



Image taken from the London Anthropology Day 2009. Photo credit: Carlos Flores.

Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland

Patron
HRH THE DUKE OF GLOUCESTER
KG, GCVO

Aims and organisation of the RAI

The Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland (commonly known as the RAI) traces its origins to a merger in 1871 between the Ethnological Society of London (founded in 1843) and the Anthropological Society of London (founded in 1863). It became a Royal Institution in 1907. It is a non-profit registered charity (no 246269) and a company limited by guarantee.

The RAI has as its object "the promotion of the study of the Sciences of Man". As such it seeks to serve and represent the discipline of anthropology in its most inclusive sense. This encompasses not only academic practice, teaching and research, but the public understanding of anthropology and its application in practical and policy-related environments.

The RAI is governed by an elected Council, whose members are Trustees for the purpose of charity law. Management is the responsibility of a Director and small staff, accountable to Council. The Honorary Officers are: the Hon Secretary, Hon Treasurer and Hon Librarian. These, together with members of Council and the Institute's Committees, give their services without remuneration.

Comments and feedback

Comments and suggestions on any of the Institute's activities or services are welcome, and should be addressed to the Director in the first instance.

Fellows, Members and Student

In December 2009 there were 953 RAI Fellows in all categories of Fellowship, 446 Members and 121 postgraduate Student Associates.

Message from the President

President of the RAI: Professor Roy Ellen, FBA Despite a close encounter with the economic recession, the bottom line of the Institute's finances has remained robust. This, together with generous donations and grants, has allowed us to support an un-diminished - and indeed a somewhat expanded - programme of work. We welcome gifts of all descriptions, and I would personally like to encourage Fellows and friends able to do so to make provision for the Institute as part of their own financial planning.

It is in the RAI's events that our public presence is most apparent, and in 2009 the highlights included the Curl Lecture from Dr Joost Fontein and the Huxley lecture from Professor Ian Hodder. Our September annual meeting saw the award of the Rivers Medal to Wendy James, and the Lucy Mair Medal to Tom Selwyn and John Palmer. In addition to the various essay prizes and small grants, I am pleased to report an award under the Urgent Anthropology scheme, hosted at the University of Kent, to Simron Singh; and one under the Leach-RAI fellowship programme, hosted at NUI Maynooth, to Jamie Cross. Our work was also show-cased through the Director's participation in the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in Philadelphia, and at the International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences held in Kunming.

It has been a particularly spectacular year for our education programme, enjoying financial support from the Economic and Social Research Council. We have continued to organise the London Anthropology Day for schools, and contributed to the ESRC Social Science Festival through events on 'The Social Life of Plants' and 'Exploring Food' (see page 10). We are especially pleased to have finally succeeded in establishing a GCE Anthropology A Level, having secured the agreement of both AQA (the awarding body) and Ofqual (the accreditation authority). None of this would have been possible without the hard work of our Education Committee.

We have sponsored a successful programme of film events, the most important of which was the 11th RAI International Festival of Ethnographic Film, held in Leeds (see page 6). Thanks again to the hard work of the Film and Festival organizing committees.

Within the publications programme, *Anthropology Today* has launched two experimental correspondence sites, while the JRAI Special Issue series has continued its success with the appearance of *Islam, Politics, anthropology* edited by Filippo Osella and Benjamin Soares. The newly re-designed website went live during August and, although work is still in progress, we now have an extremely attractive and useable interface.

This unprecedented activity would not be possible without the commitment and effectiveness of our staff, committees and volunteers. I would like to thank them all for the high level of service they unfailingly provide.

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Joining the RAI

The RAI, as a professional academic association, provides a range of services to its membership as well as generalised support to the discipline of anthropology.

Individuals may join the RAI as Fellows, Members or Student Associates. Fees are reviewed annually. Institutions are not eligible to join, but may subscribe to the RAI's journals *JRAI* and *Anthropology Today* (see pages 3 and 4). For more information about the journals and subscription details, visit www. blackwellpublishing.com/jrai and www.blackwellpublishing.com/anth.

Fellowship of the RAI

Fellowship is primarily intended for those who have an academic or professional engagement with the social sciences, but amateurs are warmly welcomed. There are several categories of Fellowship. Those under the age of 30 in the year of Fellowship may join as Junior Fellows at a reduced fee. All Fellows are elected by the Council of the RAI. Fellows are entitled to:

- Print subscription and online access to the *Journal of the Royal* Anthropological Institute, including the Special Issue published annually
- Print subscription and online access to *Anthropology Today*
- Online access to the entire back files of both journals, up to five years before the current year, through JSTOR (for details visit www.jstor.org)
- Online access to the Anthropology Library's electronic resources via the Athens gateway (for details contact admin@therai.org.uk)

- The right when in the UK to borrow up to 10 books (4 for Junior Fellows) from those donated by the RAI to the Anthropology Library. Postal borrowing is also possible in the UK. In future, Fellows will be able to receive individual notification of additions to the Library stock, via the RAI website.
- Free access to The RAI Collection by appointment (see page 8)
- Free or reduced-rate admission to RAI events
- Voting rights and eligibility for election to the RAI Council
- 25% discount on Wiley-Blackwell publications ordered via the publisher

Membership of the RAI

Membership is open to all who have a general interest in the study of humanity, without the need for election. Members are entitled to:

- Print subscription and online access to *Anthropology Today*
- Free access to The RAI Collection by appointment (see page 11)
- Free or reduced-rate admission to RAI events
- 25% discount on Wiley-Blackwell publications ordered via the publisher

Student Associateship of the RAI

Student Associate status is available, without the need for election, to all registered postgraduate students on taught or research programmes in any sub-field of anthropology, at Higher Education Institutions anywhere in the world. Proof of postgraduate student status is required on renewal. Student Associates are entitled to:

- Print subscription and online access to *Anthropology Today*
- Online access to the *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*
- Free access to The RAI Collection by appointment (see page 11)

25% discount on Wiley-Blackwell publications ordered via the publisher

For a small supplemental fee, Student Associates may also become Associate Members of the Association of Social Anthropologists (for details visit www. theasa.org). For more information on joining, and current fees, visit the RAI website at www.therai.org.uk.

