

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ (GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)

Registered Charity Number 1135395
A company limited by guarantee
Registered in England and Wales
Number 06966984

10, Carlton House Terrace
LONDON | SW1Y 5AH



REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for

The Year Ended

30 June 2014

2013/2014

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CHARITY AND COMPANY INFORMATION

Registered Office and Principal Address

The British Academy
10 Carlton House Terrace
London SW1Y 5AH

Bankers

Barclays Bank Plc
Kings Cross Branch
23 Euston Road
London NW1 2SB

CCLA Investment Management Ltd
80 Cheapside
London EC2V 6DZ

Solicitors

Jacobs Allen Hammond Solicitors
5 Fitzhardinge Street
London W1H 6EF

Independent Examiners

WMT
Chartered Accountants
2nd Floor
45 Grosvenor Road
St Albans
Hertfordshire AL1 3AW

Investment Managers

Barings Fund Managers Limited
155 Bishopsgate
London EC2M 3XY

Registered Charity

1135395

Registered Company

06966984 (England and Wales)

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT

The following were trustees of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI) when this report was approved.

Dr Mark Altaweel
Edward Chaplin CMG, OBE
Dr Paul Collins
Dr John Curtis OBE, FBA, President
Peter Davies, Hon Treasurer
Dr Nelida Fuccaro
Joan Porter MacIver
Dr Harriet Martin
Dr Ellen McAdam
Dr Augusta McMahon
Dr Glen Rangwala
Professor Eleanor Robson, Chair of Council
Professor Emilie Savage-Smith, FBA (co-opted)
Professor Charles Tripp, FBA, Vice-Chair of Council

The Council presents this report together with the financial statements of BISI for the period of twelve months ended 30 June 2014. The statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 22 and comply with the charity's regulations, applicable law and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice 2005 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued under the Charities Act 1993. The 2014 report and accounts reflect BISI's activities over the course of the current financial year. They represent the fourth year of the charity operating as a company limited by guarantee. The British Institute for the Study of Iraq, the former unincorporated charity, transferred all its assets to the new charity in 2010. The 2014 comparative figures and accounts included the transfer of the BISI-owned ivories from Nimrud ('heritage assets') into the accounts with a significant donation to the British Museum.

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

BISI is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association adopted and approved at the Annual General Meeting in December 2009 (available at <http://www.bisi.ac.uk/content/archive>)

BISI established itself as a Company limited by guarantee in 2010 and commenced operation on 1 July 2010 as a charitable company.

Council

A volunteer Council is responsible for the overall management of the charity and meets three times a year in London. It delegates much of its work to several Committees of the Council—currently Fieldwork and Research, Finance, the Fundraising Taskforce, Outreach, and Publications. BISI's current Council members cover a broad range of expertise and the majority of Council members are academics, highly knowledgeable in Mesopotamian, Medieval Islamic and Contemporary Iraq.

Council members are elected by the full membership to serve a 3-year term. They may be re-elected for a further 3-year term and must then stand down for a minimum of a year. This rule does not apply to key office holders.

Council members elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from within their ranks. The Hon Treasurer is a member of Council, nominated by the Council and elected by members on an annual basis.

On joining the Council, nominees are requested to review the Charity Commission guidelines 'CC3 - The Essential Trustee: What you need to know.' New Council members receive a welcome pack containing internal documents essential to helping them direct the work of the charity. In addition, new trustees are required to sign a 'Trustee Code of Conduct,' which outlines their duties and BISI's expectations of them. Every year we ask current trustees to complete an annual certification to confirm that they are not disqualified from acting as a charity trustee because of section 178 of the Charities Act 2011.

Patron, President and Honorary Vice Presidents

BISI has one Patron: The Rt Hon the Lord Lamont of Lerwick, one President: Dr John Curtis, and two Honorary Vice-Presidents: Frank Baker, British Ambassador to Iraq, and Faik Nerweyi, Iraqi Ambassador to the UK.

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting takes place in February in order for members to: receive and consider BISI's accounts and balance sheet, and the reports of Council; appoint the Auditor or Independent Examiner; elect Members of Council and to discuss any matter of business which is properly transacted. Any member of BISI who wishes to be present may attend the Annual General Meeting. Alternatively members are permitted to send in postal ballots for the election of Council members.

Administration and Finance

A part-time Administrator, Lauren Mulvee (70%FTE, Monday-Thursday), ensures the smooth-running of BISI's London office, while a 20-30% self-employed Financial Controller, Karon Cook, handles the finances and provides guidance on governance. A 20% self-employed Development Co-ordinator, Adam Stone, assists the Chair and the Fundraising Taskforce.

BISI's income comes from its own resources and endowment. Although the British Academy grant-in-aid to BISI ceased in April 2009, the British Academy continues to give BISI valuable support in-kind by providing a London base and the use of administrative resources, as well as providing a venue for meetings and lectures. Council is very appreciative of BISI's long-standing links with the British Academy and the support it provides.

STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT

'To advance research and public education relating to Iraq and the neighbouring countries in anthropology, archaeology, geography, history, language and related disciplines within the arts, humanities and social sciences.'

BISI:

- supports high-quality research across its academic remit by making grants and providing expert advice and input.
- assists with publications, both print and electronic, for academic and public dissemination of research activities.
- supports and facilitates academic exchange and collaboration between the UK and Iraq through programmes of visiting scholars and academic engagement.
- provides a focus for the UK public and the Iraqi community in Britain to engage with matters concerning Iraq.
- promotes public education through organising and supporting lectures, conferences, workshops and study days.
- provides expertise and specialist knowledge to government bodies, journalists and other parties.

Council has complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

BISI was formerly known as the British School of Archaeology in Iraq (BSAI) until in 2007 it changed its name to reflect the broadening of its academic remit. Whereas our predecessor organisation was focused principally on the ancient and pre-modern Iraq, BISI's academic coverage now includes humanities and social sciences research on modern and contemporary Iraq.

OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

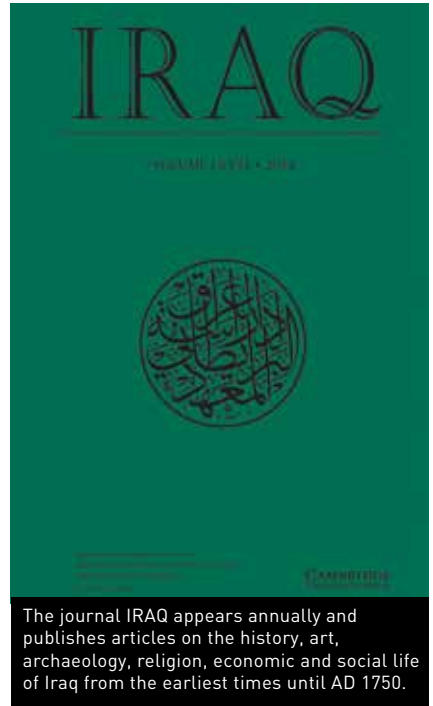
For the year 2013-2014 BISI continued to carry out its core aims - to advance research and public education about Iraq in the arts, humanities and social sciences, from the earliest times until the present. Our objectives fell into the following areas:

Research and Fieldwork: to fund scholars to carry out relevant research into Iraq; and to assist and collaborate with colleagues in-country, in state and higher education sectors.

Outreach: to inform and engage the public about Iraq; and to give support to projects that add to the public's understanding of Iraq's history, society and culture.

Publications: to publish the journal IRAQ, alongside books on the history, languages and culture of Iraq; and to facilitate the publication of BSAI research projects that remain unpublished.

Every year the Council reviews how these objectives should be realised, in the form of a rolling Five-Year Plan.



SUMMARY OF 2013-2014

In many ways this has been a productive year for BISI. We have funded a breadth of high quality research and educational projects about Iraq, held several public engagement events, including an international conference on Gertrude Bell, and steady progress has been made on the publication of archaeological reports. Furthermore we have now devised a strong fundraising strategy to ensure the future running of the charity, with a detailed Case for Support, showing how members and supporters of the charity can help us to expand and improve our work to further knowledge and understanding of Iraq.

