



2015 Annual Report
Professor André Singer
President, Royal Anthropological Institute

This is the end of my first full year in office, and it has been a very great privilege to be able to serve the institute. I knew this, of course, already, but I have been increasingly struck throughout the year just how blessed the RAI is in its staff. In this, perhaps the busiest year we have had, we have seen once more just how professional and efficient they are. On behalf of Council, and the Fellows, I should like to offer my thanks to the Director and all the staff for their unstinting efforts.

It will be recalled that the Film Festival takes place biannually. 2015 was a Film Festival year, and for the first time we decided to locate the Festival at a professional location, the Watershed in Bristol, which is a well-established Arts Cinema complex converted from old warehouses on the dock-side. The reason for this was simple; the increasingly complex technology and its accompanying variety has made it difficult for us to hold the festival in standard university settings, with on each occasion a very steep learning curve as we try to iron out projection problems. The Watershed, however, has three cinemas and a dedicated team that can cope with just about anything that we ask them to do.

In the event, the Festival passed off very well. I was pleased to deliver my inaugural Presidential Address, on “Anthropology, Genocide and Imagery” in this most appropriate setting. We had an extraordinarily interesting prize programme, which can be seen still on the web-site. I should mention and congratulate the winner of the RAI Film Prize, “Baka: A Cry from the Rainforest”, directed by Phil Agland. We were also very pleased to present the RAI lifetime achievement award to Jane Lydall, and we had a fascinating discussion with her during a special session showing her work. It was also the second occasion that we have been partnered with the University of Southern California Dornsife, and had the extra-ordinary pleasure of welcoming Professor Gary Seaman, the Co-Director of their Center for Visual Anthropology and Chairman of USC’s Anthropology Department to the Festival. During this partnership, highlights from the festival will be shown in even years at USC. It is, for us, a double pleasure because it means as well as making new friends, the film festival extends its international significance, and gains in exposure thereby.

Our Film Officer, Susanne Hammacher, departed after festival for a well-earned sabbatical at the Uebersee Museum in Bremen, and we wish her a pleasant stay there.

Over the course of the year, we held a very-full programme of events. The now well-established Wednesday seminars continued, often with a full house. We also held a number of one-day conferences. William Fagg (1914-1992) was the RAI Honorary Secretary, editor of *MAN*, and Keeper of Ethnography at the British Museum. At the same time, he was a world-expert in African art, and one of the leaders in helping a better understanding of indigenous arts in Europe. With the kind facilitation of the Chair of our Art Committee, Professor Deborah Swallow, and the Fagg Trust, a conference was held at the Courtauld Institute which explored the development of his life in art and museums in a way that brought out in full the complexity and innovativeness of his contribution, and we look forward greatly to the final publication.

The Huxley Lecturer this year was Professor Robin Dunbar (Oxford), one of the leading evolutionary anthropologists anywhere. We listened intently to a wonderful overview of his approach, whilst additionally we arranged for a ‘Dunbar Day’ at UCL, which brought together a series of speakers who spoke to his varied ideas and theories. We are most grateful to Professor Susanne Kuechler for her kindness in helping to arrange this event. Again, the papers from this day are in preparation.

One recent innovation has been the introduction of ‘country days’. The first of these was France, the second Poland, and this year we held the third of these, a ‘Norwegian Anthropology Day’. Led by Professor Edvard Hviding (Bergen) we welcomed a major delegation of Norwegian colleagues to the British Academy, where we heard of the formation and fortunes of anthropology in that country, perhaps the closest of all in intellectual spirit to the UK. It was a magical event, one marked with good humour, inspiration and conviviality. The evening was marked by a dinner which will remain long in the memory.

This year also marked a revisiting of our ties with the Folklore Society. At various times during the last century, we have worked closely with them – so much so that at one point we even shared offices. We decided therefore to hold a one-day seminar that would explore convergences and conjunctions in our two disciplines, whilst our Director gave a lecture to their society on his work at Catalhoyuk in Turkey. In the event, we held a long and detailed discussion, and we hope that this event will be repeated in years to come.