The New RAI Website

In August 2009 the RAI launched its redesigned website at http://www. therai.org.uk . This site gives full information on all the RAI's operations as well as its structure and governance. Future improvements are planned through which the site and its links will be a portal to anthropology worldwide; and a platform for provision of web-based member services.

Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute

Honorary Editor of the JRAI: Professor Simon Coleman

Honorary Reviews Editor: Dr James Staples The JRAI is the RAI's 'flagship' academic publication. It has a unique heritage as the world's oldest journal of anthropology, and is a showcase for original and excellent work in every area of current anthropological research. Widely read and cited internationally, the Journal appears four times a year, publishing challenging work by young anthropologists as well as seminal articles by established scholars.

Each issue contains around ten substantial peer-reviewed papers together with approximately 50 book reviews and other items including comments, readers' correspondence, occasional debates and review essays. While the fields of social and cultural anthropology are most widely represented, the Journal welcomes submissions in other fields within anthropology, such as biological anthropology, linguistic anthropology and archaeology, as well as submissions that cut across these areas of study.

The Journal's greatest strengths are its diversity and its openness to new developments across the field. It aims to stand at the forefront of debates both within and beyond the major anthropological sub-disciplines, encouraging productive controversy at an international level. The Editors are committed to a policy of prompt turnaround of submissions, combined with thoroughness and fairness

in the evaluation of articles submitted. Decisions on most submissions are reached within three to four months. While new production technology now improves the speed and efficiency of the decision process, our aim is to preserve the direct personal contact between authors, editors and readers which has been a hallmark of the JRAI from its earliest days.

The annual Special Issue of the JRAI is selected by open competition advertised in the RAI's journals and on its website. It is produced separately from other issues of the journal, and is distributed without charge to RAI Fellows and to libraries subscribing to the Journal. The fourth volume in the series, *Islam, Politics, Anthropology* edited by Filippo Osella and Benjamin Soares, was published in 2009. The fifth, *Making Knowledge* edited by Trevor Marchand, will appear in 2010.

During the 2009 Film Festival,
Professor Asen Balikci was presented
with a special Lifetime Achievement
Award by the RAI Film Committee,
in recognition of his creative
innovations in the field of visual
anthropology. (Right, Asen Balikci,
left: Paul Henley;
photo credit Kiran Mehta.)

The RAI publications programme

Chair of the Publications Committee: Professor Wendy James

The RAI's publishing programme as a whole is overseen by the Publications Committee on behalf of the RAI Council. The Committee advises Council on the development and overall strategic direction of the RAI's publications, on new publishing initiatives, and on technical matters such as copyright and publisher relations. It manages the submission and selection process for the annual Special Issue of the *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute*, inaugurated in 2006.



Anthropology Today

Editor of Anthropology Today: Dr Gustaaf Houtman Anthropology Today is a bi-monthly publication aiming to provide a forum for the application of anthropological analysis to public and topical issues, while reflecting the breadth of interests within the discipline. It is committed to promoting debate at the interface between anthropology and areas of applied knowledge such as education, medicine and development, and between anthropology and other academic disciplines. The journal is international both in the scope of issues it covers and in the sources on which it draws. All substantive contributions are peer-reviewed.

As well as editorials, articles, narratives, interviews and comments, *Anthropology Today* publishes reviews and obituaries, together with letters, news and a calendar of anthropological events. In 2009, 61 items were published, excluding news, calendar or cover captions; of these, 32 were substantive editorials, articles and interviews, and 29 were shorter items such as obituaries, comments,

conference/exhibition reviews and letters. Topical themes addressed during the year included: the financial crisis, the teach-in, the war on terror, human culture vs human nature, public anthropology, museums and journalism, female genital cutting, new technologies, human diversity/racial integration and animals vs humans. *Anthropology Today* depends greatly on the anonymous referees, the editorial board, and its freelance consultants and volunteers, who all breathe life into the publication. Pilot debate sites were launched (see http://www.therai.org.uk/at/debate/). The Editor was Tung Lin Kok Yuen Canada Foundation visiting professor at the Institute of Asian Research, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, between January and May 2009.



The six issues of Anthropology Today Volume 25, 2009

Anthropological Index Online

Honorary Editor of the Anthropological Index Online: Dr David Zeitlyn Launched in its present form in 1997, the RAI's Anthropological Index Online (http://aio.anthropology.org.uk/aio/ AIO.html) is an index of current periodicals in the Anthropology Library at the British Museum's Centre for Anthropology. The RAI employs the three specialist Index staff, who are located at the Centre. Technical supervision and support are provided by the Centre for Social Anthropology and Computing at the University of Kent. Some 1000 scholarly journals are currently indexed; published in English, French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, German, Dutch/Flemish, Chinese, Japanese, Catalan, Romanian, Polish, Czech, Slovak, Slovenian, Serbian, Croatian, Macedonian, Bulgarian, Russian, Belorussian, Ukrainian, Lithuanian, Estonian, Latvian, Armenian and Kazakh.

The *Index* is an indispensable bibliographic resource for researchers, teachers and students of anthropology worldwide. New material is indexed on a continuing basis. Access is currently free to individual users.

Institutional users (except those in developing countries) who make frequent use must pay an annual subscription to help cover direct running costs.

The *Index*'s productivity declined slightly in 2009 owing to staff absence, but output stabilised at between 900 and 1000 new entries per month. The ratio of new and terminated journals has also remained stable, with replacement of 13-15 journals on average per year. Welcome support has been received from Wiley-Blackwell, through production of a publicity leaflet distributed at conferences internationally.

Usage of the *Index* continues to grow. The total of direct server accesses through the University of Kent was 662,339 in 2009, compared with 601,548 in 2008. Access is also available through subscription to Anthropology Plus, a service

which includes both the *Index* and Harvard's *Anthropological Literature*, and is administered by the Online Computer Library Centre, Inc (OCLC)

The launch of the new RAI website in 2009 (see page 2) has brought significant improvements in the Index's online presence. The *Index* can supply, upon request and at a commercial rate, customised bibliographies based on the journals indexed. For details please contact aio@therai.org.uk.



