We are delighted to announce our second Great Hall Lecture Series will commence this January with a series of lectures from academics representing some of the top universities in the country.

Our visiting speakers look to inspire students and provoke intellectual curiosity. The topics under scrutiny will be appropriately diverse to appeal to every student and will include an eclectic range of subjects.

The lecture series compliments fantastically with our preparation for university and beyond. Students see, hear and engage with the very academic specialists to whom they will be exposed to at university. In the process, they have the opportunity to think outside the box which encourages intellectual exploration rather than going through the conventional examination hoops.

Our Great Hall Lecture Series is just one element of Scarisbrick Hall School’s commitment to academic enrichment which aims to nurture interest and equip pupils for their lives at university and in employment. Our lectures aim to broaden horizons and give an impetus to developing independent thought and aspirational beliefs and confidence.

Welcome to the second Great Hall Lecture Series at Scarisbrick Hall School. Although the series is closely linked to our Sixth Form, I am confident that learners of all ages will find the 2016 series an exciting event to participate in.

The ethos of our school is to ‘support and inspire learners to succeed in an environment of love and care’. I believe that this lecture series plays a key role in establishing this ethos.

This unique opportunity for our students to listen to and engage with leading academics will spark aspirations and inspire creative thought in all who attend.

The 2016 lecture series boasts a wide variety of content across a broad spectrum of learning.

I look forward to welcoming learners of all ages, including parents and grandparents.

Mr J Shaw
Headmaster
MONDAY 25 JANUARY (2.30pm)
Dr Deborah Chirrey (English Language)
Forensic linguistics: the strange case of the linguist and the law

WEDNESDAY 27 JANUARY (3.15pm)
Dr Andrew McInnes (English Literature)
Childhood in Arthur Ransome’s Swallows and Amazons: Between Robinson Crusoe and John Keats

THURSDAY 28 JANUARY (2.45pm)
Dr Rodge Glass (Creative Writing)
Remembering Imagined Places - viewpoint and narrative structure in creative writing

MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY (2pm)
Professor Stephen Chapman (Pharmacy)
Medicine in 20 years time

TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY (2.30pm)
Professor Katie Atkinson (Computer Science)
The Journey and Challenges of Artificial Intelligence

WEDNESDAY 10 FEBRUARY (2.30pm)
Dr Tim Owen (Criminology)
The Work of Uclan Cybercrime Research Unit (UCRU)

TUESDAY 1 MARCH (2pm)
Professor Lasse Rempe-Gillen (Mathematics)
Maths, metronomes and fireflies: Stability and chaos from resonance
Dr Deborah Chirrey  
Edge Hill University  
(Associate Head of Department for English Language)

My current research interest focuses on how language represents and constructs sexual and gender identities. In particular I use aspects of discourse and conversational analysis to analyse how minority sexual identities are created and maintained in written and spoken discourse. I am exploring the ways in which advice literature that is aimed at young people who are coming out as gay or lesbian, represents that experience. Most recently, I have been analysing the use of metaphor in these texts in order to explore their rhetorical effects.

Before coming to Edge Hill in 1994, I worked for several years on the Historical Thesaurus of English research project at Glasgow University. I also taught part-time at Glasgow University in the Department of English Language, and registered there for a PhD. My research interests originally centred on various phonetic aspects of Scottish English and Scots, and my PhD research was into the acoustic and articulatory characteristics of a group of consonants in accents of Scottish English.

Lecture:  
Forensic linguistics:  
the strange case of the linguist and the law  
Monday 25 January (2.30pm)

For many students of English Language, exploring and analysing language is interesting for its own sake. But it is also clear that knowledge of English language and linguistics is useful in all sorts of ‘real-world’ applications, whether it is speech and language pathology or language teaching. But did you know that over the last twenty years or so, linguists have been using their knowledge and understanding of spoken and written language to assist in the detection and prevention of crime?

In this lecture, I will describe what ‘forensic linguistics’ is, and how knowledge of grammar, pronunciation, conversational analysis and vocabulary, among other things, have been used to assist in legal and criminal justice matters.

Recent Publications:


I joined Edge Hill University in April 2015, having previously worked at the University of Exeter and as a secondary school teacher of English and Drama. I hold degrees from the universities of Durham and Exeter. I am a specialist in Romantic-period women’s writing, focusing particularly on the reception of Mary Wollstonecraft’s life and ideas.