Finally, I should report that in the midst of all this activity – of which I have only reported a part - we have not neglected to sign up new fellows, or to watch our budget carefully. We continue to steer a cautious path, and our numbers show a steady increase year-on-year. We shall be working very hard to ensure that this benign situation continues in the years to come.

Treasurer’s Report

The RAI’s financial position continued as before during 2015, and we are in the fortunate position of having a small surplus. We received additional grants from the William Buller Fagg Trust this year, both toward the one-day conference to explore Fagg’s work, and to support the work of the archive assistant. We should also acknowledge the support of the Wenner-Gren Foundation for our assistant archivist, who has been preparing the EASA (European Association of Social Anthropologists) papers to be archived.

The world situation clearly is extremely uncertain. However, we are working to diversify our income sources, and also to maintain those which we have. Our publisher remains Wiley. We continue to work with the Alexander Street Press on data-bases, and with EBSCO, who distribute our ‘Anthropological Index On-Line’. We also have benefitted from donations to our library, and are grateful that our Fellowship numbers are holding up, even during difficult economic times.

The diversification of investments reported on in previous years remains similar: we have one house purchased on behalf of the Esperanza Trust, and another shared between general funds and the Horniman Trust. Both of these enjoy a good occupancy rate.

Provided that we can continue to maintain our income streams, and explore new ones in the future, we can cautiously hope that the financial position of the institute will remain stable.

Dr Fiona Bowie, Acting Treasurer

Library Donors during 2015 were; Paul Atkinson, Michael Banton. Renate Barber (estate), Geoffrey Benjamin, David Burnett, Iside Carbone, Liliane de Toledo, Sara Delamont, Caroline Humphrey, Gwendolyn Leick, Ioan Lewis (estate), Philip Mayer (estate), Polish Anthropological Society, Cecilia Montero Mortola, Kathryn Powell, David Shankland.

Fellows of the RAI who are members of the institute’s committees may be found on this link <https://www.therai.org.uk/about-the-rai/governance/committees>.



**ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016
followed by the 2016 Henry Myers Lecture**

The 2016 AGM will take place on Friday 30 September at 3.00 pm in the BP Lecture Theatre, Clore Education Centre, British Museum, London WC1. It will be followed by the 2016 Henry Myers Lecture.

All are welcome. Only RAI Fellows may vote at the AGM. Formal notification of the AGM has also been published in *Anthropology Today* and on the RAI website.

Programme

3.00 pm: Tea
3.30 pm: AGM
5.00 pm (approximately)
2016 Henry Myers Lecture, to be given by Dr Ken Dark

Following the AGM and lecture, there will be a drinks reception for all present.

AGM AGENDA

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 18 September 2015
2. Annual Report of the Council for 2015
3. Appointment of Auditors (Current auditors: H.W. Fisher and Company, Chartered Accountants)
4. Election of Officers and Council for the year 2016-2017 (see overleaf for House List)
5. Announcement of elections of the Huxley Memorial Lecturer and Curl Lecturer for 2017
6. Rivers Memorial Medal for 2016 [Professor Ruth Finnegan]
7. Lucy Mair Marsh Medal for 2016 [Professor Ralph Grillo & Professor Paul Richards]
8. Marsh Award for 2016 [Dr Peter Bennett]
9. Any other business

HOUSE LIST

(for election of Officers and Council under agenda item 4)

Names proposed by Council (new nominations marked with *)

All nominations are subject to the election of candidates as RAI Fellows for the year(s) in which they hold office. Former Presidents are *ex officio* Vice Presidents and not listed below.

