

The Inaugural **Jock Heron**
Memorial Lecture

WHEN LIGHTNING STRIKES TWICE

Dave Gordon FRAeS

President - Rolls-Royce Heritage Trust Bristol Branch

A personal insider's account of the F-35B Lightning II programme, from the Battle of the X-Planes and UK sovereignty negotiations to the Rolls-Royce LiftSystem and the return of British carrier strike capability.

Drawing on experience in both government and industry, Dave Gordon reflects on how advanced vertical flight succeeded for a second time.



The lecture will be preceded by a eulogy to Jock Heron by
Prof Sir Iain Gray CBE



7:15pm on Tuesday 17th November 2026



**John James Lecture Theatre
Aerospace Bristol**

Hayes Way, Patchway BS34 5BZ



Pre-booking is not required.

There is no entry charge, with a voluntary leaving collection to support Aerospace Bristol Museum.



Ample free parking available.



Further information:



aerospacebristol.org

rolls-royce.com/about/heritage-trust/whats-on.aspx

bristolaerotalks.co.uk