

The Honorary Graduand: Trevor Smallwood OBE DL

The Orator: Peter Rilett

Trevor Smallwood OBE DL is to be awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Business Administration.

Trevor was born into a bus family in Rotherham South Yorkshire in 1947. He attended Mexborough Grammar School and then went on to become a Management Trainee at Yorkshire Traction Bus Company in 1966.

He worked his way through various promotions working in West Yorkshire, Bristol, Barnsley and Stoke on Trent. He returned to Bristol in 1983 when he became MD of Bristol Country Bus, operating buses in Bristol, Bath and Weston Super Mare. On privatization of National Bus Company he and 70 others bought the company and changed it into Badgerline. Badgerline grew by acquisition and subsequently floated on the Stock Exchange in 1993. In 1995 it merged with GRT in Aberdeen and became First Group. He stayed with the company as Executive Chairman until his retirement in 1999.

Since then he has been Chairman of Colston's Girls' School taking it from an independent school to an Academy in 2008, and continues to be involved in the growth of CGS Trust in Bristol's Education Sector.

He has been involved in several business ventures and is currently Chairman of UKRD Radio Stations and Stage Electrics in Avonmouth.

He has been and continues to be heavily involved in local charities and is currently President of Quartet Community Foundation after being its Chairman from 2000 to 2006. He is also a past master of the Society of Merchant Venturers and is President of St Monica Trust.

He was awarded an OBE for his services to public transport in 1994 and became a Deputy Lieutenant of Somerset in 2002.

An avid Rotherham United fan he still plays football and table tennis. The Honorary Degree is awarded in recognition of Trevor Smallwood's entrepreneurial and charity work.