

Citation for Mr Richard Blair
Honorary Fellowship
7 September 2023, 1.00pm

Vice-Provost, I have pleasure in presenting Richard Blair for admission to the UCL Honorary Fellowship.

In 2017 a life-sized statue of the writer George Orwell was unveiled outside Broadcasting House, the BBC headquarters, in London.

As I'm sure everyone here knows, George Orwell is one of the world's most influential writers, the visionary author of *Animal Farm* and *Nineteen Eighty-four* and of the non-fiction classics *Down and Out in Paris and London*, *The Road to Wigan Pier* and *Homage to Catalonia*.

Inscribed on the wall behind the statue are the words "If liberty means anything at all, it means the right to tell people what they do not want to hear". Taken from an unused preface to *Animal Farm*,

under the boat by yanking on his trousers. Richard also ate all the peas and kicked the cauliflowers over.

But by 1949 Orwell, who had been suffering from tuberculosis for many years, went into a sanatorium, dying in January 1950 in University College Hospital. Richard, aged just

Richard's public role on behalf of his father's legacy is highly valued by those he works