

**News release**

18th July 2016

**Oscar Winner Jim Broadbent to be Honoured by BGU**

**The Oscar-winning Lincolnshire-born actor and film star Jim Broadbent will receive an honorary doctorate from** [**Bishop Grosseteste University**](http://www.bishopg.ac.uk) **at a ceremony at Lincoln Cathedral this week.**

Mr Broadbent will join 1,127 students who will be graduating from BGU on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st July.

He will give an address to students and receive his honorary degree at a ceremony at Lincoln Cathedral at 2.30pm on Wednesday 20th July.

One of England's most versatile character actors, Jim Broadbent was born in Holton-cum-Beckering near Market Rasen and still has close connections with the county.

He is Honorary President of the Lindsey Rural Players, whose home is the Broadbent Theatre in Wickenby; his father Roy was involved in the conversion of the Methodist chapel to a theatre in 1971.

He is well known for his many TV and film appearances including *Only Fools and Horses*, *Bridget Jones’ Diary*, *Gangs of New York*, *Hot Fuzz, Cloud Atlas and the Harry Potter series.*

In 2002 he won the Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his portrayal of John Bayley in *Iris* and a Best Supporting Actor BAFTA for his performance as Harold Zidler in *Moulin Rouge*.

“We are pleased and indeed privileged to be welcoming Jim Broadbent to the university and the cathedral this week,” said the Reverend Canon Professor Peter Neil, Vice Chancellor of Bishop Grosseteste University.

“Jim is a man who remains proud of his Lincolnshire roots and it will give us all great pleasure to recognise and applaud his success.

“His presence at our awards ceremony will also, I hope, inspire the many students on our BA (Hons) Drama in the Community and Applied Drama courses who will be graduating this week. They will no doubt be hoping that some of his success will perhaps rub off on them!”

Four awards ceremonies take place at Lincoln Cathedral on Wednesday 20th July and Thursday 21st July at 10.15am and 2.30pm each day.

**If you would like to interview or photograph Jim Broadbent please contact Jez at Shooting Star on 01522 528540 or email** **jez@weareshootingstar.co.uk****.**

**Four graduation success stories have been issued at the same time as this news release. To view them please visit our** [**newsroom**](http://weareshootingstar.co.uk/newsroom)**.**

**Notes to Editors**

* Bishop Grosseteste University was established in January 1862 and celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2012.
* It is an independent higher education institution based in Lincoln which awards its own degrees at foundation, undergraduate and postgraduate level.
* It changed its name from Bishop Grosseteste University College to Bishop Grosseteste University in November 2012.
* BGU has over 2,300 students, including undergraduate, postgraduate and research, with over 280 students at collaborative partners across Lincolnshire.
* In 2015 BGU was the second highest ranked university in the UK for employability with almost 99% of leavers in work or study six months after graduating (2013/14 DLHE).
* This summer’s graduation BGU ceremonies will take place at Lincoln Cathedral on Wednesday 20th and Thursday 21st July 2016.
* To learn more about Bishop Grosseteste University visit [www.bishopg.ac.uk](http://www.bishopg.ac.uk)
* To find out more about Jim Broadbent visit: <http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000980/>

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