Still from Balkan Rhapsodies; Jeff Silva; winner of the Basil Wright Film Prize at the 2009 RAI Film Festival

Ethnographic Film and Video

Chair of the Film Committee: Professor André Singer

The RAI, through its Film Committee, acts as contact point in the UK for information, networking and advice in visual anthropology, organises film screenings and lectures, and provides a base for international visitors. In addition it supplies a service based on the acquisition, hiring out and sale of ethnographic films and videos for educational and academic purposes. DVD sales make a significant contribution to the RAI's overall income, and various new titles have been added to the sales collection.

During 2009 the RAI has been represented by its Film Officer and individual Committee members at a number of international events in visual anthropology. International links with organisers of European film festivals have been strengthened, and the RAI has arranged lectures and screenings at UK institutions for a number of celebrated scholars and film-makers. The film department contributes actively to the RAI Education Outreach Programme (see page 10), with screenings and events directed to pre-university and nonspecialist audiences.

The year's highlight was the RAI International Festival of Ethnographic Film, a major biennial showcase for documentary film-makers and audiences from throughout the world, held between 1st and 4th July 2009

and hosted by the Centre for Tourism and Cultural Change at Leeds Metropolitan University in association and a panel on 'Broadcasting and with the Northern Film School, Louis le Prince Centre (University of Leeds) and National Media Museum, Bradford. Over 55 new films were screened in and out of competition: see list of winning films on this page. The Festival programme also included an Ethnographic Colonial Film

Day; a day of Indian documentaries; various specialised workshops; Distribution'. A special Lifetime Achievement Award was presented to Professor Asen Balikci.

Film Prizes awarded at the 11th RAI International Festival of Ethnographic Film, Leeds, 1-4 July 2009

RAI Film Prize

Bury the Hatchet. Aaron Walker, 2009, 84 mins, USA. **Basil Wright Film Prize**

Balkan Rhapsodies. Jeff Silva. 2008, 55 mins, USA.

Wiley-Blackwell Student Film Prize

Sermiligaaq 65°54'N, 36°22'W. Anni Seitz, Sophie Elixhauser, 2008, 64 mins, Germany*

Commendations: Enet Yapai - an Ambonwari Girl. Daniela Vávrová. 2008, 25 mins, Slovenia.*; Black Mountain. Charlotte Whitby-Coles, Amin Hajee. 2008, 84 mins, UK/India.

Material Culture and Archaeology Film Prize

Umiaq Skin Boat. Jobie Weetaluktuk, 2008, 32 mins,

Je ne suis pas moi-même. Alba Mora, Anna Santamaria, 2009, 50 mins, Spain.*

Intangible Culture Film Prize (Music - Dance -

Bury the Hatchet. Aaron Walker, 2009, 84 mins, USA. Commendations: Firekeepers. Rosella Ragazzi, Britt Kramvig, 2007, 57 mins, Norway.

Vasile Nedea. Sjoerd van Grootheest, 2009, 43 mins, The Netherlands.

Wallflower Press Audience Film Prize

The Meaning of Life. Hugh Brody, 2008, 82 mins, Canada.

* distributed by the RAI

The RAI Photographic Library

Chair of the Photographic Committee: Dr Christopher Wright The RAI photographic library is unique. Consisting of over 75,000 historic prints, negatives, lanternslides, drawings, paintings and other images, the earliest of which date from the 1860s, it provides a scholarly service to a large number of academic researchers, students and responsible commercial users. It contributes strongly to public awareness of the RAI, and provides a practical interface between the Institute and a wide range of audiences and disciplines. The material contained in the photographic library is highly relevant to contemporary, as well as historical, concerns. It is being increasingly drawn on for educational purposes (see page 10). During 2009, seminars were organised for anthropology students at University College London based on the holdings. A collaboration was also established with the Photographers' Gallery, which held a seminar for mature students at the RAI. With the support and help of Dr. David Zeitlyn, important work was carried out on updating and transferring records from an earlier database into the new RAI photographic database.

The photo library forms part of the combined RAI Collection; see page 8.









Stills from prizewinning films at the 2009 RAI Film Festival; see opposite. From top: Enet Yapai, Bury the Hatchet, Sermiligaaq, Umiaq Skin Boat.

The RAI Collection: photographic, film and textual resources

Chair of the Manuscripts & Archives Committee: Professor Tom Selwyn The RAI Collection incorporates the Institute's film, video and photographic collections (see pages 6-7) and its manuscript and archive holdings. Visitors are welcome by appointment. Textual material and photographic images can be studied, ethnographic videos previewed and copies ordered. Access is free to RAI Fellows, Members and Student Associates, and to undergraduate students; other users are charged an access fee. A generous grant from the W.B. Fagg Charitable Trust (see box on this page) has supported Phase

2 of the Collection's development programme, scheduled over three years to 2010. A dedicated research room at 50 Fitzroy St provides pleasant conditions for access to, and use of, the Collection facilities.

During 2009, the photographs of Cyrenaica and Lebanon taken by E.L. Peters and donated by his son Brian Peters have been catalogued; and, together with thousands of other images held within the manuscript collection, entered on the Collection database under development. Thanks to a generous donation from Eric Rhode, a considerable part of the valuable Deacon collection has been scanned. We have been pleased to accommodate many enquirers through personal visits to the Collection and via email.

Work has progressed throughout 2009 on the Munro project, an international collaboration between UK (including the RAI Collection) and Japanese partners to digitise materials relating to N.G. Munro's studies of the Ainu people of Hokkaido in the early 20th century. The RAI has acted as host to discussions with the UK and Japanese partners, including representatives of the Ainu community whose views have been integral to the project. An agreement among the partners is in place, and the project has been extended for a further year.

The Collection as a whole is playing an increasing role in the RAI's Education Outreach programme (see page 10). A range of visual and textual materials are being drawn on to support teaching of the subject at school level, and to display the richness and diversity of the anthropological record to audiences unfamiliar with it.

The William Buller Fagg Charitable Trust

The Trust was created under the Will of the late Mr Fagg, the eminent scholar of African art. It has provided regular funding for the RAI manuscript and archive collection, and has given long-term support to the Anthropological Index Online. A grant from the Trust, together with other funding, made possible the first phase (2004-7) in the establishment of the RAI Collection as an integrated research resource. The Trust is currently supporting Phase 2 of the programme over a 3-year period from 2007. The RAI is grateful to the Trust for its continuing support.

