

My Lord and Chancellor

Kate Adie is a well-known author, news reporter and broadcaster, and is currently the presenter of Radio 4's programme "From Our Correspondent". Kate is perhaps most recognised for her fearless journalism, reporting from the frontline of many major conflicts and political incidents throughout the 80s and 90s. She is an accomplished author with five books published, and a skilled presenter both on radio and television.

Kate read Scandinavian Studies at the University of Newcastle, encouraged by her school headmistress at a time when women did not routinely attend university. She loved her course, and the different experiences it afforded her. Her now legendary courage was demonstrated in her second year when she visited Berlin as part of her course, and witnessed the shooting of an East German as he tried to cross the border. She also had a tough placement year, enduring minus 48 degree temperatures in the remote Swedish town where she was based.

Kate says that both experiences made her re-evaluate her life and opinions. Something that she believes all journalists need to do on a regular basis.

Kate is incredibly busy. Her curiosity, energy and determination are highlighted not only through her significant work commitments, but also through her voluntary work. She is a Deputy Lieutenant in Dorset, and Patron or Trustee of many charities. She gives innumerable talks to schools, and is particularly keen to inspire young girls. She says she is immensely excited that more career opportunities are open to women than ever before, but there is still a lot more to do.

Kate has already won many awards including the BAFTA Richard Dimbleby Award and an OBE. Her curiosity and interest in people and life, and her fire concerning injustices and inequality, remains undiminished. She notes that life is not a rehearsal and her motto is 'Carpe diem – seize the day'.

My Lord and Chancellor, I have the honour to present Kate Adie, and I ask you to confer upon her the degree of Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*.