## **Historical Linguistics**

Convenor: John Charles Smith

After being relatively neglected for half a century, following the strictures of Saussure, diachronic linguistics has re-established its importance over the last fifty years, and may now be regarded as central to the study of language. Moreover, research in this area is moving at a rapid pace, driven in part by the availability of new technological tools. The section on Historical Linguistics will aim to reflect the current strengths and preoccupations of the discipline. Proposals are invited for papers on any aspect of language change, including structural change (changes in phonology, morphology, and syntax); semantic and pragmatic change; language contact; cladistics; sociolinguistic factors in change; and language acquisition and change. Papers will be especially welcome on new developments in the study of language change, including the use of large-scale corpora and artificial intelligence.