

---

## HONORARY GRADUATES

---

Every year the University of York confers honorary degrees on distinguished people.

The recipients come from many walks of life and all have made a significant contribution to society. Honorary graduates are selected from nominations by members of the University and very often have links with departments or are alumni.

At these ceremonies, the honorary degree of Doctor of the University will be conferred on:



### **Jatinder Verma**

Jatinder Verma is the artistic director of the pioneering Tara Arts theatre company which he founded 30 years ago.

Born in Dar-es-Salaam, Mr Verma grew up in Nairobi before moving to Britain in 1968. He graduated in history from the University of York in 1976. The following year he founded Tara Arts, the first theatre company to emerge from the then recently migrated South Asian community.

The company's formidable reputation has been earned both by its achievement in bringing the influence of Britain's migrant communities into mainstream theatre and its cross-cultural interpretation of western theatrical works. It was with one such production, his 1990 version of *Tartuffe*, that Mr Verma became the first Asian director to stage a work at the National Theatre.

This dialogue between past and present, between ethnicity and nationhood, between a sense of belonging and of alienation, has been central to Tara's work over the past 30 years

Outside the theatre, Mr Verma has written and presented programmes for radio and television, and, in 1997, became a member of Channel 4's Poverty Commission and contributed to the work of several universities.



### **Professor Vicki Bruce OBE**

Vicki Bruce is an expert on human face perception and person memory, including face recognition and recall by eye-witnesses, as well as other aspects of social cognition. She has conducted research for the Royal Mint to ensure that new UK coins can be distinguished from each other by sight and by touch.

Professor Bruce is an Honorary Fellow of the British Psychological Society, a Fellow of the British Academy, and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. She is President Elect of the Experimental Psychology Society and former President of the British Psychological Society and the European Society for Cognitive Psychology.

Professor Bruce served on the Council of the ESRC and committees of the MRC. She was chair of the Psychology RAE panel in 1996 and 2001. She was awarded the OBE for services to Psychology in 1997.

She was Professor of Psychology at the Universities of Nottingham and then Stirling, before becoming Vice Principal and Head of the College of Humanities and Social Science at the University of Edinburgh. She moved to Newcastle University in 2008.

### **Baroness O'Neill of Bengarve CBE FBA Hon FRS F Med Sci**

Onora O'Neill writes on ethics and political philosophy, with particular interests in questions of international justice, in the philosophy of Immanuel Kant and in bioethics. She currently works on practical judgement and normativity, on questions of trust and accountability in public life; and on the ethics of communication, including media ethics, while continuing to work on Kant's philosophy.



She was Principal of Newnham from 1992 to 2006, and teaches in the Faculty of Philosophy in Cambridge. She was President of the British Academy from 2005 to 2009, chairs the Nuffield Foundation and is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy in Cambridge.

A prolific writer, she has been a member of and chaired the Nuffield Council on Bioethics and the Human Genetics Advisory Commission. She has worked on a number of reports on bio-medical issues, including recently the King's Fund Inquiry into the Safety of Maternity Services. She was created a Life Peer in 1999, sits as a crossbencher, served on the House of Lords Select Committees on stem cell research, BBC Charter review, genomic medicine and currently nanoscience and food.