The Anthropology Library

Honorary Librarian: Professor Tom Selwyn The Anthropology Library, located within the Centre for Anthropology at the British Museum, incorporates the original Library of the RAI and is effectively Britain's national anthropology library. The RAI contributes substantially to Library acquisitions and staffing. International exchange arrangements are also in place with scholarly institutions, under which the Library receives publications in exchange for RAI journals.

The Library is open to the public for reference and research. RAI Fellows have the special privilege of borrowing books and journals donated by the RAI (about 60% of total holdings; see page 2). There is plentiful seating, and a number of terminals through which users may access both the Library catalogue and the *Anthropological Index Online* (see page 5). Details of recent acquisitions are listed regularly on the RAI website. The RAI and the Museum's Department of Africa, Oceania and the Americas host seminars and other events in the Centre. The Department's Collections Enquiries service is also located within the Centre.

In 2009, 155 RAI Fellows visited the Library and 1452 loans were made to Fellows. The RAI donated 667 books and 1353 journal issues to the Library. In early 2010 the Library expects to sign contracts for the development of its online catalogue, and this will have a positive impact on usage. During the year the Library made arrangements with a local bookseller for disposal of surplus review copies. By taking payment for these in kind, it was able to make significant additions to stock. The Library was also grateful to receive a large collection of books from the estate of the late Professor Paul Stirling.

Fellows and Members are encouraged to make use of the Library's wide ranging resources, either by visiting in person: Anthropology Library, Centre for Anthropology, The British Museum, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG; or by email or phone. For general enquiries, loans and renewals contact anthropologylibrary@ thebritishmuseum.ac.uk (tel +44 (0)207 323 8031). For more detailed enquiries or policy matters contact Ted Goodliffe, RAI library officer, on tgoodliffe@ thebritishmuseum.ac.uk (tel +44 (0)207 323 8067) or Jan Ayres, Centre for Anthropology Senior Librarian, on jayres@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk (tel +44 (0)207 323 8069).

Opening hours: Monday-Wednesday, Friday 10.00-16.45; Thursday 12.00-19.00. Closed weekends and Bank Holidays.

Reviewer Meets Reviewed

A new seminar series, jointly organised by the RAI and Centre for Anthropology (British Museum) was inaugurated in 2009. Each event features a discussion between the author and reviewer of a book reviewed in the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute, followed by audience questions. Seminars held in 2009 featured Sophie Day's On the Game reviewed by Keith Hart, Georgina Born's Uncertain Vision: Birt, Dyke and the Reinvention of the BBC reviewed by Michael Stewart, and Rebecca Cassidy's Horse People reviewed by Margaret Taylor.

Reviewer meets
reviewed. From
left: Tom Selwyn,
Georgina Born,
Michael Stewart,
Jan Ayres discuss
Born's book
Uncertain
Vision: Birt,
Dyke and the
reinvention of
the BBC. Photo
credit Susanne
Hammacher



Anthropology in pre-University education

Chair of the
Committee on
Anthropology in
Secondary and
Further Education:
Professor Brian
Street

The RAI believes that promoting knowledge of anthropology at secondary and FE levels is in the interest not only of the discipline, but also in that of education through the contribution anthropology can make to the creation of globally well-informed citizens. The RAI's Education Committee has worked actively throughout 2009 to consolidate the Institute's broadly based, sustainable Education Outreach Programme designed primarily for students and teachers at pre-university level. A three-year grant made by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) under its Science in Society scheme has provided co-funding for the programme over three years to December 2009, and has been extended for an additional year to December 2010.

The programme is organised around three principal strands: an information strand, an activity strand, and a curricular strand. The information strand aims to provide clear, good-quality,

audience-appropriate materials on anthropology designed for preuniversity students, teachers, careers advisers and parents. Much of the information will eventually be webbased, and a dedicated website http:// discoveranthropology.org.uk has been created (see box on this page). In addition to the launch of the site, the programme has expanded its online activities by engaging in various communications media through a dedicated Flickr photostream, a Facebook group and an RAI YouTube channel. A blogspot Anthropologist About Town, a weekly diary of anthropology-related events of interest to those new to the discipline, is proving very popular with users.

The highlight of 2009 has been accreditation of the General Certificate of Education A level qualification in anthropology (for

details see page 11). Additional activities in 2009 have included organising the annual London Anthropology Day for school students and teachers held at the British Museum. As part of the 2009 ESRC Festival of Social Science the RAI's Education and Film Departments organised two public events: The Social Life of Plants in collaboration with the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew; and Exploring Food, Connecting Communities held at the British Museum. These events together attracted over 900 members of the public, many of whom were new to anthropology.



Education Outreach Programme, has launched a new dedicated website at www.discoveranthropology. org.uk. The site has been designed and developed with the financial support of the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). It is intended as a resource for teachers and students of anthropology at preuniversity level; and for all members of the public who have an interest in anthropology and would like to learn more about the subject.



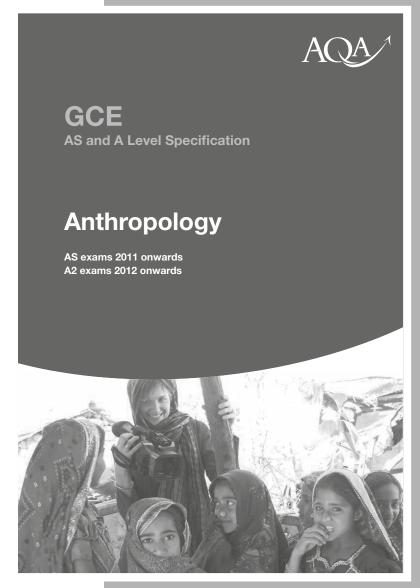
A new GCE Advanced Level in anthropology

With the exception of an optional course within the International Baccalauréate, anthropology has not in the past been available as a taught subject at pre-University level in the UK. Debates within the RAI on the appropriateness of teaching anthropology at this level reach back to the 1980s. In 2004, the newly reconstituted RAI Education Committee began work to design a General Certificate of Education Advanced Level (GCE A level) qualification in anthropology, and to lobby for its establishment. (GCE A level is the standard university-entrance qualification in the UK). This project has received full endorsement from the UK anthropology departments and other disciplinary bodies; and financial support from the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) and the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC). The awarding body Assessment and Qualifications Alliance (AQA) has

since 2008 worked closely with the RAI to develop the course content and examination protocols; and to submit the qualification to the national regulator for accreditation.

