



Speech & Language Therapy Research Unit **with** Social Science in the City™

Professor David Crystal - *The Fascinating First Year*

Tuesday 1 November 2011

6-8pm

Redland Green School, Bristol

The *Speech & Language Therapy Research Unit* and *Social Science in the City™* (University of the West of England) are delighted to announce a lecture by the world-famous linguist Professor David Crystal. The lecture is a locally organised showcase event for the 'Hello' campaign in support of the National Year of Speech Language & Communication.

'The Fascinating First Year' talk begins by addressing the question, 'When does language acquisition start?', and gives the answer, 'Much earlier than most people think'. The focus is on early phonetic development, and on the distinctive nature of parent-child interaction. The talk is related to general issues concerning the functions of language encountered during the first year, especially the play function.

This event is free to attend. Please note that places are limited so it is important to register via the Social Science in the City™ website www.uwe.ac.uk/socialscienceinthecity no later than 24th October.

Programme:

6-6.30 Exhibition: 'Children draw talking' research by Professor Sharynne McLeod, Charles Sturt University, Australia

6.30 – 7.30 'The Fascinating First Year' lecture

7.30-8pm book sales & signing.

8.15 close

Refreshments will be available to purchase.

Location & travel

Redland Green School, Redland Court Road, Redland, Bristol BS6 7EH

By car: Map showing Redland Green school <http://maps.google.co.uk/maps?ie=UTF-8&hl=en&tab=w>

By train: Bristol Temple Meads - 3 miles. Bristol Parkway - 5 miles

By bus: First bus route no 8/9 for Bristol Templemeads/City Centre/Redland.

http://www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/bristol_bath/

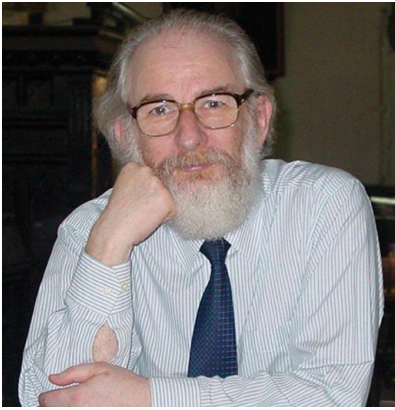
For further information about the lecture please contact Dr Stella Maille, convenor of Social Science in the City event series stella.maille@uwe.ac.uk and for details of the Social Science in the City public seminar series:

www.uwe.ac.uk/socialscienceinthecity .

To find out more about the Speech & Language Therapy Research Unit: www.speech-therapy.org.uk

For more information about 'Hello', the National Year of Speech, Language & Communication and how to get involved: www.hello.org.uk/

Professor David Crystal



David Crystal works from his home in Holyhead, North Wales, as a writer, editor, lecturer, and broadcaster. Born in Lisburn, Northern Ireland in 1941, he spent his early years in Holyhead. His family moved to Liverpool in 1951, and he received his secondary schooling at St Mary's College. He read English at University College London (1959-62), specialised in English language studies, did some research there at the Survey of English Usage under Randolph Quirk (1962-3), then joined academic life as a lecturer in linguistics, first at Bangor, then at Reading. He published the first of his 100 or so books in 1964, and became known chiefly for his research work in English language studies, in such fields as intonation and stylistics, and in the application of linguistics to religious, educational and clinical contexts, notably in the development of a range of linguistic profiling techniques

for diagnostic and therapeutic purposes. He held a chair at the University of Reading for 10 years, and is now Honorary Professor of Linguistics at the University of Wales, Bangor. These days he divides his time between work on language and work on internet applications.

David Crystal's authored works are mainly in the field of language, including several Penguin books, but he is perhaps best known for his two encyclopedias for Cambridge University Press, *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language* and *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*. Recent books include *A Little Book of Language* and *Begat: the King James Bible and the English language* (both 2010) and a linguistic autobiography, *Just a Phrase I'm Going Through* (2009). Co-authored books include *Words on Words* (2000, a dictionary of language quotations compiled with his wife and business-partner, Hilary - Wheatley Medal, 2001) and *Shakespeare's Words* (2002) and *The Shakespeare Miscellany* (2005), the last two in collaboration with his actor son, Ben. Other Shakespeare work includes a regular article for the magazine of Shakespeare's Globe, *Around the Globe*. *Think On My Words*, an introduction to Shakespeare's language, appeared in 2008. All Shakespeare books can be viewed at [The Shakespeare Portal](#). A new version of the glossary went live in 2008: see [Shakespeare's Words](#).