One challenge for 2013-2014 was to make the administrative operation more manageable. To ease the burden in November 2013 we recruited a part-time, self-employed Development Co-ordinator to support our fundraising activities. On this successful model, in June 2014 we also agreed to set up a similar post to run the intensive Visiting Iraqi Scholars programme, thus enabling the Administrator to focus on her core office duties.

In late June 2014 news came of the invasion and attacks carried out by the terrorist group known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIS) in northern Iraq. The Chair of Council outlined BISI's response to the invasion in her report to members in Newsletter 32 (<http://www.bisi.ac.uk/content/newsletter>). Council have agreed that the charity should operate as normally as possible, continuing its celebration of the diverse culture and history of Iraq, and offering what support it can to Iraqi colleagues who have been affected by this very difficult situation.

You can read about our activities of 2013-2014 in more detail on the following pages.

RESEARCH AND FIELDWORK

Academic Grants

BISI strives to facilitate high quality humanities and social sciences-based research on the lands and peoples of Iraq, offering grants for fieldwork, research, conferences and one annual pilot project. In 2013-2014 we attracted applications from a range of fields, covering the breadth of BISI's historical remit:

Conference Grants

- **Dr Julien Charbonnier and Kristen Hopper:** The qanât: Archaeology and Environment, at Durham University (October 2014)
- **Dr Jon Taylor:** Talking Tablets: Understanding the Materiality of Cuneiform Tablets and its Implications for Research and Preservation, at the British Museum (date tbc)

Research Grants

- **Dr Eleni Asouti:** Eastern Fertile Crescent Prehistory Project: Environmental Change, Resource Management Strategies and Community Interactions in North-Eastern Iraq at the Dawn of Agriculture
- **Emanuelle Degli Esposti:** Through the Fractured Looking Glass: Reflections of Power, Subjectivity, and the Self in the Iraqi Shi'a Diaspora
- **Dr Jane Moon:** Ur Region Archaeology Project
- **Emma Notfors:** Writing the Wastes: A Literary Chorography of the Arabian Desert in the Works of TE Lawrence and Gertrude Bell

The Annual Pilot Project Grant was awarded to:

- **Dr Claudia Glatz:** Tracing the Emergence of Social Complexity in Southern Mesopotamia: The Sirwan/Upper Diyala Regional Project

To be eligible for Academic Grants, applicants must have an official connection with a UK Higher Education Institution. Academic grants cannot pay institutional overheads, salary costs, PhD studentships, or other normal living costs. Research Grants and Conference Grants usually amount up to £4,000. Pilot Project Grants are usually up to £8,000.



Photos from Pilot Project award-holder Dr Claudia Glatz of The Sirwan/Upper Diyala Regional Project – exploring the emergence of social complexity in southern Mesopotamia during the period c.7000-3000 BC

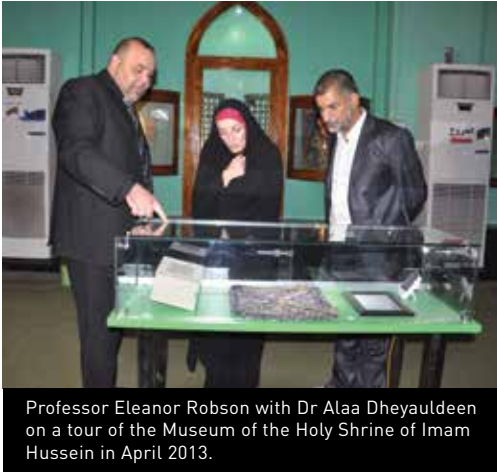
Visiting Iraqi Scholarships

One of the main criteria we have for visiting scholars is that they can demonstrate how they will use their time spent in the UK to benefit the cultural heritage and research environment of Iraq. We were therefore delighted to sponsor five scholars last year, three of whom are involved in major museum renovations.

Scholars 2013-2014

- **October 2013: Qahtan Al Abeed and Dr Amira Edan, Directors of the Basrah Museum and Iraq Museum,** spent two weeks in London in order to attend important planning meetings on the new Basrah Museum with partners at the Friends of Basrah Museum and the British Museum. It is hoped that the new museum will constitute an excellent cultural resource not just for Basrah, but for the whole of Southern Iraq.
- **February 2014: Dr Alaa Dheyauldeen, Director of the Museum of the Holy Shrine of Imam Hussein,** participated in a number of tours of Islamic galleries and collections, where he was able to receive practical advice on storage, cataloguing and the public display of objects. The Imam Hussein Museum is about to embark on a new phase of refurbishment and expansion. BISI will continue to offer support by providing UK expertise and co-ordinating a professional development programme in Karbala (outlined below).

- **March 2014: Dr Nabeel Nooruldeen Hussein, Dean of the College of Archaeology at Mosul University,** carried out a survey of the British Museum's Assyrian reliefs in order to put into context the recent findings made by his team at Nineveh, where he is Chief of Excavations.
- **April 2014: Father Behnam Sony, Priest and Lecturer at Saint Ephrem's Seminary in Baghdad,** accessed the world-class Syriac manuscript collection and received basic training in manuscript care and digitisation at the British Library. Father Sony is a distinguished scholar of Syriac and his visit to London contributed to his project to protect the literature and history of the Syriac Catholic Church in Iraq.



Professor Eleanor Robson with Dr Alaa Dheyauldeen on a tour of the Museum of the Holy Shrine of Imam Hussein in April 2013.

Professional Development Programme with the Museum of the Holy Shrine of Imam Hussein

Readers may recall from the previous Annual Report that we were exploring the possibility of running a series of museology courses at the Holy Shrines in Karbala. Plans are now underway to send a small team from the Victoria and Albert Museum to deliver the first of these courses at the Imam Hussein Holy Shrine in 2015-2016. This is, we hope, the first step in a long-term collaboration between BISI, the Iraqi shrines, and international experts in Shi'a material culture.

To ensure that the programme has the maximum impact, it will be open to museum professionals from all over Iraq.

OUTREACH

BISI furthered its aims to inform the public about ancient, medieval and modern Iraq through its annual lectures at the British Academy. This year we held the following talks:

- **Dr John MacGinnis** *Excavating a Provincial Capital of the Assyrian Empire: The Ziyaret Tepe Archaeological Project* (November 2013)
- **Dr Mariam Rosser-Owen and Dr Rosalind Wade Haddon** *A New Look at Samarra: Small Finds from the Herzfeld Excavation in the Victoria and Albert Museum* (February 2014)
- **Dr Nelida Fuccaro** *Oil Lives and Cultures in Iraq under the Monarchy* (June 2014)

As always, these lectures were free of charge and promoted widely to our members and the general public. Audio recordings of the talks were posted on our website to enable a wider audience to gain access.

In summer 2013, BISI returned to the Iraqi Cultural Centre in London to deliver activities for children. BISI's Volunteer Educational Leaders, Jennifer Hicks, Adam Stone and Michael Alexander devised and led two imaginative family sessions at the centre on the Royal Burials of Ur and the ancient epic of the Anzu Bird.

Events



Ahmed Mukhtar performing at the Taqasim Music School's recital, supported through a BISI Outreach Grant.

