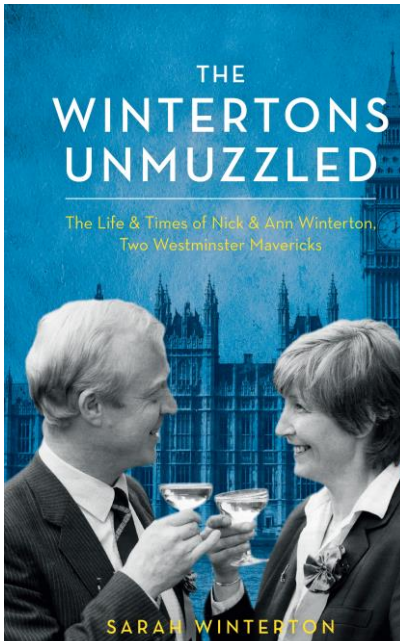


ADVANCE INFORMATION

THE WINTERTONS UNMUZZLED The Life and Times of Nick and Ann Winterton, Two Westminster Mavericks

Sarah Kostense-Winterton



With two MPs for parents, Sarah Winterton was one of the proudest women in the country. It felt as though her family was at the heart of events. Her parents, Nicholas and Ann Winterton, the Tory MPs for the neighbouring Cheshire seats of Macclesfield and Congleton, became the longest-serving husband-and-wife team in the history of the House of Commons. But the storm clouds were gathering. When her parents got caught up in the parliamentary expenses scandal, Sarah had to re-examine some long-held assumptions.

Was the life of a backbench MP worth the candle? Why slog away for hours on behalf of your constituents, if your only reward was to be vilified by Fleet Street? Weren't there better ways to earn a living?

In this wry, affectionate, truculent memoir, Sarah Winterton celebrates a brace of MPs renowned for their bloody-minded independence. She goes in to bat, not just for her parents, but for an entire political class. This warts-and-all portrait of an obstreperous English couple also asks challenging political questions. What sort of people do we want to represent us in the House of Commons? And if we hold our MPs in contempt, and are too lazy to elect better ones, what becomes of parliamentary democracy?

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REGIONS: World

- Affectionate, revealing and very funny, this unique book is a daughter's surprising biography of two of the most outstanding and outspoken politicians of their generation.
- Offers a rare view from the other side of the political divide and an unashamed defence of politicians, as well as an anecdote-filled account of a lost political world.
- Major press campaign, centred on the Wintertons. Serialisation highly likely.

Sarah Kostense-Winterton grew up in the corridors of the Palace of Westminster, in-between the constituency home in Congleton and boarding school in Malvern. In 2010, she set up her own agency, KW Communications, a boutique London and Brussels based public affairs and communications consultancy.

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