His books on English phonetics and phonology include *Prosodic Systems and Intonation in English* and *The English Tone of Voice*. His clinical books include *Introduction to Language Pathology*, *Profiling Linguistic Disability*, *Clinical Linguistics*, and *Linguistic Encounters with Language Handicap*. His work for schools includes the *Skylarks*, *Databank*, and *Datasearch* programmes, *Nineties Knowledge*, *Language A to Z*, *Rediscover Grammar*, *Discover Grammar*, and *Making Sense of Grammar*. His creative writing includes volumes of devotional poetry (*Pilgrimage; Happenings*); biographies of the Convent and of the Ucheldre Centre in Holyhead; a play, *Living On*, on the endangered languages theme; and he is currently editing the poetry of the African missionary John Bradburne (see [John Bradburne](#)). Performances include a dramatic reading of the St John Gospel, now available on CD.

He was founder-editor of *the Journal of Child Language*, *Child Language Teaching and Therapy*, and *Linguistics Abstracts*, and has edited several book series, such as Penguin Linguistics and Blackwell's Language Library. In the 1980s, he became editor of general encyclopedias for Cambridge University Press, along with their various abridged editions. In 1996 the database supporting these books came under the ownership of AND International Publishers, who began to develop the database for electronic media. As part of his consultancy work with this company, he devised a knowledge management system (the Global Data Model, or GDM) which allows electronic databases to be searched in a highly sophisticated way (UK and US patents). In 2001, both the database and the GDM became the property of a new company, called Crystal Reference Systems, with two divisions: Crystal Reference had as its primary aim the provision of reference data; Crystal Semantics, the provision of systems for document classification, Internet searching, contextual advertising, e-commerce, online security, and related areas. Products of the new regime included editions of *The Penguin Encyclopedia* (from 2002), *The Penguin Factfinder* (from 2003), and *The Penguin Concise Encyclopedia* (from 2003). Crystal Reference Systems was acquired by Adpepper Media in 2006, and he then switched roles to become director of research and development within the firm (to 2009). Adpepper closed the Crystal Reference division in 2008, and general encyclopedia publishing then ceased. He continues to act as a consultant to Adpepper on Internet applications.

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David Crystal has been a consultant, contributor, or presenter on several radio and television programmes and series. These include *The Story of English* (BBC TV, 8 x 1 hour series 1986, consultant), *The Story of English* (radio version, 18 x 30-min series, BBC World Service, 1987, writer and presenter), several series on English for BBC Radio 4, Radio 5, and BBC Wales during the 1980s and 1990s (as writer and presenter), and *The Routes of English* (as consultant and contributor). Other television work includes *Back to Babel* (Infonation and Discovery Channel, 4 x 1-hour series, 2000, as consultant and continuity contributor), *Blimey* (BBC Knowledge, 3 x 1-hour series, 2001, as continuity contributor), *The Routes of Welsh* (BBC1, 6 x 30-min series, 2002, as consultant and contributor), *The Way that We Say It* (BBC Wales, 50-min, 2005, consultant and co-presenter), *The Word on the Street* (BBC1, 2005, 30 mins, as consultant), *Voices of the World* (Final Cut, 2005, as consultant and contributor), and several programmes for Open University television, beginning with *Grammar Rules* (1980, as writer and presenter). He was the consultant for the BBC *Voices* project in 2005 and is currently consultant for the British Library 'Evolving English' exhibition (November 2010 to April 2011), and author of the accompanying book.

David Crystal is currently patron of the International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language (IATEFL) and the Association for Language Learning (ALL), president of the UK National Literacy Association, and an honorary vice-president of the Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists, the Institute of Linguists, and the Society for Editors and Proofreaders. He is a past honorary president of the National Association for Professionals concerned with Language-Impaired Children, the International Association of Forensic Phonetics, and the Society of Indexers. He was Sam Wanamaker Fellow at Shakespeare's Globe in 2003-4 and was honorary president of the Johnson Society for 2005-6. He has also been a member of the Board of the British Council and of the English-Speaking Union. He received an OBE for services to the English language in 1995, and was made a Fellow of the British Academy (FBA) in 2000. He now lives in Holyhead, where he is the director of the Ucheldre Centre, a multi-purpose arts and exhibition centre. He is married with four children.

For details of Professor Crystal's publications: <http://www.davidcrystal.com/>