Photo: Anna Nicoli

Grants

In 2013/2014 BISI fulfilled its aim to support public engagement projects on Iraq by offering Outreach Grants to the following:

Events: exhibitions, theatre, workshops and conferences

- **Dr Mark Altaweel and Dr Adam Stone:** Teaching Geoarchaeological and Environmental Research Methods to Iraqi Archaeologists in Erbil (postponed until spring 2015)
- **Dr Kate Craddock:** The GB Project at Live Theatre, Newcastle (April 2014)
- **Fran Hazleton, The Enheduanna Society:** The Gilgamesh Epic Project (venues and dates tbc)
- **Tara Jaffar:** Stories My Mother Told Me: A Creative Exploration into Iraqi Identity and Belonging in London at the Iraqi Cultural Centre, London (November 2013)
- **Kate Kelley:** Annual Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology at Oxford University (April 2014)
- **Zarina Keyani:** The Gardens of Eden Project art-work and exhibition at Ragley Hall, Warwickshire (April 2015)
- **Dina Mousawi:** RETURN theatrical workshops at Richmix Theatre, London (January 2014)
- **Taqasim Music School:** Discovering the Iraqi Maqam on the Oud: An Introduction and Recital at St Ethelburga's Centre, London (June 2014)

Publications

- **Rana Ibrahim:** Iraqi Story and Proverb Book for Children
- **Ra Page, Comma Press:** Iraq + 100 Short Story Anthology edited by Hassan Blasim (publication planned for May 2015)
- **Richard Wilding:** Erbil-Research, Interpretation and Conservation of the World's Oldest City

Outreach Grants are normally up to £500 and are awarded to projects that clearly demonstrate an aim to promote a greater understanding of Iraq's culture and heritage. This may be through lectures, workshops and popular publications or

the performing arts. Applicants are required to be residents of the UK, with preference given to activities taking place in the UK and Iraq.

Notes: in accordance with BISI's Memorandum and Articles of Association, Dr Mark Altaweel (BISI Trustee) and Dr Adam Stone (BISI employee) withdrew from all discussions of their grant application. The application was judged for its quality and extent to which it met the criteria of BISI's outreach programme.

At the year end, BISI had paid an additional outreach grant of £500 to Rosie Garthwaite to support the documentary 'Back to the Baghdad Bulletin.' Unfortunately due to safety issues in Iraq in summer 2014 it was not possible for filming to go ahead and the award-holder returned the full grant to BISI.



Kate Craddock in the GB Project at Live Theatre, Newcastle - a one-woman theatrical project looking at Gertrude Bell's impact in the shaping of the modern day Middle East.

Communications

The website at www.bisi.ac.uk enables the public to engage in BISI's work in a number of ways. It is now very simple to register onto our free events, read PDFs of BISI fieldwork publications, and to listen to audio recordings of our lectures.

BISI's Volunteer Social Network Assistant, Jennifer Hicks, ensures that our social media sites are updated almost daily, with news, facts and links relating to the study of Iraq and to the history of the former archaeological school. The focus is very much on providing a lively, educational resource, which anyone can follow. Indeed cumulatively over 1,000 people choose to keep abreast of BISI's posts and tweets.

GERTRUDE BELL AND IRAQ – A LIFE AND LEGACY CONFERENCE

BISI joined forces with the British Academy to hold what was the first major international conference to examine Gertrude Bell's life and career in Iraq on 11-13 September 2013. With participants from Britain, Turkey, Iraq, France and North America, the conference featured a range of papers on Bell's role in the formation of the Iraqi state, her interests in Iraq's past, her experience as a 'woman in a man's world,' and her legacy for modern Iraq and neighbouring regions. This was a free public conference, opening with an over-subscribed panel discussion at the Royal Society on 'Britain and the Occupations of Iraq.'

As well as making audio recordings of all of the talks available on our website (www.bisi.ac.uk/events-archive), BISI will enable further reflection and discussion on Bell's extraordinary career and legacy in Iraq by publishing selected proceedings of the conference in a joint volume with the British Academy, which we hope will come out in 2015. Dr Paul Collins and Professor Charles Tripp are the voluntary editors of the volume.



Gertrude Bell on Horseback at Kubbet Duris, Lebanon 1900. Copyright: Newcastle University.

PUBLICATIONS

The Journal IRAQ

In 2014 Cambridge University Press became the publisher of BISI's annual journal, IRAQ. Through this partnership we have been able to add to our membership benefits. From 2014 onwards,

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subscribing members will not only receive the print journal, but they will also be given access to the digital archive of IRAQ at Cambridge Journals Online. This resource will feature every single volume of the journal, amounting to over eighty years' worth of articles by leading Assyriologists, archaeologists and historians of Iraq.

IRAQ is edited on a voluntary basis by Dr Jon Taylor of the British Museum and Dr Michael Seymour of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. They both work extremely hard to ensure that the journal continues to be an invaluable resource for scholars of Mesopotamia. Dr Taylor and Dr Seymour receive guidance from an Editorial Board, including several Council members, as well as Professor Karen Radner of UCL and Dr Mark Weeden of SOAS. An Honorarium is paid to the editors in recognition to their contribution to BISI (£1,000 per editor).

Fieldwork Reports and Publications

BISI has a small Publication Fund to assist authors who have outstanding fieldwork reports and publications connected to the excavations of our predecessor organisation, the BSAI. £3,000 of this fund was awarded to Dr Georgina Herrmann and Dr Stuart Laidlaw at the end of 2013 in order to support the preparation of photographic material for the final and eighth volume of the *Ivories from Nimrud series*.

At the time of writing this report we can also share news of two publication-related accomplishments.

BISI has made all of its past publications freely available on an Open Access basis. The majority of our books can be viewed at <http://www.bisi.ac.uk/content/book-catalogue>. Publications from the *Iraq Archaeological Report*, *Abu Salabikh* and *Tell Brak* series can be viewed at The Archive of Mesopotamian Archaeological Reports, thanks to our friends at Stony Brook University: <http://digital.library.stonybrook.edu/cdm/search/collection/amar>

The Archaeological Atlas of Samarra: Samarra Studies II by Alastair Northedge and Derek Kennet is excitingly close to publication. This three volume-book maps and catalogues, for the first time, all of the buildings of the Abbasid capital at Samarra, from the caliph palaces to the smallest hovels.

FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT

BISI has been focusing a great deal of energy to raise funds in order to expand its activities in the UK and Iraq. We introduced our plans for the future at a reception at the House of Lords on 18 October 2013, attended by past supporters and potential investors in BISI. It was thanks to our Patron Lord Lamont of Lerwick that we were able to hold the launch in such a prestigious setting.

Following an eight-month period of consultation with More Partnership, BISI made changes to its fundraising strategy. Firstly in November 2013 we appointed Dr Adam Stone as BISI Development Co-ordinator, a role dedicated to shaping BISI's fundraising strategies and priorities. We also created a Fundraising Taskforce to provide guidance to Dr Stone. The Taskforce receives advice from the former Appeal Committee on a case by case basis.

Over the past financial year we have received donations from the Mansour Bank of Iraq and The British Iraqi Friendship Society. A number of our members kindly included donations in response to our 'Case for Support' with their annual subscriptions.

We received one non-monetary gift. Long-standing member Richard Hitchcock, who died in October 2013, bequeathed his book collection to BISI, amounting to 87 books on the Ancient Near East. BISI has limited storage space and opportunities to display such gifts, but where possible we try to accommodate the thoughtful generosity of our members and donors.

VOLUNTEERS

We have been fortunate enough to have been supported by a number of wonderful volunteers over the past financial year. The following have regularly given their time to help BISI to achieve its charitable goals:

- **Jennifer Hicks** generates weekly content for BISI's social network sites (approx. 42 hrs in this financial year);
- **Alan Sandall** Secretary to the Fundraising Taskforce, provides administrative support to BISI's fundraising work (approx. 80 hrs in this financial year);
- **Dr Lamia al-Gailani Werr** offers invaluable guidance to officers on Iraq's culture and politics.

The following kindly volunteered on a one-off basis:

- **Tom Russell** produced an interview with Dr John MacGinnis for the BISI website
- **Dr Anba Farhan** and **Francesca Rondina** assisted behind the scenes at two BISI events

As always it has to be said that the Visiting Iraqi Scholars Programme would not be possible without the goodwill of those volunteers who provide support to our scholars. The following 'thank you' is reprinted from the BISI Newsletter 32 and lists all of those who generously gave their time to ensure that our scholars not only had a rich, academic experience but that they also felt welcome and part of a community:

Riadh Alkhalisi, Dr Mark Altaweel (UCL), Dr Moya Carey (V&A), Dr Paul Collins (Ashmolean Museum), Dr Tao-Tao Chang (Fitzwilliam Museum), Dr Vesta Curtis (British Museum), Dr Lamia al- Gailani Werr, Professor Andrew George (SOAS), Dr Erica D. Hunter (SOAS), Jennifer Hicks (UCL), Rana Ibrahim, Dr Francesca Leoni (Ashmolean Museum), Dr Stuart Laidlaw (UCL), Daniel Lowe (British Library), Mark Norman (Ashmolean Museum), Ali Mehdi, Dr Stella Panayotova (Fitzwilliam Museum), Dr Adi Popescu (Fitzwilliam Museum), Dr Venetia Porter (British Museum), Dr Julian Reade (British Museum), Sarah Reading (British Library), Kristine Rose (Fitzwilliam Museum), Dr Tim Stanley (V&A), Dr Nigel Tallis (British Museum), Father John Whooley and Reem Zako.