I have published on Amelia Opie, Mary Hays, Maria Edgeworth, and Charlotte Dacre, as well as crises within late eighteenth-century feminist polemic. My current research explores Jane Austen’s continuing engagement with the Gothic, beyond the comic mode of Northanger Abbey, particularly in relation to literary geographies. I am also interested in children’s literature from the eighteenth to twenty-first centuries.

Lecture:

**Childhood in Arthur Ransome’s Swallows and Amazons: Between Robinson Crusoe and John Keats**

Wednesday 27 January (3.15pm)

This lecture explores Arthur Ransome’s engagement with ideas about children, adventure and exploration from the long eighteenth century in his celebrated Swallows and Amazons series.

I argue that Ransome positions his child protagonists between the practical enlightenment of Daniel Defoe’s marooned hero and John Keats’ Romantic belatedness: the Walkers and Blacketts find themselves exploring a world that is already inhabited by those they dismissively call ‘natives’ - their adult parents. Swallows and Amazons uses Crusoe and Keats to work out ways for children to cope with coming second - with their subordination within existing discourses.

Recent Publications:


Dr Rodge Glass
Edge Hill University
(Reader in Creative Writing & Programme Leader)

I am a novelist, short story writer, biographer and editor. I am the author of three novels – No Fireworks (Faber, 2005), Hope for Newborns (Faber, 2008) and Bring Me the Head of Ryan Giggs (Tindal Street Press/Serpent’s Tail, 2013), also the author of the Somerset Maugham Award prize-winning Alasdair Gray: A Secretary’s Biography (Bloomsbury, 2008), the graphic novel Dougie’s War (with Dave Turbitt, Freight, 2010), and a collection of short stories, LoveSexTravelMusik: Stories for the Easyjet Generation (Freight, 2013). I was appointed as a Senior Lecturer at Edge Hill University in September 2012. Most recently my fiction has been translated into Italian and Serbian, and in recent years I have appeared at literary festivals and conferences in the USA, Canada, Italy, Serbia, Denmark, Tunisia and Poland.

From 2010-2012 I was Associate Editor at Cargo Publishing, and since 2013 I have been Fiction Editor at Freight Books, working closely with writers on over a dozen novels and short story collections published since then. Aside from my own books, I have written articles for newspapers including The Guardian and The Independent, and appeared on BBC television and radio discussing my work and the work of others, appearing on the likes of Open Book on Radio 4, Men’s Hour on Radio Five Live, The Art of Winter on BBC4, The One Show on BBC One.

Lecture:
**Remembering Imagined Places - viewpoint and narrative structure in creative writing**
Thursday 28 January (2.45pm)

A discussion of Dr Glass’s approach to writing, examining how memory and place are essential to creative practice, and giving a reading from his published short stories which are based on experiences as a tourist all over the world.

Recent publications:


- **We’re All Gonna Have the Blues**, commissioned for ‘Out of Chaos’ anthology, ed. Gregory Norminton, published by Oneworld, April 2013.

- **After Drink You Can Turn Earth Upside Down**, commissioned for Edinburgh International Book Festival’s ‘Elsewhere’ project, published in McSweeney’s/Cargo joint worldwide series, June 2012.


Stephen Chapman is Deputy Head of School at Keele University’s School of Pharmacy. He is also Professor of Prescribing Studies and Head of Medicines Optimisation & Enterprise. Prior to 2013 he was Head of the Department of Medicines Management located within the Pharmacy department of the university for 21 years. As well as providing the academic lead on issues such as implementing evidence based medicine, prescribing databases and health service prescribing policies, he heads a unit which provides prescribing advice to West Midlands CCGs and hospital trusts. His current projects include computerised prescribing decision support, drug utilisation studies, and virtual patients for training of healthcare professionals. Professor Chapman’s career spans the pharmaceutical industry, the Health Service and academia.

Lecture:
**Medicine in 20 years time**
Monday 1 February (2pm)

In this lecture Professor Chapman will discuss the technology of healthcare and its part in alternative credible and fulfilling healthcare careers. He will share some thoughts about the need to broaden student’s perceptions of futures in health care - in particular the changing role of pharmacists and the “doctor diagnoses, pharmacist prescribes” model.

