

Honorary Graduates of the Open University 2002

The Open University is proud to announce its honorary graduates for 2002. Nominated from the worlds of academia, publishing, science and industry, they will join the university's 10,000 graduates receiving undergraduate and postgraduate awards in 28 graduation ceremonies.

Ten thousand students earned an undergraduate or postgraduate award this year; most of them will attend one of the graduation ceremonies.

A full list of the Open University's honorary graduates for 2002 follows. Details about each of the honorary graduates are preceded by their award, ceremony location and ceremony date.

DUniv indicates that the recipient will receive a Doctorate of the University award; MUniv indicates that the recipient will receive a Master of the University award.

Professor Margaret Spufford OBE DUniv, Academic and scholarly distinction including academic achievement by those without the normal academic opportunities; Services to the educationally underprivileged
Harrogate

Saturday 13 April

Professor Margaret Spufford is a Fellow of the British Academy. She has recently retired from the Professorship of Social and Local History at the University of Surrey, Roehampton. She was the founder and first director of the Roehampton Centre for Hearth Tax Studies and remains actively involved with the centre; she has been accorded the title of Research Director.

She is internationally famous for a large number of influential books on 16th and 17th century English society. She was awarded an OBE in 1996 for services both to social history and to disabled students.

Mr James Berry OBE

DUniv, Services to the Arts and Sciences; Notable contribution to the educational or cultural well-being of society

Saturday 20 April

Brighton

James Berry was awarded a C Day Lewis Fellowship and worked as writer-in-residence at Vauxhall Manor Comprehensive School in London. He has published many stories and written a number of volumes of verse – including *Fractured Circles* and *Chain of Days* – and won the National Poetry Prize in 1981 for his poem *Fantasy of an African Boy*. Other awards include Grand Prix winner of the Smarties Prize (1987) and the Signal Poetry Award (1989). He was awarded the OBE in 1990, the Cholmondeley Award for Poets in 1991 and was made a Fellow of Birkbeck University of London in 2001.

Sir David Watson

DUniv, Public Services.
Work in areas of special educational concern to the University

Saturday 20 April

Brighton

Sir David Watson is an historian, and has been Vice-Chancellor of the University of Brighton since 1990. Professor Watson has contributed to

many of the major changes in UK higher education over the past quarter-century, including serving as a member of boards and committees of the Council for National Academic Awards, the Polytechnics and Colleges Funding Council, and the Higher Education Funding Council (England). He currently chairs the Steering Committee for the Economic and Social Research Council's programme on teaching and learning as well as the Longer-Term Strategy group of Universities UK. He was knighted in 1998 for services to higher education.

Mr Michael O'Regan OBE

DUniv, Work in areas of special educational concern to the University
Portsmouth

Saturday 20 April

Michael co-founded Research Machines – the leading supplier of IT to schools and colleges – in 1973. He worked full-time with the company until becoming a non-executive director in 1992. Within education he now focuses on significantly improving educational attainments of 11-year-old pupils in Blackbird Leys, Oxford, and other 'inner-city' areas. He is a trustee of PEEP, a charity he formed in 1994, which supports parents as their children's first educators.

Mr Michael Fischer

DUniv, Work in areas of special educational concern to the University
Portsmouth

Saturday 20 April

Mike Fischer graduated from Oxford University in 1971 with a degree in physics and was awarded a degree in physiological sciences from Oxford in 1977. He founded Research Machines (RM) in 1973 with fellow Oxbridge graduate Michael O'Regan and was the chairman and chief executive between 1973 and 1997.

Mike is currently RM's honorary president and a non-executive director. He was also project director of the Letchworth Community Education Trust between 1992 and 2000. He is currently chairman of the Fischer Family Trust founded in 1998; the trust has agreed a three-year sponsorship of an Education Action Zone in Islington.

Professor Kathy Sylva

DUniv, Academic and scholarly distinction including academic achievement by those without the normal academic opportunities
Portsmouth

Saturday 20 April

Kathy Sylva is Professor of Educational Psychology at the University of Oxford, Department of Educational Studies. Professor Sylva, in collaboration with other researchers, produced groundbreaking research evaluating pre-school and primary education. She was a specialist advisor to the House of Commons Select Committee on Education and Employment during its enquiry into Early Childhood Education (2001). She serves on Government advisory committees concerned with national assessment, evaluation of programmes such as Sure Start, and curriculum development for children aged up to seven.