FUTURE EVENTS AND PLANS

Research and Fieldwork

Over the coming years we will endeavour to provide financial assistance to UK-led research, conferences and pilot projects focused on the lands and peoples of Iraq.

In addition, we will strive to support our Iraqi colleagues even in difficult circumstances. In June 2014 at the height of ISIS attacks, we issued an emergency grant to pay for the guarding of the archaeological site of Nimrud, south of Mosul. Nimrud was the British School of Archaeology in Iraq's flagship fieldwork project from 1948 to 1962. The finds from this site are still being catalogued in the *Ivories from Nimrud* series (mentioned on p. 11), while a recent AHRC-funded research project directed by Eleanor Robson at the University of Cambridge and University College London analyses the ways in which archaeological knowledge has been produced from the site (<http://oracc.org/nimrud>).

Another way that we hope to assist our Iraqi colleagues is through the Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Programme. In November 2014, we appointed Kristian Girling as part-time Co-ordinator of the programme. Kristian will work closely with our scholars to ensure that they achieve their academic goals in the UK.

When the security situation permits, we will move forward with our plans to recruit an Iraq-based Facilitator to help us to give direct support to in-country research and education.

Outreach

We already have a series of public lectures planned for 2014-2015 as part of our annual programme at the British Academy:

- 20 November 2014, Dr Jane Moon *Back to Babylonia: Recent Excavations at Tell Khaiber*
- 26 February 2015, Jonathan Watkins *Welcome to Iraq*, exploring contemporary artists from Iraq
- 11 June 2015, Professor Emilie Savage Smith *Surgeons and Physicians in Medieval Iraq*

Alongside these formal lectures we also hope to run interactive events for adults at the Iraqi Cultural Centre in London aimed at a non-academic audience.

We will continue to invite educators and artists from across the UK to apply for funding through our Outreach Grant Scheme.

We will also focus energies on membership with BISI by creating attractive marketing materials and a new database which will help us to store information about our supporters in a more efficient way. In particular we hope to increase student membership. As the academics of the future, we are keen to engage students in our work to promote research and knowledge of Iraq's history, society and culture.



Jonathan Watkins, Director of the Ikon Gallery in Birmingham, will deliver BISI's 81ST Annual Mallowan Lecture. Photo: courtesy of the Ruya Foundation

Publications

Over the next few years, the Publications Committee will work closely with authors who have outstanding reports on BSAl-led excavations to ensure that their findings are disseminated as widely and expeditiously as possible. Having these reports in the public domain will be of great benefit to researchers of Mesopotamian archaeology.

It is anticipated that the following books will be published in 2015-2016:

Umm Dabaghiyah by Stuart Campbell

The proceedings of the *Gertrude Bell and Iraq: A Life and Legacy* conference, published by the British Academy, edited by Charles Tripp and Paul Collins

Plans to produce Arabic translations of our publications are ongoing: an important project for BISI.



The walls of Shaykh Wali – medieval Karkh Samarra – in 1989, from the forthcoming publication, *Samarra Studies II* by Alastair Northedge and Derek Kennet.

Fundraising and Development

BISI has continued to expand on the work of the Appeal and the early successes of the first six months of the new Development plan. Regular donations continue to arrive from our members and friends, but our major requirement of expanding our network into businesses, funds and individuals with connections to Iraq has now begun to bear fruit. We have new and productive relationships with a number of specific companies and trusts who are interested in funding several of our primary projects to support Iraq and its cultural heritage. Further meetings to develop other contacts and expand our connections are planned for the coming months. Importantly, we have finalised many of the necessary policies and proper documentation essential to a development campaign. In reaction to the current difficulties facing the north of Iraq, we have had successful meetings to develop collaborations with CARA (Council for at-Risk Academics) and are working towards increasing the moneys available to continue BISI's successful Visiting Scholars Programme.



For almost a decade BISI's Visiting Iraqi Scholarships have enabled Iraqi scholars and cultural heritage professionals to engage in training and research in the UK. Help us to build on the successes of the programme by making a donation at www.bisi.ac.uk/content/donations

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts for the year ended 30 June 2014 are attached to this report and a review of BISI's transactions and financial position is set out below.

BISI had net outgoing resources of £80,320 before realised and unrealised gains or losses on investment assets. This was made up of a deficit for the year for unrestricted funds of £61,598 to support BISI's on-going work. A deficit to the restricted funds for the year of £18,722 related mostly to the funding of Visiting Iraqi Scholars.

Some investment assets were sold during the year to provide additional funds and a gain of £1,427 was realised.

Investment assets were marked to market at the year-end and resulting in an unrealised gain of £54,142 for the year.

Unrestricted Funds

BISI had four principal sources of unrestricted income. They were from subscriptions (£25,186), the donation of office facilities and rent in kind (£21,227), investment income from the Barings Targeted Return Fund (£41,811) and publication sales (£13,293).

Restricted Funds

Continued activity in the Iraqi Visiting Scholars Programme resulted in net outgoing resources of £18,722, and an unrealised gain of £185 which reduced the restricted funds carried forward to £39,930.

Investment Policy

Decisions about what form of investment will be most suitable for the needs of BISI are influenced by both the short-term and long-term future of BISI and the effects of market fluctuations and inflation on capital and income.

In 13/14 the Finance Committee undertook a review of the performance of the investment portfolio and decided that an alternative investment vehicle should be sought for the portfolio to better meet the criteria required by the trustees from the Institutes investments. 2 Investment managers were invited to put a proposal to the Finance Committee and Investec was chosen to be the investment manager. The current portfolio (held at Barings) will be liquidated in 14/15 and a managed portfolio set up with Investec. The current investment policy statement continues to reflect the current position of the Institute.

Current Investment Policy Statement

1. The statement is produced in accordance with section 15 of the Trustee Act.
2. The Trustees have agreed to delegate the investment of specified funds to Baring Asset Management.
3. The investment policy of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (charity no. 1135395) is to seek to produce the optimal total return from its investment portfolio, with the target being the Consumer Price Index plus 5% on an annualised basis over rolling three-year periods.
4. The Trustees wish to adopt a medium risk strategy. This should be achieved through a diversified portfolio of investments. At present, this is held via the Target Return Common Investment Fund.
5. The investment manager should have regard to the suitability of investments pertaining to a charity and monitored by the Charity Commission.
6. The Trustees are willing to agree the widest range

of investments as permitted by the Trustee Act 2000, with consideration to the aforementioned.

7. A review of the investments is to be provided by the investment manager to The British Institute for the Study of Iraq's Finance Committee on the basis determined by the committee.

8. The Finance Committee will undertake periodic reviews (every two or three years) of the investment performance and will contact other investment advisers during this review.

Statement about Risk and Reserves Policy

Council undertakes a review of the major risks to which BISI is exposed, and systems designed to mitigate those risks have been considered. Council is determined to hold the working fund reserves at a level sufficient to cover operating costs for at least twelve months. If it should appear likely that these limits will be breached, Council should consider, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, what appropriate action to take.

A Note on BISI's Heritage Assets: The Ivories from Nimrud

BISI is the custodian of ivories excavated from Nimrud in an excavation led by Sir Max Mallowan for the British School of Archaeology in Iraq in the mid-twentieth century. The value of the ivories is such that, through its accounts, BISI may appear to be in a comfortable financial position. However, the ivories are a non-income earning asset and are not BISI's to sell, only to protect. The ivories came to us in an era in which it was standard practice for archaeological expeditions to keep some of their finds, and while we have a duty of care towards these precious artefacts, BISI is not in a position to profit from them. Currently the ivories are in long-term safe-keeping at the British Museum.

