISBN 1403995273]

Collection of authoritative and lively essays covering topics such as scrutinising the Government, making laws, guarding the citizenry, the new media and adapting to the world beyond Westminster.

HANSARD SOCIETY - THE CHALLENGE FOR PARLIAMENT: MAKING GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTABLE

[Vacher Dod; 2001; ISBN 090570231X (paperback)]

Report of the Hansard Society Commission on Parliamentary Scrutiny, which analyses the successes and failures of the current system and includes a set of specific recommendations designed to refine the role of Parliament.

MODERNISATION OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS SELECT COMMITTEE – CONNECTING PARLIAMENT WITH THE PUBLIC

First report, session 2003-04

[HC 368 2003-04; The Stationery Office; ISBN 0215017609]

Addresses the relationship between the House of Commons and voters.

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200304/cmselect/cmmodern/368/368.pdf>

OLIVER, Dawn – CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM IN THE UK

[Oxford University Press; 2003; ISBN 0198765460 (paperback)]

A detailed discussion of all the significant changes that have developed following the elections of 1997 and 2001.

RUSH, Michael – PARLIAMENT TODAY

[Manchester University Press; 2005; ISBN 0719057957 (paperback)]

Explains Parliament's historical and constitutional context but focuses on how it operates in modern Britain and how it might be reformed.

STRENGTHENING PARLIAMENT: REPORT OF THE COMMISSION TO STRENGTHEN PARLIAMENT (Chairman: Lord Norton of Louth)

[Conservative Party; 2000]

Examines the relationship between the executive and legislature

Organisation and procedure

BRAZIER, Alex (editor) – PARLIAMENT, POLITICS & LAW MAKING: ISSUES & DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

[Hansard Society; 2004; ISBN 0900432578]

A valuable contribution to the continuing debate on political and legislative reform, and the changing nature of British parliamentary democracy.

COMMITTEE SYSTEM OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

[Committee Office, Clerk of the House Department; 2003]

<http://www.parliament.uk/commons/selcom/ctteesys.htm>

CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE, HOUSE OF LORDS – PARLIAMENT AND THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

Fourteenth Report session 2003/04 [HL 173 2003/04; The Stationery Office; ISBN 0104005408

<http://pubs1.tso.parliament.uk/pa/ld200304/ldselect/ldconst/173/17302.htm>

The legislative process and the scrutiny of bills.

EVANS, Paul - HANDBOOK OF HOUSE OF COMMONS PROCEDURE

[Vacher Dod Publishing; 5th edition; 2004; ISBN 0905702492 (paperback)]

Reference guide to House of Commons procedure

GAY, Oonagh and WINETROBE, Barry K. – OFFICERS OF PARLIAMENT: TRANSFORMING THE ROLE

[Constitution Unit; 2003; ISBN 1903903181 (paperback)]

Examines the relationships between Parliament and constitutional “watchdogs” such as the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Parliamentary Ombudsman

HOUSE OF COMMONS COMMISSION – ANNUAL REPORT

Report for financial year 2004-05

[HC 65 2005-06; The Stationery Office; ISBN 0215025237]

Annual report of the governing body of the House of Commons

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200405/cmselect/cmcomm/65/6501.htm>

LIAISON COMMITTEE (HOUSE OF COMMONS) ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2004

First report of Session 2004-05

[HC 419 2004-05; The Stationery Office; ISBN 021502280]

Annual review of the work of the select committees

RENTON, Tim – CHIEF WHIP: THE ROLE, HISTORY AND BLACK ARTS OF PARLIAMENTARY WHIPPING

[Politicos; 2004; ISBN 1842750984 (hardback) ISBN 1842751298 (paperback)]

Partly a memoir of Renton's period as Chief Whip, partly a history of parliamentary whipping and the characters who have held the office over the centuries.

RUSH, Michael and ETTINGHAM, Clare – OPENING UP THE USUAL CHANNELS

[Hansard Society; 2002; ISBN 0900432861 (paperback)]

Based on original research into the people, personalities and systems that organise business in Parliament

<http://www.parliament.the-stationery-office.co.uk/pa/cm/cmliaisn.htm>

Parliament and the media

COLEMAN, Stephen - ELECTRONIC MEDIA, PARLIAMENT AND THE PEOPLE: MAKING DEMOCRACY AVAILABLE

[Hansard Society for Parliamentary Government; 1999; ISBN 0900432551 (paperback)]

Examines evidence from viewers, politicians and broadcasters.

COLEMAN, Stephen (editor) - PARLIAMENT IN THE AGE OF THE INTERNET

[OUP; 1999; ISBN 0199224226 (paperback)]

Examines the potential applications of new information and communication technologies to the political process.