In October 2009, the A level was finally accredited by the national regulator Ofqual. It will be offered by AQA, and is available for teaching from September 2010. The RAI is working actively with

AQA and with teachers and schools to provide teaching and learning materials in support of the new A level. Full information is available on the dedicated website www. discoveranthropology.org.uk (see box on page 10).



Cover of AQA's brochure containing the course specification for the new qualification





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About Anthropology





In this section, we explore what anthropology is about, how it has evolved and expanded as a discipline, and the research techniques, terminology, and other distinguishing features that make it a unique subject amongst the social sciences.

What is Anthropology?



Anthropology is the study of people throughout the world, their evolutionary history, how they behav...

Read more

Specialist Areas



At the undergraduate level, most anthropology courses in the UK focus on social and cultural anthrop..

> Read more

Anthropology A Level



Anthropology A-level developed?The Anthropology A-level was developed over the course of..

> Read more



The Discover Anthropology website is run by the Royal Anthropological Institute's Education Outreach Programme.

The website aims to encourage a wider appreciation and understanding of anthropology by functioning as a hub for communication, gathering information, and accessing events, activities and resources for people interested in learning more about the subject.

www.discoveranthropology.org.uk

The RAI programme of Fellowships in Urgent Anthropology

Chair of the Urgent Anthropology Committee: Dr Eric Hirsch The RAI programme of Fellowships in Urgent Anthropology was inaugurated in 1995. It is funded jointly by the Anthropologists' Fund for Urgent Anthropological Research, whose Founding Sponsor is Dr George N. Appell of Brandeis University, USA, and by the host institution. From 2001-2006 the Fellowship programme was hosted at Durham University; in 2007 it moved to the University of Kent.

The purpose of the programme is to support ethnographic research on currently threatened indigenous peoples, cultures and languages. Its aim thus differs from that of applied anthropology, although it is to be expected that high-quality research will be of positive benefit to peoples whose cultures and languages, or even their physical survival, may be under threat. Those holding the Fellowships are expected to publish the results of their research, but are also encouraged, wherever possible, to make their findings available to the peoples concerned

for the improvement of their own situation. Awardholders are, for example, encouraged to make records available to the peoples studied for use in constructing their own futures; or to stimulate interest in collecting oral histories and traditions for incorporation into educational systems; or to facilitate the assimilation of local medical knowledge and practices into modern health-care delivery systems.

Those holding Urgent Anthropology Fellowships during 2009 were:

Dr Tom Thornton, for a project investigating the effects of rapid climate change on indigenous Northern coastal peoples Professor Rahile Dawut, for a study of threatened religious narratives among the Uyghur people of the Xinjiang region of China

Dr Simron Singh, for preparation of a digital archive cultural record of the Nicobarese people (texts, films, photographs, sound recordings), of which most originals were destroyed by the 2004 tsunami

The Anthropologists' Fund for Urgent Anthropological Research

This is a unique Fund, supported entirely by the voluntary individual contributions of anthropologists. Its Founding Sponsor is Dr George N.Appell of Brandeis University, USA. It was launched in 1993 to support basic ethnographic research on threatened or disappearing cultures and languages. Such research aims to make fundamental contributions to knowledge; and also, wherever possible, to further the interests of peoples under threat. Donations to the Fund are invited; details can be obtained from the RAI.

Fellowships and awards

The RAI administers a number of Trust Funds from the income of which it is able to award Fellowships at postdoctoral level, and limited financial support to postgraduate students. Fellowships are held in various Departments of Anthropology at institutions in the UK; and the RAI is grateful to these institutions for their support. Full details of the awards may be found on the RAI's website and are regularly advertised in *Anthropology Today*.

The Radcliffe-Brown Memorial Fund for Anthropological Research, jointly funded by the RAI and Association of Social Anthropologists of the UK and Commonwealth, provides small grants annually to assist social anthropologists handicapped by lack of finance to complete a doctoral thesis. Outstanding applicants may be given supplementary awards funded by endowments bequeathed to the RAI and ASA by the late Professor Sir Raymond Firth and his family.



The Esperanza Trust for Anthropological Research, founded and endowed by the late Professor Sir Edmund Leach, supports the annual Leach-RAI Fellowship. In addition, it makes substantial contributions to RAI activities. The Leach/RAI Fellowship is co-funded by the Esperanza Trust and the host university, and is awarded for one year to enable the Fellow to complete a piece of research for publication. The current host institution is the National University of Ireland, Maynooth.

The Emslie Horniman Anthropological Scholarship Fund, established in 1944, provides annual scholarships to encourage recent graduates to pursue fieldwork, develop their careers as anthropologists, and contribute to the discipline.

The Ruggles-Gates Fund for Biological Anthropology, established by the late Professor and Mrs L. Ruggles-Gates, provides small grants annually for research in biological anthropology.

Thanks to generous gifts from the **Sutasoma Trust**, the RAI is able to make special **RAI-Sutasoma Awards** to successful applicants for grants from the Radcliffe-Brown and Emslie Horniman Scholarship Funds, whose projects are judged to be of particular merit.

The RAI also administers the **Fellowship Programme in Urgent Anthropology**; see page 13.

Recipients of Awards in 2009

Radcliffe-Brown Memorial Fund: M. Florescu, Y. Narisada, I. Cherstich, C. Feather, M. Nakhshina, J. Long, S. Mew, A. Datta Sutasoma Awards: D. Gordon, A. de Jong, J. Bovensiepen, Y. Chen, C. Lin Firth Award: E. Cracium Emslie Horniman Fund: I. Konstantina Sutasoma Award: N. Gestrich Ruggles-Gates Fund: A. Lameria, L. Gregoricka

Edible Weeds' stall at the RAI event The Social Life of Plants, held at the Royal Botanic Gardens (Kew) as part of the 2009 ESRC Festival of Social Science. Photo credit Ala'a Ali reda

Medals, Special Lectures and Prizes

The RAI has seven honours and distinctions at its disposal, for the purpose of recognising achievement of the highest order in anthropology.

