



Annual Conference

# Complexity of Neural Function – the Brain in Charge

Wellcome Trust Lecture Hall  
**The Royal Society**  
6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London  
**22 October, 2026**

Admission is **FREE**, but strictly by ticket, available  
from: [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) or  
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## Speakers and Organisers

<b>Siddharth Banka PhD</b>	Professor of Genomic Medicine and Rare Diseases, University of Manchester
<b>Andreas Brunklaus MD FAES</b>	Consultant Paediatric Neurologist, Honorary Professor at the School of Health and Wellbeing, University of Glasgow
<b>Rory Cellan-Jones OBE MA</b>	Journalist and author
<b>Sadaf Farooqi PhD FRS FMedSci</b>	Professorial Fellow; Professor of Metabolism and Medicine, University of Cambridge
<b>Professor Simon E. Fisher DPhil</b>	Director, Max Planck Institute for Psycholinguistics, Professor of Language and Genetics at the Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour, Radboud University
<b>Professor Maria Fitzgerald PhD FRS FMedSci</b>	Emeritus Professor of Developmental Neurobiology, Dept Neuroscience, Physiology & Pharmacology, University College London
<b>Professor Sonia Gandhi PhD MRCP</b>	Deputy Director at The Francis Crick Institute, MRC Senior Clinician Scientist and Professor of Neurology
<b>Dr. Kevin Mitchell PhD</b>	Associate Professor of Genetics and Neuroscience at Trinity College Dublin
<b>Veronica van Heyningen DPhil CBE FRS FMedSci</b>	Honorary Professor, University of Edinburgh and UCL, and Trustee of Adelphi Genetics Forum
<b>Nicholas Wood PhD FRCP FMedSci</b>	Professor of Clinical Neurogenetics, Institute of Neurology, UCL and President of Adelphi Genetics Forum

**Conference organiser:  
Veronica Van Heyningen**



# Complexity of Neural Function – the Brain in Charge



- 09:55—10:00 **Welcome: Nicholas Wood, President of Adelphi Genetics Forum**
- 10:00—10:40 **Chair: TBC**  
**Kevin Mitchell**  
Wiring the brain: genetics, environment, chance
- 10:40—11:10 **Coffee**
- 11:10—11:50 **Chair: TBC**  
**Siddharth Banka**  
Neurodevelopmental Disorders arising from novel non-coding genetic changes
- 11:50—12:30 **Andreas Brunklaus**  
Genetic therapies to treat ion channel epilepsies: impacts and outcomes
- 12:30—13:10 **Maria Fitzgerald**  
Pain and the Developing Brain
- 13:10—14:10 **Lunch**
- 14:10—14:50 **Chair: TBC**  
**Simon E. Fisher**  
Genomic insights into the neurobiology of speech and language disorders
- 14:50—15:30 **Tea**
- 15:30—16:00 **Rory Cellan-Jones** in conversation with **Sonia Gandhi**  
Movement disorders: Parkinson's Disease – a discussion
- 16:00—17:00 **Chair: Dr Nicholas Wood**  
**Adelphi Lecture**  
**Sadaf Farooqi**  
Neural control of appetite
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**The Adelphi Genetics Forum is a charity and learned society that promotes understanding and discourse on the science of human heredity, its historical development and societal impact; our activities encompass science communication, education and fostering debate about the role of genetics in medicine and society.**

**What we do:**

- Hold an annual conference in London
- Deliver a two-yearly teachers conference in Manchester
- Provide small grants to conferences and workshops
- Fund a PhD studentship
- Administer the Adelphi Artemis Trust
- Publish a regular newsletter and occasional booklets