Mr Bill Bryson

DUniv, Notable contribution to the educational or cultural well-being of society

Saturday 20 April

Bill Bryson came to England for the first time in 1973. Bill worked as a newspaper sub-editor in Bournemouth for two years before moving to London to work on *The Times* and *The Independent*. He began writing travel articles and moved to North Yorkshire with his family, where he lived for many years. Bill Bryson is best known for his entertainin travel books.

The Lost Continent (1989) was Bill Bryson's first travel book and was followed by *Neither Here Nor There* (1991), *Notes From a Small Island* (1995), *A Walk in the Woods* (1997), *Notes From A Big Country* (1998), *Down Under* (2000) and *The Complete Notes* (2000). He also wrote two acclaimed books on the English language *Mother Tongue* (1994) and *Made in America* (1998).

The Baroness Greengross OBE

DUniv, Public Services

Friday 26 April**Cheltenham**

Sally Greengross is Chair of the Experience Corps; of the International Longevity Centre UK and the recently established all party group on Corporate Social Responsibility as well as the Advisory Group for a major Longitudinal Study at UCL. She is Vice Chair of the Britain in Europe Campaign; Special Senior Consultant to the new Merck Institute of Ageing and Health; Board member of Help Age International; advisor to Resolve; and Patron/President of several charities and academic bodies here and overseas. She was Director General of Age Concern England, Joint Chair of the Institute of Gerontology at Kings College and Secretary General of EuroLink Age until 2000, when she was awarded a life peerage.

She was voted UK Woman of Europe and 'Woman who Makes a Difference' by the International Women's Forum.

Professor Michael Halliday

DUniv, Academic and scholarly distinction including academic achievement by those without the normal academic opportunities

Saturday 11 May**Cardiff**

Michael Halliday was trained in Chinese for military intelligence and he studied in China at Peking and Lingnan universities, returning to take his PhD at Cambridge in 1954. After teaching at Cambridge he was appointed to the first Chair of General Linguistics at University College London, where during the 1960s he directed the Nuffield/Schools Council Programme in Linguistics and English Teaching, which produced Breakthrough to Literacy and Language in Use, and also the OSTI Programme in the Linguistic Properties of Scientific English. He held senior positions in universities in America and Australia and now holds visiting appointments in Singapore, the UK, Japan and Hong Kong.

Mr Jimmy Forsyth

MUniv Notable contribution to the educational or cultural well-being of society

Saturday 11 May**Newcastle-upon-Tyne**

As a young man, Jimmy Forsyth went to sea and then worked in various factory jobs as a fitter until he came to Newcastle in 1943. He suffered an accident causing him to lose the sight in one eye. Apart from a short period running a general dealer's in Scotswood he did not work again.

In the mid 50s, the area around his home was being redeveloped and Jimmy decided to buy a second-hand camera 'to pass the time' and record the changes for posterity. These photographs of a changing environment made his name in the 1980s when they were exhibited at the Side Gallery in Newcastle and published as *Jimmy Forsyth's Scotswood Road*. He continues to take photographs on a regular basis.

Dr Marjorie (Mo) Mowlam

DUniv Public Services

Saturday 18 May**Belfast**

Dr Marjorie Mo Mowlam gained a degree from Durham University in social anthropology, followed by a PhD for research on the democratic value of referenda from the University of Iowa/Universite de Geneve.

While studying for her PhD, she worked as a research assistant to Tony Benn MP. After working in the higher education sector for twelve years, Dr Mowlam became a Member of Parliament in 1987. She was appointed Secretary of State for Northern Ireland at a crucially important time in Ireland's history and subsequently Minister for the Cabinet Office and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster. At present, Dr Mowlam is writing a book on her time in government, she is a member of the International Conflict Group and fundraises for three charities.

Professor Ruth Finnegan OBE

Emeritus Professorship

Saturday 18 May**Belfast**

Ruth Finnegan studied classics at Oxford, followed by postgraduate work in social anthropology and a DPhil on story-telling based on fieldwork in Sierra Leone. After teaching at universities in Africa, she and her husband David Murray joined the academic staff of the Open University in 1969 where, apart from some periods abroad, she served until her retirement in 1999 and continues as Visiting Research Professor. She has published extensively on the anthropology of communication and expression, including oral performance, literacy, and music-making in Africa, Fiji and Britain. She is a Fellow of the British Academy (currently on its Council); Honorary Fellow of Somerville College Oxford, and in 2000 received an OBE for services to social sciences.