The Huxley Memorial Medal and Lecture, instituted in 1900 in memory of Thomas Henry Huxley, is the RAI's highest honour and is awarded annually by the RAI Council. The recipient in 2009 was Professor Ian Hodder of Stanford University. His lecture, entitled 'Human-thing entanglement: towards an integrated archaeological perspective' was given at the British Museum on 2nd November.

The Rivers Memorial Medal is awarded at Council's discretion for a body of recent work which makes, as a whole, a significant contribution to social, cultural or physical anthropology or to archaeology. The 2009 Medal was awarded to Professor Wendy James FBA.

The Lucy Mair Medal for Applied Anthropology is awarded annually at Council's discretion for achievement in the application of anthropology to the relief of poverty and distress; and to the active recognition of human dignity. In 2009 a double award of the Medal was made to Professor Tom Selwyn and Dr John Palmer.

The Wellcome Medal for anthropology as applied to medical problems is supported by the Wellcome Trust and awarded in alternate years following the recommendation of specialist expert judges appointed by Council, and at their discretion. The 2008 Medal was awarded in 2009 jointly to Professor Ron Barrett of Emory University and Professor Joao Biehl of Princeton University for their respective books Aghora medicine: pollution, death and healing in northern India and The will to live: AIDS therapies and the politics of survival.

The Patron's Medal is awarded from time to time by the RAI Council, for distinguished service to anthropology and to the Institute.

The Curl Lecture is given in alternate years by a Lecturer normally under 40 years of age elected by Council, on a topic in the field of biological anthropology, archaeology, material culture, ethnomusicology or linguistics. The Curl Lecturer for 2009 was Dr Joost Fontein of Edinburgh University. His lecture, entitled 'Graves, ruins and belonging in southern Zimbabwe: towards an anthropology of proximity' was given at the British Museum on 17th September.

The Henry Myers Lecture is given in alternate years by a Lecturer elected by Council, on a subject related to the role of religion in society. The next Lecture will be given in 2010.

The RAI also awards five regular prizes:

The Curl Essay Prize is awarded annually at the discretion of judges appointed by the RAI Council, to the author of the best submitted essay relating to the results or analysis of anthropological work. The 2008 Prize, announced in 2009, was awarded to Professor Mark Mosko (Australian National University) for an essay entitled 'Partible penitents: dividual personhood and Christian practice in Melanesia and the West'.

The Amaury Talbot Prize for African Anthropology is awarded annually to the author or authors of the most valuable work submitted for competition and published in the year of the award. The 2007 Prize, for books published in that year, was announced in 2009 and awarded to Dr David Pratten (Oxford University)

for his book *The Man-leopard murders:* history and society in colonial Nigeria.

The J.B. Donne Prize on the Anthropology of Art is awarded in alternate years. No award was made in 2009.

The Arthur Maurice Hocart Essay Prize is awarded annually at the judges' discretion for the best essay in anthropology submitted by a student of any nationality registered at a British or Irish institution of higher education. It is intended primarily for postgraduate students, although outstanding undergraduate essays are also considered. The 2008 Prize, announced in 2009, was made jointly to Ms Amy McClennan (University of Oxford) and Ms Farrah Folami-Carter (University of Wales Lampeter) for essays respectively entitled 'What the nose knows: the role of odour in ritually-induced bodily transformation and implications for obesity research in the Pacific Islands' and 'Separate communities, separate lives: Bangladeshi integration in Tower Hamlets'.

The RAI Student Essay Prize, inaugurated in 2006, is open only to undergraduate students. It is awarded annually at the discretion of judges appointed by the RAI Council. The competition is open to students of any nationality registered for a first degree in anthropology at a British or Irish institution. The 2008 Prize, announced in 2009, was awarded jointly to Mr James McMurray (University of Kent) and Ms Francesca Mezzenzana (UCL) for essays respectively entitled 'The mechanics of syncretism: an anthropological study of religious change in earlymodern Haiti and classical Japan' and 'Anthropology meets history: some reflections on post-modernism, identity and the Other'.

Honorary Fellowship

Honorary Fellows, elected by the RAI Council, are persons eminent in anthropology not normally resident in the United Kingdom.

Honorary Fellows in 2009

Australia: Ian Dunlop, John Mulvaney Austria: Gertrud Hauser, Gerhard Kubik

Belgium: Luc de Heusch Brazil: Francisco M. Salzano

Bulgaria: Asen Balikci, Nikolai Kaufman

Canada: Cyril Belshaw, K.O.L. Burridge, Robert Paine

France: Yves Coppens, Philippe Descola, Maurice

Godelier

Ghana: J.H. Nketia

Guatemala: Ricardo Falla S.J.

Iceland: Gísli Pálsson

India: T.N. Madan, André Béteille

Israel: Emanuel Marx Italy: Bernardo Bernardi

Jamaica: Alston Barrington Chevannes

Japan: Chie Nakane Mexico: Lourdes Arizpe Nepal: Dor Bahadur Bista Netherlands: Johannes Fabian New Zealand: Dame Joan Metge

Norway: Fredrik Barth, Signe Howell

Portugal: Joao de Pina-Cabral

Russia: Mikhail Kryukov

South Africa: Phillip V. Tobias, David Lewis-Williams

Spain: Carmelo Lisón-Tolosana Sri Lanka: Gananath Obeyesekere

Sweden: Ulf Hannerz

Switzerland: Jacques Hainard, Hans Kummer

USA: Noam Chomsky, Elizabeth Colson, Richard G. Fox, Marshall Sahlins

Zimbabwe: Michael Bourdillon

No Denominated State: Jane Goodall

We record with regret the death of Claude Lévi-Strauss on 3 November 2009.

Anthropology, medicine and health

Chair of the Medical Anthropology Committee: Dr Melissa Parker

The points of intersection between anthropology and medicine have stimulated some of the most innovative recent debates in both fields. Through its Medical Anthropology Committee, the RAI is actively engaged with anthropological research and teaching relating to health and medical issues. The Committee provides information and advisory support to the RAI in these areas, interpreted in their broadest and most inclusive sense. It aims to organise a regular series of conferences in medical anthropology, the second of which will take place in July 2010.

