

David H. Walker

After undergraduate studies at the University of Liverpool, from where I also obtained the degree of PhD, I worked as Lecturer, then Senior Lecturer, at the University of Glasgow before being appointed to the Chair of French at Keele University where I worked for ten years. I was appointed Professor of French at Sheffield in 1995. I was Head of the School of Modern Languages and Linguistics 1995-1999 and Head of the Department of French from 1997 to 2002 and again from 2005 to 2007. I was Dean of the Faculty of Arts 2003-2005. In the course of my academic career I was President of the Association of University Professors and Heads of French, 1997-8, and Vice-President, 1998-2002; and President of the Society for French Studies, 1998-2000.

I officially retired in 2014 and am now Professor Emeritus. I hold the title 'Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Palmes académiques'.

Research interests

I have published articles on numerous aspects of modern French culture and society, as well as editions of works by Jean Genet, Albert Camus, André Gide and Alain Robbe-Grillet. I have written or edited four books on Gide. As Director of the André Gide Editions Project at the University of Sheffield I have an interest in critical editions of works by Gide, some electronic, for example *'Les Caves du Vatican'* published on CD-Rom and in an online version. I also directed the creation of the on-line database *'GidianArchives'*. I assembled, presented and annotated the Gide-Rouart *Correspondance 1893-1936*, consisting of some nine hundred letters, published in two volumes by Presses Universitaires de Lyon in 2006. In addition this research led to the publication by Editions Gallimard of a previously unknown novella by Gide: *Le Ramier*, for which I wrote a Postface. I also wrote a Preface for the republication of a novel by Eugène Rouart, *La Villa sans maître*, by Les Editions du Mercure de France in 2007. I contributed critical editions of plays and related writings by Albert Camus for his *Œuvres complètes* published by Editions Gallimard in their 'Bibliothèque de la Pléiade' collection (four volumes, 2006-2008); and of novels and other texts by André Gide, for his *Romans et récits, Œuvres lyriques et dramatiques*, also published in the 'Bibliothèque de la Pléiade' (two volumes, 2009).

I am the author of *Outrage and Insight: Modern French Writers and the 'fait divers'* (Berg, 1995), a monograph which considers the ways in which writers have reacted to or been inspired by sensational 'tabloid' journalism. My book *Consumer Chronicles : Cultures of Consumption in Modern French Literature* (Liverpool University Press, 2011) analyses a series of novels, selected for their authentic portrayal of consumer behaviour, and examines the impact of affluence on French shoppers, shopkeepers and society.

Since retiring I continue to write and research. In February 2014 the *Times Literary Supplement* published my translation of Gide's *Le Grincheux* ('The Curmudgeon'). In the same year I published a novel, *Migrating Voids* (CreateSpace Independent Publishing, ISBN 9781499609493).