The following served as members of the BISI Council for all or part of the year ended 30 June 2014.

Dr Mark Altaweel
Dr Teresa Bernheimer
Edward Chaplin CMG, OBE
Dr Paul Collins
Dr John Curtis OBE, FBA
Peter Davies
Dr Nelida Fuccaro
Professor Hugh Kennedy
Joan Porter Maclver
Dr Harriet Martin
Dr Ellen McAdam
Dr Augusta McMahon
Dr Glen Rangwala
Professor Eleanor Robson
Professor Emilie Savage-Smith FBA
Dr Adam Stone
Professor Charles Tripp FBA

Dr Adam Stone relinquished his trustee status in November 2013 following his appointment as BISI Development Co-ordinator (in accordance with our governing documents). Two further members of Council stepped down before the end of the financial year: Dr Teresa Bernheimer at the February 2014 AGM and Professor Hugh Kennedy in June 2014.

The Report of Council also represents a Directors report as required by s417 of the Companies Act 2006. Advantage has been taken of the exemptions available to small companies in the preparation of this report.

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL



Eleanor Robson
Chair



Peter Davies
Hon Treasurer

Dated: 12 December 2014

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The members of Council (who are also directors of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Council's Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires Council to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, Council is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

Council is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Council is responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ (GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)

Independent Examiner's Report to the members of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) for the year ended 30 June 2014

I report on the financial statements of the company for the year ended 30 June 2014 as set out on pages 20 to 35. This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the '2011 Act') and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state where particular matters have come to my attention.

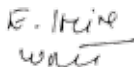
Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
 - to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or
- b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Elizabeth Irvine FCA
WMT - Chartered Accountants

Date: 19 December 2014

45 Grosvenor Road
St Albans
Herts; AL1 3AW

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

**Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account)
For the year ended 30 June 2014**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds 2014 £	Total Funds 2013 £
Incoming Resources						
Incoming resources from generated Funds						
Voluntary income:						
Donations and subscriptions	2a	46,413	0	0	46,413	42,462
Appeal and event income	2b	4,104	0	0	4,104	1,998
Investment income	2c	42,148	144	0	42,292	42,884
Incoming resources from charitable activities	2d	13,293	0	0	13,293	11,900
Total incoming resources		105,958	144	0	106,102	99,244
Resources Expended						
Charitable activities						
Grants payable	3a	27,525	18,741	0	46,266	36,241
Other charitable activity costs	3b	112,397	125	0	112,522	83,552
Cost of publications	3b	21,235	0	0	21,235	14,701
Governance costs	3b	7,836	0	0	7,836	3,826
Total resources expended		168,993	18,866	0	187,859	138,320
Net outgoing resources		(63,035)	(18,722)	0	(81,757)	(39,076)
Realised gains on disposals of investment assets:	6	1,427	0	0	1,427	6,350
Net income/(expenditure) for the year		(61,608)	(18,722)	0	(80,330)	(32,726)
Unrealised gains on revaluation of investment assets	6	48,829	185	5,128	54,142	66,898
Net movement of funds for the year		(12,779)	(18,537)	5,128	(26,188)	34,172
Reconciliation of funds						
Funds brought forward		2,578,973	58,467	128,096	2,765,536	2,731,364
Net movement of funds for the year		(12,779)	(18,537)	5,128	(26,188)	34,172
Total funds carried forward		2,566,194	39,930	133,224	2,739,348	2,765,536

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses in the year.

All incoming resources and resources expended derive from continuing activities.

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2014

	Notes	2014	2013
		£	£
Fixed Assets:			
Tangible assets - computer and office equipment	4a	0	152
Heritage assets - Nimrud Ivories	4b	1,326,000	1,326,000
Investments :			
Endowment fund	6	128,557	123,429
Other funds	6	<u>1,228,693</u>	<u>1,213,252</u>
		<u>2,683,250</u>	<u>2,662,833</u>
Current Assets:			
Stock of publications		34,478	41,558
Debtors	7	17,617	19,855
Cash at bank and in hand	8	<u>13,441</u>	<u>67,480</u>
		65,536	128,893
Liabilities:			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	<u>9,438</u>	<u>26,190</u>
Net current assets		56,098	102,703
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>2,739,348</u>	<u>2,765,536</u>
The Funds of the Charity:			
Unrestricted fund	15	2,566,194	2,578,973
Endowment fund (including transfer from Gertrude Bell fund)	14	133,224	128,096
Restricted fund	13	39,930	58,467
Total Charity Funds		<u>2,739,348</u>	<u>2,765,536</u>

The Institute was entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of Section 475 and 477 of the Companies Act 2006. No member has deposited notice with the Institute requesting that an audit be carried out.

The members of the Council acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 Companies Act 2006.
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its statement of financial affairs for the period in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 Companies Act 2006 and which otherwise complies with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts so far as they are applicable to the company.

Approved by the Council and signed on its behalf:



Eleanor Robson – Chair of Council



Peter Davies – Hon Treasurer

Dated 12 December 2014

Charity Registration No. 1135395 Company Registration No. 06966984 (England and Wales)

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ (GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2014

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

- a) The accounts have been prepared under the historic cost convention with the exception that investments are valued at market value. The accounts are prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, the Charities SORP 2005 (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) and comply with the Companies Act 2006.
- b) Investment income is recorded when receivable. Income arising on endowment funds is treated as unrestricted.
- c) Gift aid reclaimable on donations to the charity is included with the amount received.
- d) Grants are included in the accounts in the period to which they relate. Time related grants received in advance are treated as deferred income.
- e) Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of the service provided by the volunteers has not been included in these accounts.
- f) Investments are carried at market value. Changes in market value are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year that they occur.
- g) Liabilities for expenditure are recognised in accordance with the accruals concept. Support costs are allocated in full to expenditure incurred on charitable activities. The majority of costs are allocated on a pro-rated basis over the different activities undertaken by the institute, excluding activities which are financed by restricted funds. Support costs which are related to a specific activity are allocated to that activity in full. The Trustees consider this to be the most appropriate method of allocation.
- h) The ivories held by the British Museum were donated to the Institute and have been treated as heritage assets and included in the accounts at market value. No depreciation has been charged on these assets (see note 2) as they are considered to have an indefinite life.
Tangible fixed assets over £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows;
- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| Computer Equipment | 3 years Straight line |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
- i) Stock of publications is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.
- j) The Institute participates in the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), a defined benefit pension scheme, which is contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P). The assets of the scheme are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. Because of the mutual nature of the scheme, the scheme's assets are not hypothecated to individual institutions and a scheme-wide contribution rate is set. The Institute is therefore exposed to actuarial risks associated with other institutions' employees and is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis and therefore, as required by FRS 17 "Retirement Benefits" accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the income and expenditure account represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period.

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2014 (CONTINUED)

2 Incoming Resources

Incoming resources from generated funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endow- ment	2014 Total	2013 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
a Donations and subscriptions					
Subscriptions from members	22,680	0	0	22,680	18,501
Gift Aid - recoverable	1,113	0	0	1,113	505
Provision of office facilities and rent in kind	21,227	0	0	21,227	22,699
Other donations	1,393	0	0	1,393	757
Total donations and subscriptions	46,413	0	0	46,413	42,462

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endow- ment	2014 Total	2013 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
b Appeal and event income					
Appeal	4,104	0	0	4,104	0
Nimrud event	0	0	0	0	150
Erbil event	0	0	0	0	970
Robert Irwin Event	0	0	0	0	593
Sponsor Xavier Pick event and Mohammed Kasim Jwad	0	0	0	0	285
Total appeal and event income	4,104	0	0	4,104	1,998

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endow- ment	2014 Total	2013 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
c Investment income					
Dividends on Barings investments	41,811	141	0	41,952	42,574
Bank of COIF deposit interest	337	3	0	340	310
Total investment income	42,148	144	0	42,292	42,884

Any income arising on investments in the endowment fund is treated as unrestricted income.

