

The Ebor Lectures: I'm in York to give mine, entitled '...

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[York St John University have just issued this press release:](#)

Richard Murphy, Director of Tax Research UK, will be the guest speaker at the next Ebor lecture on Wednesday 9 October at York St John University.

The free lecture entitled 'Jesus would cut the tax gap' is part of a series of six Ebor lectures on 'The morality of austerity', which seek to evaluate economic austerity from a theological and moral perspective.

Speaking in advance of the lecture, Richard Murphy said:

"We live in an era of government cuts but that is the result of political choice. The UK government recognises that at least £32 billion of tax is not collected a year; the EU estimate, based on my work, is much higher, at £95 billion. If the government needs to cut anything it is this uncollected tax. If they did then austerity would become a bad memory."

Richard Murphy is a chartered accountant and tax expert. He was a senior partner of a practicing firm and director of a number of entrepreneurial companies before becoming one of the founders of the Tax Justice Network in 2002. Since 2003 Richard has been increasingly involved in economic and taxation policy issues. He is now the director of Tax Research LLP which undertakes work on taxation policy, advocacy and research for aid agencies, unions, NGOs and others in the UK and abroad.

The 2013-14 Ebor lectures are organised by York St John University, York Minster, York Institute for Community Theology, the Order of Carmelites, CRC (Churches Regional Commission for Yorkshire and the Humber) and the Methodist Church.

Since launching in 2006, the lecture series has established an enviable reputation with prestigious speakers, promoting debate on topical issues and broadening discussion. Past speakers have included the Rt Hon Hilary Benn MP, Shadow Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs; the Rt Revd. and the Rt Hon Richard Harries, Former Bishop of Oxford; Mr Peter Taylor, journalist and BBC Presenter; Dr Rowan

Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury; Dr John Sentamu, Archbishop of York; Robert Peston, the BBC's Business Editor; the Rt Hon Tony Benn, legendary parliamentarian; Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregation of the Commonwealth, the former Chief Rabbi Lord Sacks; and the Rt Hon Baroness Scotland QC, former Attorney General.

Admission by ticket only, begins at 6.30pm and the lectures start at 7.00pm. Each lecture is followed by a short question and answer session with an anticipated end time of 8.30pm. Tickets are free and can be booked online at www.yorks.ac.uk/eborlectures or by contacting the Ebor Lectures Co-ordinator on T: 01904 876474 or E: eborlectures@yorks.ac.uk