

BRILLIANT MINDS

If asked to choose someone, living or dead, who most embodies intelligence, what would your answer be? That's the question we posed to members – and the results are in. Some are no-brainers (excuse the pun) while others might surprise you. And to accompany your top 10 intelligentsia, we've chosen a contemporary, mostly UK-based selection of brilliant minds we believe are making our world a more interesting place.

SUSAN GREENFIELD

Brilliant neuroscientist navigating the mysteries of the mind

Quoted "Imagine the impact of Alzheimer's on the family, specifically the financial and mental health repercussions of giving up a job to care for a loved one – perhaps the love of your life – who then no longer even recognises you; that is a scenario I have heard described, on more than one occasion, as a living death."

Susan Greenfield has committed much of her life to the treatment of Parkinson's and Alzheimer's diseases and is one of the world's most prominent experts on the mysterious workings of the brain. She has popularised neuroscience, explaining it through books, lectures and media appearances.

As a senior research fellow at Lincoln College, Oxford University, she led a multi-disciplinary research group exploring brain mechanisms linked to neurodegenerative diseases and, as CEO and founder of Neuro-Bio, she is responsible for developing

therapeutic treatments for Alzheimer's. In recent years, Greenfield's team of scientists has discovered a neurotoxin in the human brain called T14. Through the introduction of T14 tests, it may one day be possible to administer a drug called NBP14 that prevents the onset of Alzheimer's.

Greenfield is a member of the House of Lords, using the platform to raise questions on the impact of digital technology on children's brains, and the ways science can promote healthy lives.

Not only does Greenfield have a brilliant mind, she has an exceptional understanding of how the mind works – and why we undervalue it at our peril. "The more connections you can make across an ever wider and more disparate range of knowledge, the more deeply you will understand something," she once wrote. "Search engines and video games do not provide that facility; nothing does, other than your own brain."



Susan Greenfield received a CBE for her contribution to the public understanding of science