	Unrestricted	Restrict ed	Endow -ment	2014 Total	2013 Total
d Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Publication sales and copyright fees	13,293	0	0	13,293	8,900
Publication subventions	0	0	0	0	3,000

Total incoming resources from charitable activities

13,293 0 0 13,293 11,900

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

3 Resources Expended - Charitable Activities

a Grants payable - Unrestricted funds

BISI made grants to 20 individuals in the year (18 in 2012/13) and 1 organisation.

	2014	2013
	£	£
Research and conference grants	11,864	16,994
Pilot project grants	8,000	8,000
Outreach grants	4,661	3,714
Publications support grant	3,000	0
	27,525	28,708

Research and Conference Grants

	2014	2013
	£	£
Unrestricted research grants were made to 7 individuals (9 in 2012/13)		
Dr Julien Charbonnier and Kristen Hopper: Conference Grant, <i>The qanāt: Archaeology and Environment at Durham University</i>	1,000	0
Dr Jon Taylor: Conference Grant, <i>Talking Tablets: Understanding the Materiality of Cuneiform Tablets and its Implications for Research and Preservation at the British Museum</i>	3,000	0
Dr Eleni Asouti: Research Grant, <i>Eastern Fertile Crescent Prehistory Project: Environmental Change, Resource Management Strategies and Community Interactions in North-Eastern Iraq at the Dawn of Agriculture</i>	3,500	0
Emanuelle Degli Esposti: Research Grant, <i>Through the Fractured Looking Glass: Reflections of Power, Subjectivity, and the Self in the Iraqi Shi'a Diaspora</i>	3,500	0
Dr Jane Moon: Research Grant, <i>Ur Region Archaeology Project</i>	3,500	0
Emma Notfors: Research Grant, <i>Writing the Wastes: A Literary Chorography of the Arabian Desert in the Works of TE Lawrence and Gertrude Bell</i>	460	0
Dr Stephanie Dalley: Conference grant, <i>Translation in Texts from the Ancient Near East at Oxford University</i>	0	100
Renad Mansour and Michael Clark: Conference Grant, <i>Iraq 10 Years On at Cambridge University</i>	0	2,000
Zoe Holman: Research Grant, <i>After Iraq: Diaspora Contributions to Democratisation and British Intervention in the Arab Middle East</i>	0	1,900
Flavia Ravaioli: Research Grant, <i>Sustainable Materials for the Conservation of Cultural Heritage: Researching Appropriate Conservation methods in Iraqi Kurdistan</i>	0	800
Mohammad Ali Shabani: Research Grant, <i>Shi'a Brothers, Shi'a Rivals: Competition and Cooperation between Iran and Post-Saddam Iraq</i>	0	3,500
Nussaibah Younis : Research Grant, <i>To What Extent have Conditions of State Weakness Shaped Iraqi Foreign Policy 2003-2012?</i>	0	3,694
Dr Mark Altaaweel: Research Grant, <i>Fluvial Change and Sedimentation during the Holocene in the Shahrzior</i>	0	3,000
Dr John MacGinnis: Research Grant, <i>Ziyaret Tepe Archaeological Project (final fieldwork season)</i>	0	2,000
Less overprovision of research grants in previous years	(3,096)	-
Subtotal research and conference grants	11,864	16,994

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

BISI Pilot Project Grant

Unrestricted pilot project grants were made to 1 individuals (2 in 2012/13)

Dr Claudia Glatz: *Tracing the Emergence of Social Complexity in Southern Mesopotamia: The Sirwan/Upper Diyala Regional Project*

2014 **2013**
£ **£**

8,000 0
0 8,000

Dr Mariam Rosser-Owen and Dr Rosalind Wade Haddon: *Samarra finds from the Herzfeld Excavations in the Victoria & Albert Museum*

Total research grants

19,864 24,994

Outreach Grants

Unrestricted Outreach grants were made to 9 individuals (7 in 2012/13) and 3 organisations

2014 **2013**
£ **£**

Dr Mark Altaweel and Dr Adam Stone: *Teaching Geoarchaeological and Environmental Research Methods to Iraqi Archaeologists* in Erbil

500 0

Dr Kate Craddock: *The GB Project* at Live Theatre Newcastle

500 0

Fran Hazleton, The Enheduanna Society: *The Gilgamesh epic project*

500 0

Tara Jaffar: *Stories My Mother Told Me: A Creative Exploration into Iraqi Identity and Belonging in London* at the Iraqi Cultural Centre London

250 0

Kate Kelley: *Annual Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology* at Oxford University

525 0

Zarina Keyani: *The Gardens of Eden Project* art-work and exhibition at Ragley Hall, Warwickshire

500 0

Dina Mousawi: *RETURN* theatrical workshops at Richmix Theatre London

500 0

Francesco Iannuzzelli, Taqasim Music School: *Discovering the Iraqi Maqam on the Oud* at St Ethelburga's Centre London

450 0

Rana Ibrahim: *Iraqi Story and Proverb Book for Children*

200 0

Ra Page, Comma Press: *Iraq + 100 Short Story Anthology*

500 0

Richard Wilding: *Erbil - Research, Interpretation and Conservation of the World's Oldest City*

500 0

Rosie Garthwaite: *Back to the Baghdad Bulletin*

500 0

Daniel Gormany, Firefly: *Reel Iraq Panel Discussions: Culture, Conflict & Iraq* at SOAS

0 500

Miles Lester-Pearson : *The Annual Meeting of Postgraduates in Ancient Literature* at St Andrews University

0 400

Moudhy Al-Rashid: *Annual Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology* at Oxford University

0 550

Adalet Garmainy , ArtRole: *Women in Action Conference* in Erbil, Sulaimaniyah and Kirkuk

0 500

Dr Layla Alroomi: *The Mandeian of Iraq and Iran* exhibition - 2013 grant withdrawn in 2014

(500) 500

Sarah Panizzo, Gulan : *The Christians of Kurdistan* at the Royal Geographical Society London

0 764

Dr Erica Hunter: *Christianity in Iraq Seminar Day X* at SOAS, London

0 500

Less overprovision of outreach grants in 2012/2013

(264) 0

4,661 3,714

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

Publication Support Grant

One publication support grant was made to 2 individuals in 2013/14 (0 in 2012/13)

Georgina Herrmann and Stuart Laidlaw,
Ivories from Nimrud VIII

Total unrestricted grants payable

2014	2013
£	£
3,000	0
<u>27,525</u>	<u>28,708</u>

Grants payable restricted funds

Visiting Iraqi Scholarships

In addition to the 2013/14 grants detailed above, BISI funded 5 Iraqi Visiting Scholars (1 during 2012/13)

Dr Amira Edan

Qahtan Al Abeer

Dr Nabeel Nooruldeen Hussein

Father Behnam Sony

Dr Alaa Dheyauldeen

Saber Ahmed Saber

2014	2013
£	£
3,541	0
3,057	0
3,065	0
5,616	0
3,462	0
0	8,985
<u>18,741</u>	<u>8,985</u>

Returned grants

Return from conference grant Stephanie Dalley

Return from Khyam Allami

Returned Visiting Iraqi Scholarship - University of St Andrews (UK Visas for Iraqi conference participants not granted)