HANSARD COMMISSION ON THE COMMUNICATION OF PARLIAMENTARY DEMOCRACY – MEMBERS ONLY? PARLIAMENT IN THE PUBLIC EYE

[Hansard Society; 2005; ISBN 0900432772 (paperback)]

Chaired by David Puttnam, the Commission examined whether Parliament is failing in its democratic duty to communicate with the electorate. The report looks at the need to re-establish the link between Parliament and the people, and outlines a route for change.

http://www.hansardsociety.org.uk/assets/Key_Recommendations.pdf

http://www.hansardsociety.org.uk/assets/Executive_Summary.pdf

McKIE, David - MEDIA COVERAGE OF PARLIAMENT

[Hansard Society; 1999; ISBN 0900432500 (paperback)]

Introductory historical overview of media coverage of Parliament. Also considers whether the internet makes traditional parliamentary reporting irrelevant.

MEYER, Thomas & HINCHMAN LEW – MEDIA DEMOCRACY: HOW THE MEDIA COLONISE POLITICS

[Polity Press; 2002; ISBN 0745628435 (hardback) 0745628443 (paperback)]

Argues that the media are transforming traditional party democracy into 'media democracy'.

SPARROW, Andrew – OBSCURE SCRIBBLERS: A HISTORY OF PARLIAMENTARY REPORTING

[Politicos; 2003; ISBN 1842750615 (hardback)]

Account of over three centuries of parliamentary reporting and press coverage.

Political parties

ADAMS, Ian - IDEOLOGY AND POLITICS IN BRITAIN TODAY

[Manchester University Press; 2nd edition; 2001; ISBN 07190601923 (hardback); ISBN 0719060206 (paperback)]

Comprehensive and up to date introduction to political doctrines.

BLAKE, Robert - THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY FROM PEEL TO MAJOR

[Heinemann; revised edition; 1997; ISBN 0434003522 (hardback)]

An account of the Conservative Party's leaders, changing methods of party management and the typical Conservative outlook.

BOOTHROYD, David - POLITICOS HISTORY OF UK POLITICAL PARTIES

[Politicos; 2001; ISBN 1902301595 (hardback)]

Covers every political party which has fought a Westminster general election or by-election since 1832.

CROWSON, N.J. – THE LONGMAN COMPANION TO THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY SINCE 1830

[Pearson Education; 2001; ISBN 0582312922 (paperback)]

Comprehensive source of reference information on the Conservative party.

DOUGLAS, Roy – LIBERALS: A HISTORY OF THE LIBERAL AND LIBERAL DEMOCRAT PARTIES

[Hambledon & London; 2005; ISBN 1852853530 (hardback)]

Examines the changing fortunes of the Liberals and Liberal Democrats.

DUTTON, David – HISTORY OF THE LIBERAL PARTY IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

[Palgrave Macmillan; 2004; ISBN 0333746554 (hardback) 0333746562 (paperback)]

This survey of British Liberalism from the era of Campbell-Bannerman to that of Charles Kennedy both reviews existing literature and offers its own perspective.

FINLAYSON, Alan – MAKING SENSE OF NEW LABOUR

[Lawrence & Wishart; 2003; ISBN 0853159564 (paperback)]

An in-depth study, interpreting a wide range of material, including party political broadcasts and other election material, Tony Blair's speeches, and internal policy discussion

GARNETT, Mark & LYNCH, Philip (editors) – THE CONSERVATIVES IN CRISIS: THE TORIES AFTER 1997

[Manchester University Press; 2003; ISBN 0719063302 (hardback) 0719063310 (paperback)]

Includes commentaries by Lord Parkinson, former MP, Andrew Lansley MP and Ian Taylor MP

INGLE, Stephen – THE BRITISH PARTY SYSTEM

[Continuum; 3rd edition; 2000; ISBN 1855674726 (hardback); ISBN 1855674734 (paperback)]

Looks at the origins and development of the parties in the UK, the notion of a party system and the customary British claim to a two-party system.

LYNCH, Peter – THE HISTORY OF THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL PARTY

[Welsh Academic Press; 2002; ISBN 1860570046 (paperback)]

Comprehensive history of the SNP, tracing the course of modern Scottish Nationalism from the formation of the Party in 1934, to its current position as the official opposition in the reconvened Scottish Parliament.

RAMSDEN, John – AN APPETITE FOR POWER: A HISTORY OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY SINCE 1830

[HarperCollins; 1999; ISBN 0006387578 (paperback)]

Comprehensive and well written history.

REID, Alastair, J. & PELLING, Henry – A SHORT HISTORY OF THE LABOUR PARTY

[Palgrave Macmillan; 12th edition; 2005; ISBN 1403993130 (paperback)]

A classic account of the rise of the Labour Party from its foundation through to Tony Blair's second term as Prime Minister

RUSSELL, Meg – BUILDING NEW LABOUR: THE POLITICS OF PARTY ORGANISATION

[Palgrave Macmillan; 2005; ISBN 1403939942 (paperback)]

An analysis of party organisational change and the nature of power relations in the Labour Party today.

THORPE, Andrew - HISTORY OF THE BRITISH LABOUR PARTY

[Palgrave; 2nd edition; 2001; ISBN 033392908X (paperback)]

Covers the party's first hundred years, examining the main events and personalities in the party's history.

