

VLV's 38th Annual Autumn Conference
Wednesday 24th November 2021
Online 10.30 am – 12.45 pm

Biographies of Speakers

Richard Sharp, Chairman, BBC

Richard has had a forty-year career in finance working with a number of financial institutions. Most notably he worked at JP Morgan and was for 23 years a partner at Goldman Sachs. Subsequently Richard served for two terms on the Bank of England's Financial Policy Committee, charged with protecting the UK's financial stability. Richard has served on the boards of public and private companies in the UK, Germany, Denmark and the United States.

Throughout his career Richard has supported and held governance roles in a number of non-profit organisations including, amongst others, the Royal Academy of Arts, The Royal Marsden, The Institute of Cancer Research, International Rescue, and Uprising.

Janine Gibson, The Financial Times

Janine has served as assistant editor of the Financial Times since May 2019. Previously she was editor-in-chief of the BuzzFeed UK website where she transformed a small team into a respected news operation, winning the Society of Editors news website of the year award as well as multiple prizes for specialist news reporting.

From 1997-2014 she worked at *The Guardian* where she led the transition from print to digital and pioneered other cutting-edge forms of journalism, rising to become deputy editor under Alan Rusbridger and head of the Guardian's online operations. She was also a former editor-in-chief in New York City of Guardian US, the offshoot of The Guardian, where she led the Snowden/National Security Agency investigation team that won a Pulitzer Prize and an Emmy.

Maggie Carver CBE, Interim Chair, Ofcom

Maggie has been chairing the Ofcom Board since January 1st 2021, while the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport finalises the appointment of a permanent Chair.

Previously Maggie was Deputy Chair of Ofcom, a post she held since she joined the Ofcom Board in September 2018. Maggie has extensive experience as a non-executive director on the boards of 18 companies – public, private and not-for-profit. These include charring news and programme provider ITN, multiplex operator SDN, and the British Board of Film Classification. Maggie has also been a director on the boards of Channel 5 Television, RDF Media plc, Satellite Information Services, armed forces broadcaster BFBS, and British Waterways. Her executive career was in investment banking, television production, broadcasting and retail.

Stewart Purvis CBE, former Editor in Chief and Chief Executive of ITN

Stewart is a former Editor-in-Chief and Chief Executive of ITN, the TV news provider he joined in 1972 after being appointed one of the BBC's first three news trainees in 1969. At ITN Stewart won Royal Television Society awards for news and documentaries, two BAFTA awards as Editor of Channel Four News, and a TV Times award.

After retiring from ITN in 2003 Stewart became a Visiting Professor of Broadcast Media at Oxford University and the first Professor of Television Journalism at City University London.

From 2007 to 2010 he was Ofcom's Partner for Content and Standards. He has also been a Specialist Advisor to the House of Lords Select Committee on Communications, and Chairman of the Royal Television Society's TV Journalism Awards. Between 2013 and March 2021 he was a non-executive director of Channel 4.

In 2000 Stewart was made a CBE for services to broadcast journalism, and in 2009 received the Royal Television Society's Gold Medal for an outstanding contribution to television. Stewart is the co-author of *When Reporters Cross the Line* and *Guy Burgess, the Spy Who Knew Everyone*. His non-media interests include being a non-executive director at Brentford FC as well as being Chairman of Bees United, the Brentford FC Supporters Trust. He is currently making a documentary about the Falklands War.

Raymond Snoddy OBE

Raymond Snoddy is a freelance journalist who presented the BBC Television accountability programme *Newswatch* for eight years from 2004 and writes regularly for a variety of publications after being media editor of *The Times* for seven years. Before moving to *The Times* he was a reporter on the *Financial Times* for 19 years writing mainly about media and communication issues. Ray has presented television series on the media, which include *Hard News* on Channel 4 and *Media Monthly* on Sky News, and he has also made documentaries for radio and television.

Jack Genovese, Ampere Analysis

Jack leads the Ampere Sports team, which is responsible for researching and analysing the sports media rights markets in a variety of territories around the world, as well as providing insights on the wider sports business landscape on a club and competition level. He joined Ampere Analysis in January 2021, and has nearly a decade of experience in the media and TV space. Prior to joining Ampere Analysis Jack has worked at the UK media regulator Ofcom, as well as leading media research houses and consultancies. He has worked with a range of clients across multiple media sectors including regulators, public entities, tech giants, broadcasters, telcos, pay TV providers and OTT players.

Barbara Slater, BBC

Barbara Slater took up her role as Director of Sport in April 2009. She had previously been Head of Production and Head of General Sports for the department. Her responsibilities include working with governing bodies to retain a broad portfolio of broadcasting rights, overseeing the planning and coverage of major sporting events and leading the sports journalism operation at BBC Sport's home in Salford. Barbara was responsible for BBC Sport's acclaimed cross-platform coverage of the London Olympic Games - the most watched TV event in UK broadcasting history.

Barbara was awarded the 'Inspirational Woman Prize' at the Women in Film and Television Awards in recognition of this achievement and is a member of the IOC Press Committee, IOC Women in Sport Committee and the UK's Sports Business Council. Barbara was awarded the OBE in 2014 for her services to sports broadcasting.

John Grogan

John Grogan is the former Labour MP for Selby (1997-2010) and Keighley (2017-2019). He initiated a number of parliamentary debates on the subject of listed events and chaired the All Party Parliamentary BBC Group. In 2001 he visited FIFA in Geneva to make the case that the men's football world cup should remain on free to air TV. Outside politics John co-chairs the One Yorkshire Committee campaigning for Yorkshire Devolution and the Mongolian British Chamber of Commerce. Previously he chaired the employee-owned Hatfield Colliery which was the penultimate deep coal mine to close in the United Kingdom in 2015.