0	9
0	143
0	1,300
<u>0</u>	<u>1,452</u>

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

b Other Charitable Activity costs

(including support costs)	Working fund directly attributed to costs	Restricted	Gover- nance	2014 total	2013 total
	£	£	£	£	£
Directly allocated costs London					
Visiting Scholars expenditure and appeal events (excluding visiting scholarships)	4,922	0	0	4,922	2,132
London activities and lecture expenditure	16,707	125	0	16,832	3,081
PR and newsletter expenses	1,143	0	0	1,143	3,881
Total London Expenditure	22,772	125	0	22,897	9,094
Other direct costs					
Printing annual report	0	0	350	350	343
Publication and journal costs	21,235	0	0	21,235	14,701
Total Other direct costs	21,235	0	350	21,585	15,044
Support costs allocated to activities					
London office administration salary & pension	42,571	0	0	42,571	40,407
Office expenditure	2,780	0	919	3,699	2,367
Rent and service charges	21,227	0	0	21,227	22,699
Bank and credit card charges	919	0	0	919	417
Examination fee	0	0	1,275	1,275	1,275
Accountancy (including support)	0	0	1,428	1,428	204
Consultancy costs	22,128	0	0	22,128	8,568
Legal fees and miscellaneous	0	0	588	588	212
Council and committee meetings	0	0	2,751	2,751	1,003
Council and other travel expenses	0	0	373	373	561
Depreciation	0	0	152	152	228
Total Support costs	89,625	0	7,486	97,111	77,941
Total resources expended (excluding grants)	133,632	125	7,836	141,593	102,079

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

The independent examination fee for the year amounted to £1,275 (2013 fee £1,275)

4 Tangible fixed assets	Computer equipment	Total
	£	£
a Cost		
brought forward at 1 July 2013	4,172	4,172
	<hr/>	<hr/>
carried forward at 30 June 2014	4,172	4,172
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Depreciation		
brought forward at 1 July 2013	4,020	4,020
charge in the year	152	152
	<hr/>	<hr/>
carried forward at 30 June 2014	4,172	4,172
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net book value		
At 30 June 2014	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 1 July 2013	152	152
	<hr/>	<hr/>
5 Heritage Assets		
	Nimrud Ivories	Total
	£	£
Movements in the year		
brought forward at 1 July 2013	1,326,000	1,326,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
carried forward at 30 June 2014	1,326,000	1,326,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

During 2010/11 the Council of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq signed a memorandum of understanding with the British Museum, that detailed the donation by the charity of certain specific ivories totalling £1,404,000 in value in consideration of the care the Museum had taken in conserving these valuable heritage assets for over two decades. The Museum was able to raise funds through its 'Nimrud Ivories Appeal' to acquire specific ivories totalling £1,170,000 in value from the Institute and the sixty-five ivories, valued at £1,326,000 have been retained and are shown in the accounts as heritage assets. As part of the arrangements the British Museum will continue to take care of the remaining ivories, which will now be covered under UK government indemnity against loss or damage.

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

6	Investments	2014		2013	
		Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
		£	£	£	£
Endowment Fund					
	Barings Targeted Return Fund				
	Gertrude Bell Memorial	123,778	128,557	123,778	123,429
Restricted Funds					
	Barings Targeted Return Fund				
	Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	2,330	2,420	2,330	2,324
	Barings Targeted Return Fund				
	Mallowan Fund	2,125	2,207	2,125	2,118
	Total Restricted Funds	4,455	4,627	4,455	4,442
Unrestricted Funds					
	Barings Targeted Return Fund	1,137,505	1,224,066	1,170,000	1,208,810
Total Investments		2014		2013	
		Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
		£	£	£	£
Total Endowment Fund		123,778	128,557	123,778	123,429
Total Restricted Funds		4,455	4,627	4,455	4,442
Total Unrestricted Funds		1,137,505	1,224,066	1,170,000	1,208,810
		1,265,738	1,357,250	1,298,233	1,336,681
Movements in Investment Assets					
Brought forward at 1 July 2013		1,298,233	1,336,681	1,358,448	1,326,823
Disposals		(32,495)	(35,000)	(60,215)	(63,390)
Acquisitions		0	0	0	0
Increase/(decrease) in valuation		0	54,142	0	66,898
Realised gain		0	1,427	0	6,350
carried forward at 30 June 2014		1,265,738	1,357,250	1,298,233	1,336,681
All investments were held in the UK.					

**THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(GERTRUDE BELL MEMORIAL)**

7 Debtors	Unrestricted	Restricted	2014	2013
			Total	Total
			£	£
Tax recoverable	1,113	0	1,113	505
Debtors: Subscription income due	0	0	0	0
Debtors: Publication income due	4,061	0	4,061	3,462
Debtors: Prepayments	0	0	0	1,051
Debtors: Investment income - debtor	12,311	42	12,353	12,545
VAT recoverable	90	0	90	2,292
	<u>17,575</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>17,617</u>	<u>19,855</u>

8 Cash and Deposits at Bank	2014	2013
	Total	Total
	£	£
Current account	10,850	24,887
Deposit account	2,591	42,593
	<u>13,441</u>	<u>67,480</u>

9 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	Unrestricted	Restricted	2014	2013
			£	£
Accrued expenses	1,530	0	1,530	2,266
Accounts payable	2,673	0	2,673	19,040
London office - grants payable	5,000	0	5,000	4,860
Pension liability	24	0	24	24
Payroll liability	211	0	211	0
	<u>9,438</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>9,438</u>	<u>26,190</u>

10 Employees	2014	2013
	£	£
The Institute employed 1 part-time employees during the year (2013: 2)		
Salaries	22,579	33,313
Social security	1,003	1,764
Pension contributions (see below)	<u>3,613</u>	<u>5,330</u>
	<u>27,195</u>	<u>40,407</u>

All employee costs in 2014 and 2013 were made out of unrestricted funds.

There were no employees that earned in excess of £60,000 during the year

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11 Pensions

The Institute participates in the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS), a defined benefit scheme which is contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P). The assets of the scheme are held in a separate fund administered by the trustee, Universities Superannuation Scheme Limited.

The latest triennial actuarial valuation of the scheme was at 31 March 2011. This was the second valuation for USS under the scheme-specific funding regime introduced by the Pensions Act 2004, which requires schemes to adopt a statutory funding objective, which is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to cover their technical provisions. The actuary also carries out regular reviews of the funding levels. In particular, he carries out a review of the funding level each year between triennial valuations and details of his estimate of the funding level at 31 March 2014 are also included in this note.

The triennial valuation was carried out using the projected unit method. The assumptions which have the most significant effect on the result of the valuation are those relating to the rate of return on investments (i.e. the valuation rate of interest), the rates of increase in salary and pensions and the assumed rates of mortality. The financial assumptions were derived from market yields prevailing at the valuation date. An "inflation risk premium" adjustment was also included by deducting 0.3% from the market-implied inflation on account of the historically high level of inflation implied by government bonds (particularly when compared to the Bank of England's target of 2% for CPI which corresponds broadly to 2.75% for RPI per annum).

To calculate the technical provisions, it was assumed that the valuation rate of interest would be 6.1% per annum, salary increases would be 4.4% per annum (with short-term general pay growth at 3.65% per annum and an additional allowance for increases in salaries due to age and promotion reflecting historic scheme experience, with a further cautionary reserve on top for past service liabilities) and pensions would increase by 3.4% per annum for 3 years following the valuation then 2.6% per annum thereafter.

At the valuation date, the value of the assets of the scheme was £32,433.5 million and the value of the scheme's technical provisions was £35,343.7 million indicating a shortfall of £2,910.2 million. The assets therefore were sufficient to cover 92% of the benefits which had accrued to members after allowing for expected future increases in earnings.

The actuary also valued the scheme on a number of other bases as at the valuation date. On the scheme's historic gilts basis, using a valuation rate of interest in respect of past service liabilities of 4.4% per annum (the expected return on gilts) the funding level was approximately 68%. Under the Pension Protection Fund regulations introduced by the Pensions Act 2004 the scheme was 93% funded; on a buy-out basis (i.e. assuming the scheme had discontinued on the valuation date) the assets would have been approximately 57% of the amount necessary to secure all the USS benefits with an insurance company; and using the FRS17 formula as if USS was a single employer scheme, using a AA bond discount rate of 5.5% per annum based on spot yields, the actuary estimated that the funding level at 31 March 2011 was 82%.

As part of this valuation, the trustee has determined, after consultation with the employers, a recovery plan to pay off the shortfall by 31 March 2021. In 2011 the actuary estimated that if experience remained in line with the assumptions made, the shortfall at 31 March 2014 would be £2.2 billion, equivalent to a funding level of 95%.