An anthropology of British life: the Mass **Observation Archive**

The Mass Observation Archive specialises in collecting material about everyday life in Britain. It contains papers generated by the original Mass Observation social research organisation (1937 to early 1950s), and newer material collected continuously since 1981. The Archive is housed in the Special Collections of the University of Sussex Library. Visitors are welcomed by appointment; research enquiries should be sent to library.specialcoll@sussex. ac.uk. The RAI appoints two of the Archive's Trustees. For more information visit www. massobs.org.uk.

Financial report for 2009

Honorary Treasurer Dr David Shankland After the uncertainty of 2008, the RAI was pleased in 2009 to pass a quiet year from the financial point of view. We were delighted to receive ongoing grants from the ESRC to support the Education Officer and related activities, and from the William Buller Fagg Trust toward our archival and project work. We received a most generous gift from Mrs Leslie Hill; we would like to express our gratitude to her and to another (anonymous) donor. We also congratulate the organizers of the Film Festival for a successful event which brought a satisfactory financial result.

The RAI continues to gain its income from a diverse number of activities: royalties on our publications from Wiley-Blackwell, OCLC and JSTOR, Fellows' and Members' subscriptions, grants, video sales, rent on part of our Fitzroy Street premises and investments. The amounts may vary slightly from year to year. However, overall we were pleased that income from our publications has increased, which means that we have been able to achieve a reasonable outcome for the year. Improved market conditions mean that we have made some investment gains this year, which goes some way to offset the negative effect of 2008.

Overall, though, we should repeat our caveat that rapidly changing external conditions mean that we will need to assess continuously the way that we operate. Nevertheless, at present we possess the great good fortune of being able to maintain a stable base for our activities, and we may hope that this balanced situation will continue.

Royal Anthropological Institute

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Professional Advisers

Bankers National Westminster Bank PLC 45 Tottenham Court Road London W1T 2EA

Auditors H. W. Fisher & Company Chartered Accountants Acre House 11-15 William Rd London NW1 3ER

Solicitors (property matters) Wallace & Partners One Portland Place London W1N 3AA

Solicitors (other matters) Jansons, 40 Crawford St London W1H 2BB

Stockbrokers Smith & Williamson Investment Management 25 Moorgate London EC2R 6AY

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2009

	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Funds	Restricted Funds	2009 Total	2008 Total	
	£	£	£	£	£	
Incoming resources						
Incoming resources from generated funds:						
Voluntary Income and grants received	55,179	20,264	87,948	163,391	170,183	
Investment Income	37,570	179	2,722	40,471	45,949	
Other Income	5,442	-	-	5,442	7,043	
Incoming resources from charitable activities:						
Fellowship and Membership	87,337	-	-	87,337	73,878	
Publications	541,526	-	-	541,526	463,641	
RAI Collection	28,972	-	-	28,972	27,944	
Total Incoming Resources	756,026	20,443	90,670	867,139	788,638	
Resources Expended						
Charitable Activities						
Policy and Profile	55,218	5,000	33,506	93,724	103,593	
Fellowship and Membership	23,269	-	-	23,269	22,399	
Publications	383,659	-	-	383,659	328,556	
RAI Collection	89,154	-	23,388	112,542	94,676	
Library	85,889	-	- 41 505	85,889	85,756	
Education Programme	29,204	-	41,505	70,709	73,656	
Governance	12,868	-	-	12,868	13,010	
Total Resources Expended	679,261	5,000	98,399	782,660	721,646	
Net Incoming Resources	76,765	15,443	(7,729)	84,479	66,992	
Gain/(Loss) on Investments	28,781	379	5,923	35,083	(68,878)	
Transfers between funds	(17,490)	(2,510)	20,000	-		
Net Movement in Funds	88,056	13,312	18,194	119,562	(1,886)	
Fund Balances at 1 January 2009	185,866	724,877	284,613	1,195,356	1,197,242	
Fund Balances at 31 December 2009	273,922	738,189	302,807	1,314,918	1,195,356	
Voluntary in come						
Voluntary income Gifts in kind of journals to the Institute Other donations				49,357 4,822		
Grants Receivable						
Leslie Hill Donation				19,000		
W B Fagg Charitable Trust				21,630		
Education Grants				32,440		
Esperanza Trust for Anthropological Research				16,000		
Anthropologists' Fund for Urgent Anthropological Research						
(USA) in respect of research. 17,878						
Grants of less than £5,000 each				2,264		
				163,391		

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2009

	2009	2009	2008	2008
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets		683,937		686,447
Investments at Market Value		$\frac{333,192}{1,017,129}$		<u>293,003</u> <u>979,450</u>
Current Assets				
Debtors	198,423		156,369	
Cash at Bank and in Hand	818,622 1,017,045		778,468	
Creditors-amounts falling due				
within one year	(719,256)		(718,931)	
Net Current Assets		297,789		215,906
		1,314,918		1,195,356
Income Funds				
Restricted Funds		302,807		284,613
Unrestricted Funds				
Designated Funds		738,189		724,877
Other Charitable Funds		273,922		185,866
		1,314,918		1,195,356

These summarised accounts are extracted from the full unqualified audited accounts approved by the trustees on 15 June 2010. For further information, the full statutory accounts, which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies and the Charity Commission, should be consulted. These can be obtained from RAI offices at 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT.

Auditors' statement on the summary accounts to the members of the Royal Anthropological Institute

We have examined the summary accounts set out on pages 17 to 19 inclusive

Respective responsibilities of directors and auditors

These summary accounts presented on pages 17 to 19 are the responsibility of the trustees. It is our responsibility to report our opinion on their consistency with the full financial statements, on which we reported on 15 June 2010. Our report on the full financial statements of the Institute includes information on the responsibilities of the trustees and the auditors relating to the preparation and the audit of those financial statements and on the basis of our unqualified opinion on those financial statements.

Basis of opinion

We have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to ascertain whether the summary accounts are consistent with the full financial statements from which they have been prepared.