Sir Christopher Ball

DUniv, Public Services

Work in areas of special educational concern to the University

Saturday 18 May**Derby**

Sir Christopher was educated at Oxford and after National Service with the Parachute Regiment he became a lecturer in comparative linguistics at London University, then Fellow in English at Lincoln College, Oxford. He served with the Council for National Academic Awards; he was formerly Warden of Keble College, Oxford, and Chairman of the Board of the National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education. In 1994, he became the founding Chairman of the National Advisory Council for Careers and Educational Guidance. He was appointed Chancellor of the University of Derby in 1995, and was the founder, and is now one of the patrons, of the National Campaign for Learning. He was education adviser to The Esmée Fairbairn Charitable Trust from 1991 to 2000, and is chairman of The Achievement Trust.

Professor Aubrey Manning OBE

Duniv, Academic and scholarly distinction including academic achievement by those without the normal academic opportunities

Saturday 25 May**Glasgow**

Aubrey Manning is a distinguished scientist who has contributed greatly to the development of zoology and animal behaviour study. Dr Manning has been involved with 'environmental issues' since 1966, particularly those relating to the effects of human population growth and its control. He has been associated with the Centre for Human Ecology since its inception at the University of Edinburgh in about 1970, and is now an adviser in its life as an independent organisation running a MSc course, accredited by The Open University. He has contributed to The Open University, not only lecturing at various summer schools, but as an external examiner on two science courses, and subsequently involved in the assessing and examining of its successor. Currently, he is an external examiner for a new biology course.

Professor David Potter

Emeritus Professorship

Saturday 25 May**Glasgow**

Professor David Potter was educated at the University of California and the London School of Economics and Political Science. He taught at universities in the USA and Canada before coming to The Open University in 1970. He was made Professor of Political Science in 1989. Professor Potter served on 14 Open University course teams. The one that gave him most satisfaction was the well-known Social Sciences foundation course. Professor Potter wrote, edited or co-edited 15 books and wrote numerous research articles and papers in professional journals and symposia.

Andrew Motion

DUniv, Services to the Arts and Sciences. Notable contribution to the educational or cultural well-being of society

Saturday 1 June

Andrew Motion read English at University College Oxford and subsequently spent two years writing about the poetry of Edward Thomas for an MLitt. From 1976 to 1980 he taught English at the University of Hull; from 1980 to 1982 he edited the *Poetry Review* and from 1982 to 1989 he was editorial director and poetry editor at Chatto & Windus. He is now Professor of Creative Writing at the University of East Anglia. He is a member of the Arts Council of England and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. His work has received the Arvon/Observer Prize, the John Llewelyn Rhys Prize and the Dylan Thomas Prize. In 1994 his biography of Philip Larkin was awarded the Whitbread Prize for Biography, and shortlisted for the NCR Award. *The Lamberts* won the Somerset Maugham Award. Andrew Motion was appointed Poet Laureate in May 1999.

Mrs Eleanor Milburn

MUniv Services to the University

Saturday 1 June

Eleanor Milburn came to The Open University in 1971 after working at the University of Sussex. She spent her last four years there as personal assistant to the Vice-Chancellor, Asa Briggs. Her first degree was in French, German and English from the University of Reading, and was followed by an MA on the Gothic Revival. As a postgraduate she was included in the first ever University Challenge transmission as part of a Reading v Leeds contest.

Professor Amartya Sen

DUniv Work in areas of special educational concern to the University

Saturday 1 June

Amartya Sen is Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, and was formerly Lamont University Professor and Professor of Economics and Philosophy at Harvard, and prior to that Drummond Professor of Political Economy at Oxford. Born in Santiniketan, India, in 1933, Amartya Sen studied at Presidency College in Calcutta, India, and at Trinity College, Cambridge. His research has included work on social choice theory and welfare economics (for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in Economics in 1998) as well as development economics, famine studies, moral and political philosophy, epistemology, theory of measurement, and decision theory. He is former president of the Econometric Society, the American Economic Association, the Indian Economic Association, and the International Economic Association. He is also honorary president of Oxfam.

Professor Paul Black OBE

DUniv, Academic and scholarly distinction including academic achievement by those without the normal academic opportunities

Friday 7 June

Paul Black is Emeritus Professor at King's College, London. After 20 years spent as a university physicist, he moved to a Chair in Science Education in London, directing the departments at Chelsea and then at King's from 1976 to 1989. Working with the Nuffield Foundation, Paul helped both to direct curriculum projects on A-level physics and on primary science. He was chair of the Government's Task Group on Assessment and Testing, which set out the basis for national testing. His recent research has focused on teachers' classroom assessments. Paul was awarded the Bragg Medal of the Institute of Physics in 1974 and the Medal of the International Commission on Physics Education in 2000. He has served on four advisory groups of the USA National Science Foundation and is currently a visiting professor at Stanford University.

