



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

## *News Release*

Issued: 24 November 2014

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### **PHOTOCALL**

**4.15PM, TUESDAY 25 NOVEMBER, 2014**

**MAIN DOOR, McEWAN HALL  
UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH  
BRISTO SQUARE EH8 9AG**

### **Former spy chief to receive Edinburgh honorary degree**

Former MI5 Director General Dame Stella Rimington is to receive an honorary degree from the University of Edinburgh.

Dame Stella, who was the first publically known head of the security service, will receive her degree at a ceremony in the McEwan Hall tomorrow (Tuesday).

She was the first female Director-General of MI5 and held this post from 1992 to 1996 before launching a career as a successful author.

Dame Stella returns to Edinburgh having graduated with an MA in English in 1958. She was awarded Alumnus of the Year in 1994.

She receives her award in recognition of her outstanding public service and leadership.

Other honorary graduates receiving their degrees this week include golfer Colin Montgomerie, Paralympic gold medallist Dame Sarah Storey and Luke Dowdney MBE, Director of the Fight for Peace charity, which helps vulnerable children.

Since 1695 the University of Edinburgh has awarded honorary degrees to more than 2,700 individuals including Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, Alexander Graham Bell, Marie Curie and David Attenborough.

*Photographers and TV crews are invited to meet at the McEwan Hall's main door at 4.15pm, where Dame Stella Rimington will be available for pictures and interview.*

For more details, please contact:

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