

Sophia Lecture

The Sophia Lecture was established in 1977 by members of the Bosanquet family and friends in memory of Ellen Sophia Bosanquet, daughter of Dr Thomas Hodgkin, DCL, Honorary Treasurer of Armstrong College, and mother of the first Vice-Chancellor of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne. The purpose of the gift is to enable the University, in every alternate year, to invite a person of high distinction, preferably a woman, to give a public lecture on any appropriate subject.

First Sophia Lecture, 19 January 1978
Dame Veronica Wedgwood, DBE, CM
The English Civil War in Perspective

Second Sophia Lecture, 10 March 1980
Dame Josephine Barnes, DBE FR CP FR CS FROOG
Twentieth Century Gynaecologist

Third Sophia Lecture, 22 October 1981
Professor Dorothy M Hodgkin, OM FRS Nobel Laureate
On Making Peace Possible

Fourth Sophia Lecture, 10 November 1983
Jean Floud, CBE BSc (Econ) MA HonLittD HonDLitt

Dangerousness and the Law: Risk, Uncertainty and the Protection of the Public

Fifth Sophia Lecture, 17 November 1985
Baroness Platt of Writtle
Making Equal Opportunities a Reality

Sixth Sophia Lecture, 20 March 1990 Mrs Mary Midgley Why the Environment Matters

Seventh Sophia Lecture, 20 October 1993 Dr Sheila Cassidy **Living with Fear**

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Eighth Sophia Lecture, 19 October 1995

Bridget Kendall MBE

Russia and America: a Correspondent's View

Ninth Sophia Lecture, 27 November 1997

Ann Paludan

Reading Chinese Sculpture: A New Look at a Great Sculptural Tradition

Tenth Sophia Lecture, 14 October 1999

Professor Dame Jessica Rawson

Ancestral Spirits and Extraordinary Deities: Religious Change in Ancient China

Eleventh Sophia Lecture, 2 May 2002 Libby Purves

A free woman?

Twelfth Sophia Lecture, 2 March 2004 Rabbi Julia Neuberger DBE

The Moral State We're In

Thirteenth Sophia Lecture, 21 November 2006 Jane Glover

Mozart's Women

Fourteenth Sophia Lecture, 30 October 2008 Professor Jocelyn Bell Burnell

A Female Astronomer Reflects

Fifteenth Sophia Lecture, 17 May 2011 Shami Chakrabarti, Director of Liberty

Common values, common politics: human rights in a new era of British Government

Sixteenth Sophia Lecture, 24 October 2013
Camila Batmanghelidjh, Founder and Chief Executive of Kids Company
Scaffolding and care

Seventeenth Sophia Lecture, 9 December 2014
Uta Frith, Emeritus Professor of Cognitive Development, University College London
A little bit autistic?

Eighteenth Sophia Lecture, 8 May 2018
Nicola LeFanu, Composer
A composer's half-century

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