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However, changes in market conditions between March 2011 and March 2014 have had an impact on scheme funding. The next formal triennial actuarial valuation will take place as at 31 March 2014, and work is currently underway to update the actuarial assumptions and allow for any adjustments to the overall funding approach adopted by the trustee board in consultation with stakeholders.

As work on the 2014 valuation is not yet complete the trustee cannot provide the final figure however, an estimate has been provided using the assumptions used to deliver the 2011 actuarial valuation. On that basis, the actuary has estimated that the funding level under the scheme specific funding regime will have fallen from 92% at 31 March 2011 to 85% at 31 March 2014. This estimate is based on the results from the valuation at 31 March 2011 allowing primarily for investment returns and changes to market conditions.

The funding level has decreased mainly due to a decrease in real gilt yields, reducing the implied net discount rate and therefore placing a higher value on the schemes liabilities. This increase has been partially offset by a higher than expected investment return.

On the FRS17 basis, using an AA bond discount rate of 4.5% per annum based on spot yields, the actuary estimates that the funding level at 31 March 2014 was 75%. An estimate of the funding level measured on a historic gilts basis at that date was approximately 61%.

Surpluses or deficits which arise at future valuations may impact on the institution's future contribution commitment. A deficit may require additional funding in the form of higher contribution requirements, where a surplus could, perhaps, be used to similarly reduce contribution requirements.

The technical provisions relate essentially to the past service liabilities and funding levels, but it is also necessary to assess the ongoing cost of newly accruing benefits. The cost of future accrual was calculated using the same assumptions as those used to calculate the technical provisions but the allowance for promotional salary increases was not as high. Analysis has shown very variable levels of growth over and above general pay increases in recent years, and the salary growth assumption built into the cost of future accrual is based on more stable, historic, salary experience. However, when calculating the past service liabilities of the scheme, a cautionary reserve was included, in addition, on account of the variability mentioned above.

As at the 2011 valuation the scheme was still a fully Final Salary Scheme for future accruals and the prevailing employer contribution rate was 16% of Salaries.

Following UK government legislation, from 2011 statutory pension increases or revaluations are based on the Consumer Prices Index measure of price inflation. Historically these increases had been based on the Retail Prices Index measure of price inflation.

Since the valuation effective date of 31 March 2011 there have been a number of changes to the benefits provided by the scheme although these became effective from October 2011. These include:

New Entrants

Other than in specific, limited circumstances, new entrants are now provided benefits on a Career Revalued Benefits (CRB) basis rather than a Final Salary (FS) basis.

Normal pension age

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The normal pension age was increased for future service and new entrants, to age 65.

Flexible Retirement

Flexible retirement options were introduced.

Member contributions increased

Contributions were uplifted to 7.5% p.a. and 6.5% p.a. for FS Section members and CRB Section members respectively.

Cost sharing

If the total contribution level exceeds 23.5% of Salaries per annum, the employers will pay 65% of the excess over 23.5% and members would pay the remaining 35% to the fund as additional contributions.

Pension increase cap

For service derived after 30 September 2011, USS will match increases in official pensions for the first 5%. If official pensions increase by more than 5% then USS will pay half of the difference up to a maximum increase of 10%.

USS is a “last man standing” scheme so that in the event of the insolvency of any of the participating employers in USS, the amount of any pension funding shortfall (which cannot otherwise be recovered) in respect of that employer will be spread across the remaining participant employers and reflected in the next actuarial valuation of the scheme.

At 31 March 2014, USS had over 162,000 active members and the institution had 1 active member participating in the scheme.

The total pension cost for the institution was £ 3,613 (2013: £5,330).

The contribution rate payable by the institution was 16% of pensionable salaries.

12 Related Party Transactions

The Trustees and Committee members were paid a total of £373 (2013 £561) in travelling expenses. No trustees received remuneration in the year.

Dr Mark Altaweel was given an outreach grant of £500. Dr Mark Altaweel applied through the normal outreach grant process and took no part in the decision to make the grant.

The Trustees attended a meal to mark the leaving of a long-standing employee. The total cost of the meal amounted to £271.

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13	Restricted Income Funds	Appeal & Fund for Iraq	Mallowan Fund	Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	Total
		£	£	£	£
	Income				
	Appeal	0	0	0	0
	Investment income	3	67	74	144
		<u>3</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>144</u>
	Expenditure				
	Direct charitable expenditure	(18,741)	(50)	(75)	(18,866)
	Net outgoing resources before valuations and investment assets disposals	<u>(18,738)</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>(18,722)</u>
	Gains/(losses) on revaluations and disposal of investment assets				
	Unrealised	0	88	97	185
	Realised	0	0	0	0
	Net movement in funds	<u>(18,738)</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>(18,537)</u>
	Fund balance brought forward	<u>52,431</u>	<u>2,601</u>	<u>3,435</u>	<u>58,467</u>
	Fund balance carried forward	<u><u>33,693</u></u>	<u><u>2,706</u></u>	<u><u>3,531</u></u>	<u><u>39,930</u></u>

The original Appeal Committee transferred all investments held for or on account of the Appeal Fund to the British School of Archaeology in Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) as an endowment, to be administered by the Council of the School pursuant to the resolution passed at a meeting held on the 14th day of January 1932. The Council has the power from time to time to vary or transpose any investments forming part of the Endowment Fund. The Charity changed its name with the approval of its members on 12 December 2007 and all the assets are now in the name of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial).

The Bell Fund was created by the bequest from Gertrude Lowthian Bell CBE (died on 12 July 1926) "To pay the sum of six thousand pounds to the trustees for the time being of the British School of Archaeology in Iraq if shall have been founded before my death such sum to be invested by them and the income thereof to be used by them for archaeological work in Iraq..." (the first bequest) and by a second bequest from Sir Thomas Hugh Bell (died on 29 June 1931) of four thousand pounds. As the British School of Archaeology in Iraq was not established until 14 January 1932, the first bequest and the second bequest were vested in the Retiring Trustees of the British Museum, who invested the same and paid the income therefore to the trustees from time to time of the British Museum to the British School of Archaeology in Iraq.

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In 1973/74 The Bonham Carter Lecture Fund was endowed to support the lecture expenses of the Bonham-Carter lecture which takes place annually in memory of Lady Charlotte Bonham-Carter, a long standing member of the former Executive committee of the BSAI Council.

In 1977 Sir Max Mallowan bequeathed £2,500 for an endowment to the school, the income derived from the bequest was to be applied to the costs of providing an annual dinner at which a toast was to be made in memory of Sir Max and his late wife Dame Agatha Mallowan DBE. In 2004 the school approached Mrs Rosalind Hicks (Dame Agatha's daughter) and Mr Matthew Prichard and members of the family who agreed that the bequest could be utilised to support the costs of the Annual General Lecture.

14 Analysis of Total funds

	Endow- ment Fund	Working Fund - unrestricted	Appeal & Fund for Iraq	Mallowan Fund	Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Investments	128,557	1,224,066	-	2,207	2,420	1,357,250
Heritage assets	-	1,326,000	-	-	-	1,326,000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stock	-	34,478	-	-	-	34,478
Debtors	-	17,575	-	20	22	17,617
Cash and deposits at bank	-	13,440	1	-	-	13,441
Creditors	-	(9,438)	-	-	-	(9,438)
Inter fund transfers	4,667	(39,927)	33,692	479	1,089	-
Balance of Funds at 30 June 2014	<u>133,224</u>	<u>2,566,194</u>	<u>33,693</u>	<u>2,706</u>	<u>3,531</u>	<u>2,739,348</u>

15 Unrestricted Funds

	Total £
brought forward at 1 July 2013	2,578,973
Realised and unrealised gains and losses	50,256
Net incoming resources	<u>(63,035)</u>
carried forward at 30 June 2014	<u>2,566,194</u>

Unrestricted funds include unrealised gains of £ 48,829 in relation to investment assets (note 6)

The council of management has reviewed the level of the unrestricted fund and has concluded that it sufficient to cover contingencies. A separate contingency fund was deemed unnecessary.

The unrestricted funds are available to be spent for any purpose of the charity.

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