Opinion

In our opinion the summary accounts on pages 17 to 19 are consistent with the full financial statements of the Royal Anthropological Institute for the year ended 31 December 2009

H. W. Fisher & Company

Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditor, Acre House, 11-15 William Road, London, NW1 3ER, UK Dated: 15 June 2010

Members of the RAI Council and Officers in 2009

President Professor Roy Ellen BSc, PhD, FLS, **FBA** Vice Presidents (elected) Professor Elizabeth Edwards BA, MA Professor Richard Fardon BSc (Econ), PhD, FBA (1) Professor Jeremy MacClancy MA, BLitt, DPhil (1) Professor Julian S. Thomas BTech, MA, PhD Professor Brian Street BA, Dip Soc Anth, DPhil (2) Vice Presidents (past Presidents) Professor Michael P. Banton CMG, JP, PhD, DSc, Dr (h.c.) Professor Alan Bilsborough MA, Dip. Hum. Biol., DPhil Dr John Davis BA, MA, PhD, FBA Professor Michael H. Day MB, BS, PhD, DSc, MRCS, LRCP, FCSP (Hon), FLS Professor Geoffrey Ainsworth Harrison MA, BSc, DPhil Professor Wendy James BLitt, MA, DPhil, DSc (Hon), FBA

Professor Jean La Fontaine BA, PhD, PhD (Hon, Linköping), PhD (Hon, Open), DLitt (Hon, London Goldsmiths) Professor Roland M. Littlewood BSc, MB, BS, DPhil, DLit, DSc, DipSocAnth, FRCPsych Professor Adrian C. Mayer BA, PhD Professor Eric Sunderland OBE, MA, PhD, LLD, FI. Biol. Hon Secretary Eric Hirsch BSc, MSc, PhD Hon Treasurer David Shankland MA, PhD Hon Librarian Professor C. Thomas Selwyn BSc, Ordinary Members of Council Simone Abram LGSM, BSc/MEng, MSt, DPhil Nicolas Argenti MA, PhD (2) Lissant Bolton BA, Dip Museum Studies, PhD (2) Jocelyn A. Boyden, PhD, BSc Alan Dangour BSc, MSc, PhD Professor Elizabeth Edwards BA, MA Yulia Egorova BA, MA, PGDip, PhD (2)

Professor James Fairhead BA, MA, Professor Richard Fardon BSc (Econ), PhD, FBA (2) Peggy Froerer BA, MA, MSc, PhD (1) Professor Chris Gosden BA, PhD, FBA (2) Professor Maia Green BA (Hons), Narmala Halstead MA, PhD Professor Joy Hendry BSc, BLitt, DPhil (2) Professor Jeremy MacClancy MA, BLitt, DPhil (2) Professor Sharon MacDonald BA (Hons), MA, DPhil Professor Alan MacFarlane MA, MPhil, DPhil, PhD, FBA (1) Professor Ann MacLarnon MA, PhD Melissa Parker BA, DPhil (2) Peter Parkes MA, BLitt, PhD David Pratten MA, MA, PhD (1) Paul Rainbird BA, PhD, FSA Julie Scott BA, Grad Dip (Economic Development), MA, PhD (1) Professor Paul Sillitoe MA. PhD, FBA Professor André Singer BSc (Econ), BLitt, DPhil Robert Storrie BSc, MA, DPhil (1) Professor Brian Street BA, Dip Soc Anth, DPhil (1) (1) to 17 September (2) from 17 September

Staff of the RAI in 2009

Director
Hilary Callan MA, MLitt
Assistant Director (Finance and Personnel)
Christine M.R. Patel BA
Office and Membership Manager
Amanda Vinson MA
Archives Officer
Sarah Walpole BA, Dip Lib
Assistant Reviews Editor, JRAI
Maureen Bloom BA, MSc, PhD
Editor, Anthropology Today
Gustaaf Houtman BA, PhD
Editorial Officer, Anthropological Index
Online
Massimiliano Carocci MA, PhD

Index Officers, Anthropological Index Online Florentina Badalanova Geller MA, PhD Iside Carbone MA, MPhil Education Officer Nafisa Fera BA, MA Film Officer Susanne Hammacher MA Library Officer Ted Goodliffe BA, MCILIP Photographic Curator Arkadiusz Bentkowski MA, PhD Data-assistant (temporary) Elena Angel BA Hon Archivist Beverley Emery

Anthropology Today freelance consultants
Rachel Gomme BA, PG Dip Tech Spec
Trans
Sean Kingston PhD
Dominique Remars BA (Hons)

The RAI particularly welcomes the support provided by interns and volunteers. The following were interns or volunteers during 2009: Andrew Bormuth, Viktoria Gabrysch, Jessica Levine, Françoise Meier, Christine Noel Neubeiser, Cinthya Oliveira, Kabir Orlowski, Kaitlyn Owen, Caroline Schapher, Betty Tonnies.

During 2009 we welcomed Ted Goodliffe as a member of the permanent staff. We said farewell to Elena Angel.

Volunteers at the RAI. Photo credit: Margaret Cox.



The RAI thanks the following for generous grants, sponsorship and donations during 2009:

Grants and donations to the Library and RAI Collection: William Buller Fagg Charitable Trust, Dr Maureen Bloom, Mr Eric Rhode, Estate of Paul Stirling. We also thank the publishers of journals who provide complimentary or concessionary subscriptions for titles to be included in the *Anthropological Index Online*.

Other grants and donations: C-SAP (Higher Education Academy), Economic & Social Research Council, Gibbs Trust, Mrs Leslie Hill, Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Charitable Trust, University of Cambridge Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, an anonymous donor

Sponsorship of the RAI Film Festival: BBC Wales, Embassies of Denmark and Norway, Wallflower Press, Wiley-Blackwell Publishing

Support for RAI Fellowship programmes: Esperanza Trust for Anthropological Research, Anthropologists' Fund for Urgent Anthropological Research, Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research

Like other comparable institutions, the RAI has limited resources and is in constant need of funds from external sources. Donations in cash or in kind (such as books and equipment) are always welcome. There are many opportunities for sponsorship of RAI activities and events, which bring valuable publicity to the sponsoring organisation among target audiences. All donations and sponsorship are fully acknowledged.

Legacies to the RAI are welcome, and are always used according to the wishes of the testator.

Donations, sponsorship and legacies can be tax-efficient for UK and USA residents. Further information can be obtained in confidence and without obligation from the RAI Director.

