

BARONESS COX OF QUEENSBURY

Pro-Chancellor,

Baroness Cox is a highly distinguished human rights campaigner and advocate whose international work has been recognised by numerous awards. A former nurse and academic, she was created a peer in 1982 and served as a Deputy Speaker in the House of Lords for twenty years. Baroness Cox was founding Chancellor of Bournemouth University from 1992 to 2001.

Caroline Cox grew up in the world of health-care. Her father was the internationally renowned surgeon Robert McNeill Love, co-author of the standard textbook known as 'Bailey and Love' which is still used around the world today. She went to Channing School and trained as a nurse at London Hospital. After working as a staff nurse at Edgware General Hospital she took a University of London degree (a First, in sociology) and then a Masters in economics as a research associate at Newcastle. Caroline then taught sociology at the Polytechnic of North London and soon became Head of Sociology. Later she moved to become Director of the Nursing Education Research Unit at Chelsea College of the University of London. Her publications in sociology were followed by others on academic freedom and political aspects of education, which

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Burma; a centre in N Uganda for children who are HIV positive; and a rehabilitation centre for people with physical and mental disabilities in Nagorno Karabakh. In 2009 HART took the lead in co-ordinating action by humanitarian organisations in response to the crisis of suffering in war-torn Sudan. Other campaigns have included support for democratic movements and religious minorities.

Characteristically, Lady Cox has always insisted on visiting what she calls 'unreached and unheard' peoples to learn at first hand about them and their needs. Her courageous travels have often taken her to remote places in arduous and dangerous conditions, and sometimes to war zones; but these visits bring encouragement and hope to isolated and suffering communities, and they have provided an immense body of eye-witness evidence and experience, not to mention a huge archive of photographs. This evidence gives authenticity and weight to her writing and speaking about the needs of forgotten peoples, wars, persecutions and famines, not only in the House of Lords, but in her vivid and passionate addresses at conferences, universities and schools in the UK and overseas.

Lady Cox's achievements have been recognised by many and varied honours across the world, from the Commander's Cross of the Polish Order of Merit and the Mkhitar Gosh Medal of the Republic of Armenia to the International Mother Teresa Award and the Wilberforce Award. She has honorary degrees