Sir Steve Redgrave CBE

DUniv, Notable contribution to the educational or cultural well-being of society

Friday 7 June

Sir Steve Redgrave's win in the Olympic Games in Sydney guaranteed

him a special place in history.

In addition to his Olympic successes, and following four unbeaten seasons from 1993 to 1996, Sir Steve (with partner Matthew Pinsent) won his ninth World Championship gold medal in August 1999 in Canada. He has also won many other honours in the sport over the previous 11 years, including the Henley Royal Regatta Diamond Sculls several times, the Silver Goblets a record seven times while in 1986 he became a Triple Commonwealth Gold Medallist at Edinburgh. Sir Steve has also set-up his own Charitable Trust – The Sir Steve Redgrave Charitable Trust – and hopes to raise £5 million over the next five years for children's charities.

Ms Yvonne Brewster OBE

DUniv, Services to the Arts and Sciences

Friday 7 June

Yvonne Brewster came to the United Kingdom to study drama at Rose Bruford College and the Royal Academy of Music. She then founded The Barn – Jamaica's first professional theatre company. Since being based in Britain, Yvonne has undertaken a variety of work in all media, but it is the founding and direction of Talawa, Britain's foremost black theatre company that she made her name.

Yvonne has served on British Council and Arts Council advisory committees, the Gulbenkian Enquiry into Director Training in Britain, The London Arts Board, The Theatres Trust and on two National Health Service mental health trusts. She is patron of Rose Bruford College, a licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts. She received the Living Legend Award from the National Black Theatre Festival in the United States of America. In the 1993 New Year's Honours list, Yvonne received the OBE for Services to the Arts.

Ms Timberlake Wertenbaker

DUniv Services to the Arts and Sciences

Friday 7 June

Timberlake was resident writer with Shared Experience in 1983 and at The Royal Court in 1984 to 1985. Her plays include *New Anatomies* (ICA); *The Grace of Mary Traverse* (Royal Court) and *Our Country's Good* (Royal Court and Broadway), winner of the Laurence Olivier Play of the Year Award in 1988 and the New York Drama Critic's Circle award for Best New Foreign Play in 1991. Her *The Love of the Nightingale* (Royal Shakespeare Company) won the Eileen Anderson Central TV Drama Award and her *Three Birds Alighting on a Field* (Royal Court) won the Susan Smith Blackburn Award, Writers' Guild Award and London Critic's Circle Award in 1992. Her work also includes *The Break of Day* (Royal Court and Tour); *After Darwin* (Hampstead Theatre Club); *Dianeira* (BBC Radio 3); *The Ash Girl* (Birmingham Rep 2000) and *Credible Witness* (Royal Court 2001). Films include *The Children*, based on Edith Wharton's novel *The Children* (Isolde Films) and a BBC Two film entitled *Do not Disturb*. She is a fellow of the Royal Society for Literature and sits on the executive committee of PEN.

Ms Pauline Green

Duniv, Public Services
Work in areas of special educational concern to the University

Friday 7 June

Pauline took her first degree with The Open University, and went on to gain a MSc with the London School of Economics. She is the chief executive and general secretary of the Co-operative Union, the first woman to hold the post in its 160-year history. She is a member of the Co-operative Commission, sponsored by Prime Minister Tony Blair. Pauline is playing a leading role in developing and spearheading innovation in co-operative enterprises, particularly in the debate about the role of the private sector in public services. Pauline had been a Co-operative-sponsored Member of the European Parliament for 11 years. She was elected for a five-year period as the first Briton – and first woman – ever to lead the Parliament's largest political group, the Social Democrats.

Mr Shami Ahmed

MUniv, Notable contribution to the educational or cultural well-being of society

Friday 7 June

When Shami Ahmed left school at 15 he had a reputation as a very sharp

dresser. He joined his father in setting up the wholesale clothing business, Pennywise. In the nine years that Shami worked with his parents, he had plenty of opportunities to get to know the market and identify a number of profitable unexplored niches in the rag trade. At the young age of 24 he launched Joe Bloggs, now a front runner among the ten most successful jeans manufacturers in the UK. Today, the Bloggs empire continues to grow internationally with a 2000-strong team across England and throughout the world.