Recent publications:

Published widely in peer group reviewed journals and edited over 100 bespoke prescribing reports. He is co-editor of the book ‘Medicines Management’ published by the BMJ Press, and contributed chapters to books on ‘Nurse Prescribing’, ‘Influencing demand by professional education and information’ and ‘Pharmacoeconomics’.

Professor Chapman was part of the benchmark developing team for the National Audit Office, and on the expert panel for the Office of Fair Trading report into value for money from medicines. He is a member of the Prescription Medicines Code of Practice Authority’s Appeal Board, and Chairs the Royal Pharmaceutical Society’s Faculty Board, he also sits on the RPS Education Expert Advisory Panel.

He has undertaken consultancy work for the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the Foreign Office in health care system design and medicines management strategy in Albania, Belgium, Bosnia, Russia, South Africa and Montenegro and directly for government in Canada, Sweden, Denmark and Poland.
Professor Katie Atkinson
University of Liverpool
(Head of Dept of Computer Science)

Katie Atkinson is Professor of Computer Science and Head of the Department of Computer Science at the University of Liverpool. Academic staff in the Department carry out both pure and applied research that is world leading in their two main areas of expertise: AI and Algorithms. Professor Atkinson’s research concerns computational models of argument, with a particular focus on persuasive argumentation in practical reasoning and how this can be applied in domains such as law, e-Democracy and agent systems. She has published over one hundred articles on these, and closely related, subjects. She received her PhD from the University of Liverpool in 2005.

Lecture:
The Journey and Challenges of Artificial Intelligence
Tuesday 2 February (2.30pm)

In this lecture Professor Atkinson will provide an insight into the field of Artificial Intelligence (AI). She will give an overview of the development of the field, discuss some of the landmark success stories and review the current state-of-the-art. She will further pinpoint some of the challenges that AI researchers face and describe the main techniques used to represent aspects of intelligent thought and behaviour for use in computer systems.

Recent publications:
Dr Tim Owen is an interdisciplinary social theorist, whose work draws upon criminological and sociological theory, evolutionary psychology, behavioural genetics, social policy and philosophy. His published work, spanning over 20 publications, has a common theme; the desire to ‘build bridges’ between the biological and social sciences, in tandem with developing a post-postmodern genetic-social framework with which to examine a wide variety of phenomena.

The genetic-social framework has been ‘applied’ to a wide range of subjects including crime and criminal behaviour, human biotechnology, the Human Genome Project, ageing, globalization, citizenship, and masculinities.

Lecture:
The Work of Uclan Cybercrime Research Unit (UCRU)
Wednesday 10 February (2.30pm)

The lecture will unpack some of the aims of the unit, which include the investigation of emerging areas of evidence of crime and attempts to find new understandings of criminal behaviour across internet platforms, and the intention to inform social policy through research and theoretical development based around online crime and deviancy.

We will discuss some particular areas of research which we are currently focusing upon, which include the emergence of the hidden networks that comprise ‘the Dark Net’, the effectiveness of law and order agents to control and combat cybercrime, the possibilities of forming a coherent response to cybercrime, and the development of criminological explanations for cybercrime, such as cyber-terrorism, hate-trolling and online ‘grooming’, which seek to ‘build bridges’ between the biological and social sciences.
Professor Lasse Rempe-Gillen
University of Liverpool
(Mathematical Sciences Department)

Recent publications:
Density of hyperbolicity for classes of real transcendental entire functions and circle maps (Article - 2015)
Dynamic rays of bounded-type entire functions (Article - 2011)
Rigidity of escaping dynamics for transcendental entire functions (Article - 2009)
Bifurcations in the space of exponential maps (Article - 2009)
Siegel disks and periodic rays of entire functions (Article - 2008)

I am a Professor of Pure Mathematics, and my main research interests are in dynamical systems and complex analysis. I also act as Deputy Head of Department for REF, and am the cluster coordinator for the Dynamical Systems group.

I received my PhD from the University of Kiel in 2003 and have been at Liverpool since 2006.

Lecture:
Maths, metronomes and fireflies:
Stability and chaos from resonance.
Tuesday 1 March (2pm)