WRING, Dominic – POLITICS OF MARKETING THE LABOUR PARTY: A CENTURY OF STRATIFIED ELECTIONEERING

[Palgrave Macmillan; 2004; ISBN 0333689526 (hardback) 0333689534 (paperback)]

Traces how the party's political campaigning has developed since its birth and how the increasing use of marketing contributed to the radical restructuring of both the organisation and its policies.

Standards and ethics

BULL, Martin & NEWELL, James (editors) – CORRUPTION IN CONTEMPORARY POLITICS

[Palgrave Macmillan; 2003; ISBN 0333802985 (hardback)]

A group of experts address the importance of this phenomenon for contemporary Western democracies as well as at the international level.

CHAPMAN, Richard A. (editor) - ETHICS IN PUBLIC SERVICE FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM

[Ashgate; 2000; ISBN 0754610632 (hardback)]

General analysis of moral standards in public service, with good chapters on parliament and government.

GAY, Oonagh & LEOPOLD, Patricia – CONDUCT UNBECOMING: THE REGULATION OF PARLIAMENTARY BEHAVIOUR

[Politicos; 2004; ISBN 1842750550 (hardback)]

An examination of sleaze and scandal in the Palace of Westminster. Asks the question: Are our elected representatives corrupt?

OBORNE, Peter – THE RISE OF POLITICAL LYING

[Free Press; 2005; ISBN 0743275608 (paperback)]

Tracing the history of political falsehood back to its earliest days but focusing specifically on the "exponential rise" of the phenomenon during recent years.

PARRIS, Matthew & MAGUIRE, Kevin – GREAT PARLIAMENTARY SCANDALS: FIVE CENTURIES OF CALUMNY, SMEAR AND INNUENDO

[Robson Books; revised edition; 2004; ISBN 1861057369 (paperback)]

Books for younger readers

ADAMS, Simon - WHAT HAPPENS AT AN ELECTION

[Watts; 2000; ISBN 0749639393 (hardback)]

Guide to what happens in British elections, for primary school pupils.

COLEMAN, Stephen - WHAT HAPPENS IN PARLIAMENT

[Watts; 2000; ISBN 0749637609 (hardback)]

Illustrated guide to Parliament, for primary school pupils.

DISCOVER PARLIAMENT

[Parliamentary Education Unit, 2004]

Booklet explaining the work of Parliament for 11-14 year old students

PALACE OF WESTMINSTER: A GUIDE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

[Parliamentary Education Unit, 2001] (See below for contact details)

Suitable for young visitors between the ages of 9-13 intending to come to the Palace of Westminster for a tour.

SMITH, Nigel - THE HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT: THEIR HISTORY AND PURPOSE

[Wayland; 1997; ISBN 0750219920 (hardback)]

Children's guide to the Parliamentary buildings.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

[Parliamentary Education Unit; 5th edition] (See below for contact details)

Well illustrated booklet on the powers and duties of the Speaker.

STATIONERY OFFICE - GUIDE TO PARLIAMENT AND WHAT YOUR MP DOES

By Nicola Baxter

(Stationery Office; 1998; ISBN 0117022063 (paperback))

Provides a general explanation about Parliament, government and MPs for 12-15 year olds.

WISE UP ABOUT PARLIAMENT

[Parliamentary Education Unit, 2004]

Colourful booklet offering a basic guide for 8-12 year old students

WORK OF AN MP

Text by Celia O'Connor

[Parliamentary Education Unit; 2002] (See below for contact details)

Short guide for children on the work of MPs.

Note:

Most of the books listed above should be available from or via your local public library.

However, the reference books and parliamentary papers will probably be available only at the larger public reference libraries. In general, the books listed are of recent date and still in print and they should, therefore, be obtainable through any bookseller.

Parliament Explained booklets

The following material is suitable for pupils of GCSE level and above.

PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

[Parliamentary Education Unit, Parliament Explained Booklet No 1]

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS

[Parliamentary Education Unit, Parliament Explained Booklet No 2]

PARLIAMENT AND GOVERNMENT

[Parliamentary Education Unit, Parliament Explained Booklet No 3]

MAKING A LAW

[Parliamentary Education Unit, Parliament Explained Booklet No 4]

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

[Parliamentary Education Unit, Parliament Explained Booklet No 5]

THE HOUSE OF LORDS

[Parliamentary Education Unit, Parliament Explained Booklet No 6]

Copies of these booklets may be obtained on application to:-

Parliamentary Education Unit
House of Commons
London SW1A 2TT
Tel: 020 7219 2105

Internet: <http://www.explore.parliament.uk>

Factsheets

The House of Commons Information Office publishes a series of brief informative descriptions on various aspects of the House of Commons and its work. All Factsheets are revised from time to time as circumstances alter or as new developments take place, and the publication of new Factsheets is noted in the *Weekly Information Bulletin*.

Procedure series

- P1 Parliamentary Questions
- P2 Departmental Select Committees
- P3 Early Day Motions
- P4 Sittings of the House
- P5 Budgets and Financial Documents
- P6 Financial Procedure
- P7 Public Petitions
- P8 Scottish and Welsh Business
- P9 Divisions
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Factsheet G2

A Selective Booklist on the House of Commons

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