Ms Rita Donaghy
Saturday 8 June

Rita Donaghy OBE became the first woman to be chair of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration service ACAS in October 2000. Before that she was President of the TUC (Trades Union Congress) from 1999-2000, only the seventh woman in its 132-year history to hold the post. She is a former member of the Low Pay Commission and the Equal Opportunities Commission Taskforce on Equal Pay and a member of the Committee on Standards in Public Life (the Wicks Committee). An elected member of NALGO's and then UNISON's National Executive Council for 27 years, she was president of NALGO in 1989-90, a member of the TUC General Council, a member of the European TUC Executive, and a regular columnist for the *Times Higher Education Supplement*. Her professional career saw her as a university administrator for 33 years at the Institute of Education, University of London.

DUniv, Public Services
London

Mr Dudley Fishburn

Saturday 8 June

Dudley Fishburn is the first non-American to have served on the board of Harvard University. He was for nine years executive editor of the *The Economist*, and for nine years he was Member of Parliament for Kensington, becoming 'Radical of the Year' for his work on reforming England's leasehold and property laws. He is treasurer of the country's biggest charity, The National Trust.

Over the past ten years, Dudley has been chairman of the Trustees of The Open University's Foundation. He is now associate editor of *The Economist*, a governor of the Peabody Housing Association, and chairman of the Harvard University Library Visiting Committee.

DUniv Services to the University
Public Services
London

Professor Sheung Wai Tam OBE

Saturday 8 June

Professor Tam became President of the Open University of Hong Kong in 1995 after more than 30 years of teaching, research and administration in traditional universities. Professor Tam was awarded the King Edward VII Scholarship in 1955 to study science at the University of Hong Kong where he gained a BSc (Hons) and an MSc. He won a Commonwealth Scholarship to study organic chemistry at the University of Nottingham and completed his PhD in 1964. After one-year post-doctoral fellowships at Universität Basel and MIT, he was appointed lecturer at the Chinese University of Hong Kong where he moved up the academic ladder to chair professor in 1981. At the same time he held various senior administrative positions from college president to master of postgraduate hall, and from dean of graduate school to Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

In recognition of his contributions to higher education he was conferred an OBE in 1992.

DUniv, Work in areas of special
educational concern to the
University
London

Ms Naomi Eisenstadt
Saturday 15 June

Naomi Eisenstadt graduated from the University of California and did a postgraduate diploma in early childhood education. From direct work with families and children, she went on to work at The Open University on the Education for Family Life Project, designing curriculum materials for secondary schools on parenthood education. She has been an active campaigner on children's rights issues, particularly in her work as an assistant director at Save the Children and as chief executive of Family Service Units. Naomi is currently director of Sure Start, a Government programme designed to close the gap in outcomes between children growing up in poverty and the wider child population. Naomi is also a

DUniv, Public Services
Birmingham

non-executive director of Milton Keynes Primary Care Trust, a member of the Department of Health's Child Health Task Force, and is on The Open University Childhood Studies, Early and Primary Years Degree Board.

The Rt Rev Canon McHugh

Saturday 15 June

James McHugh grew up in Coventry, studied at the Gregorian University in Rome and, having been ordained a Catholic Priest, was based in Birmingham. He is noted for his work in the field of education, founding an international college of further and higher education that specialises in distance learning; he is also noted for his work with the community, and his current work in partnership with the Government and the wider community for development of deprived areas of city and countryside.

DUniv, Work in areas of special
educational concern to the
University
Notable contribution to the edu-
cational or cultural well-being of
society
Birmingham

Rt Hon the Baroness Castle of Blackburn

Wednesday 26 June

Barbara Castle has enjoyed more than half a century of public life as local councillor, Member of Parliament and Cabinet Minister. Elected to the House of Commons in 1945 she was Member for Blackburn until 1979, when she was elected to the European Parliament, of which she remained a member until 1989 and in which she was leader of the British Labour Group for six years. In 1964 Harold Wilson made her the first Minister of Overseas Development with a seat in the Cabinet; he moved her to Transport in 1965 and promoted her to First Secretary and Secretary of State for Employment and Productivity in 1968. On his return to office in 1974 she became Secretary of State for the Social Services. A member of the National Executive of the Labour Party from 1950 to 1985, she became chairman of the Party in 1959. She has published two volumes of Cabinet Diaries.

DUniv, Public Services
Work in areas of special educa-
tional concern to the University
Milton Keynes

Mr Jim Burrows

Wednesday 26 June

Jim Burrows joined The Open University in 1970 as a systems analyst and has been a senior manager for more than 20 years. His career has been dedicated to the delivery of nationally accessible large-scale interactive computer-based systems for the support of learning and teaching. Over a 30-year period this has involved establishing in the early 1970s a national time-sharing network with terminals based in local authority colleges across the UK linked to Open University computers; providing the computer infrastructure for The Open University residential schools; and assisting with the development of a policy for student home computing in the 1980s. He has served on university management committees and participated in senior management training programmes.

MUni, Services to the Uni-
versity
Milton Keynes

Mr John Prodger

Wednesday 26 June

John Prodger was educated at Merchant Taylors' School and Worcester College, Oxford, where he read law. His career was almost entirely in the manufacturing industry – spent 30 years in personnel. He was the director of personnel for a large plc for 15 years and on the CBI Grand Council. He was appointed a trustee of The Open University Foundation in 1989; shortly after he joined the University Council and the staff policy committee. He also served on the finance, remuneration and senior staff salary committees and is still a trustee of The Open University pension fund. His other main contributions are to the Church of England, sport and the magistracy. He was chairman of the Oxford Diocesan Board of Finance, on the Archbishop of Canterbury's Turnbull Commission and is a director of the Church Army.

DUniv, Services to the Uni-
versity
Milton Keynes

Ms Pauline Hardiker

DUniv, Academic and scholarly distinction including academic achievement by those without the normal academic opportunities

Pauline Hardiker worked as a medical secretary in Manchester and community worker in London before reading sociology at the University of Leicester, attaining a BA in 1966 and MA in 1968.

From 1967 to 1969, Ms Hardiker taught sociology and psychology at Stevenage College of Further Education; she was appointed to a lectureship at the University of Leicester School of Social Work in 1969, and promoted to senior lecturer in 1986; she retired in 2000.

Her research has ranged from probation and childcare to illness, disability and community care. She has co-authored books on social work theory, research methodology and child welfare. She worked for the British Journal of Social Work in various capacities since its inception, and latterly was an executive editor of Disability and Society. Ms Hardiker currently works with medical students at the Richard Attenborough Centre for Disability and the Arts.

Mr Peter Kindersley

DUniv, Notable contribution to the educational or cultural well-being of society

Saturday 14 September

Paris

Peter Kindersley's background is in design. He attended Hastings Art School and Camberwell School of Art and Design. From 1967 to 1969 he was head of design at Thomas Nelson & Co. From 1969 to 1974 he was the original design director at Mitchell Beazley, where he pioneered a new dimension in the design of home reference books. He founded Dorling Kindersley in 1974 and he launched his highly successful multimedia titles in 1994. He has won various prestigious awards for publishing and multimedia. After selling Dorling Kindersley in 2000, Peter retired from publishing to pursue his interests in the environment, sustainability and education.

Sir John Daniel

Fellow of the University

Saturday 14 September

Paris

Sir John Daniel was knighted by The Queen for services to higher education. This honour recognised the leading role that he has played internationally, over three decades, in the development of distance learning in universities. His experience as an executive head of universities in Canada (President of Laurentian University 1984-1990); the United Kingdom (Vice-Chancellor of The Open University 1990-2001) and the United States (President of the US Open University 1998-2001) has given him unique experience of university leadership. His book Mega-Universities and Knowledge Media has established his reputation as a leading strategist and thinker about the role of technology in higher education. In July 2001 Sir John took up the post of Assistant Director-General for Education at UNESCO in Paris. Sir John is a citizen of Canada and the UK and holds honorary degrees and academic awards from universities in ten countries.

Dr Chai Patel CBE

DUniv, Services to the University
Public Services

Saturday 28 September

London

Dr Chai Patel founded Court Cavendish in 1988. In 1996 Court Cavendish merged with Takare to create Care First, the UK's largest continuing care company with more than 12,000 nursing and residential beds, several day centres and a range of outreach services. In 1999 Chai acquired Westminster Health Care plc, the largest publicly quoted health-care services group in the UK, and became the chief executive. In April 2000, the Health Secretary appointed Chai to one of the Modernisation Action Teams that is drawing up a national plan for the new NHS. Subsequently, he was appointed to the DoH task force set up to drive forward the implementation of the NHS Plan. He is a trustee of Help the Aged, the Institute for Public Policy Research and the Windsor Leadership Trust; a governor of the National Institute of Social Work and a founder member of the New Health Network.