President: Professor André Singer

Elected Vice Presidents: Professor Paul Basu
Professor Ann MacLarnon
Dr James Staples

Hon Secretary: Professor Raymond Apthorpe

Hon Librarian: Dr Michael Scott

Hon Treasurer: Dr Fiona Bowie*

Ordinary members of Council

Dr Nadine Beckmann
Dr Joseph Calabrese*
Dr Liana Chua*
Dr Gillian Evans
Professor Robert Foley
Professor Joy Hendry*
Professor Paul Henley*
Professor Paul Lane
Dr Stephen Leonard
Professor John Morgan*
Dr Chris Morton
Dr Catherine Palmer
Professor David Parkin*
Dr Emily Rousham*
Professor Paul Sillitoe*
Dr Robert Storrie
Professor Christina Toren
Dr Simon Underdown*
Professor Maya Unnithan*

One casual vacancy

Article 42(b) of the Articles of Association states:

In addition to the candidates named in the House List, any member (Fellow) may be nominated for election as an Officer or a member of Council provided such member shall not have been disqualified under these presents.

Nominations shall be in writing and signed by at least two members (Fellows) eligible to vote and accompanied by a statement in writing by the nominee expressing his willingness to serve if elected.

Nominations must have been lodged with the Secretary not later than three days before the Annual General Meeting.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2015 Total £	2014 Total £
INCOME					
Donations and grants	33,875	2,000	108,875	144,750	137,534
Investment income	51,779	129	3,196	55,104	39,907
Other income	20,625	-	-	20,625	63,994
<i>Income from charitable activities:</i>					
Fellowship and Membership	92,038	-	-	92,038	92,104
Publications	591,291	-	-	591,291	581,004
RAI Collection	55,879	-	-	55,879	44,570
TOTAL INCOME	845,487	2,129	112,071	959,687	959,113
EXPENDITURE					
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities:</i>					
Policy and Profile	140,294	-	38,255	178,549	203,438
Fellowship and Membership	49,375	-	-	49,375	33,399
Publications	317,565	-	-	317,565	329,446
RAI Collection	102,016	-	65,728	167,744	130,100
Library	76,972	4,380	-	81,352	100,638
Education Programme	34,989	-	31,800	66,789	62,925
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	721,211	4,380	135,783	861,374	859,946
Net income/(expenditure) for the year	124,276	(2,251)	(23,712)	98,313	99,167
Loss on investments	(1,570)	(12)	(197)	(1,779)	7,681
Transfers between funds	(28,419)	28,419	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	94,287	26,156	(23,909)	96,534	106,848
Fund balances at 1 January 2015	475,495	1,034,960	355,441	1,865,896	1,759,048
Fund balances at 31 December 2015	569,782	1,061,116	331,532	1,962,430	1,865,896

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	£	£
Fixed assets		
Tangible fixed assets	673,030	674,611
Freehold investment property	343,462	343,462
Listed investments	438,798	438,811
	<u>1,455,290</u>	<u>1,456,884</u>
Current assets		
Debtors	162,710	134,513
Cash at bank and in hand	639,640	517,943
	<u>802,350</u>	<u>652,456</u>
Creditors—amounts falling due within one year	<u>(295,210)</u>	<u>(243,444)</u>
Net current assets	<u>507,140</u>	<u>409,012</u>
	<u>1,962,430</u>	<u>1,865,896</u>
Income funds		
Restricted funds	331,532	355,441
Unrestricted funds		
Designated funds	1,061,116	1,034,960
Other charitable funds	569,782	475,495
	<u>1,962,430</u>	<u>1,865,896</u>

These summarised accounts are extracted from the full unqualified audited accounts approved by the trustees on 11 July 2016. 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 trustees of the Royal Anthropological Institute

We have examined the summary accounts set out on pages 5 to 6 inclusive.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors

These summary accounts presented on pages 5 to 6 are the responsibility of the trustees. It is our responsibility to report our opinion on their consistency with the full accounts, on which we reported on 15 July 2016. Our report on the full accounts of the Institute includes information on the responsibilities of the trustees and the auditors relating to the preparation and the audit of those accounts and on the basis of our unqualified opinion on those accounts.

Basis of opinion

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

Opinion

In our opinion the summary accounts on pages 5 to 6 are consistent with the full accounts of the Royal Anthropological Institute for the year ended 31 December 2015.

H. W. Fisher & Company
Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditor, Acre House,
11-15 William Road, London, NW1 3ER, UK

Dated: 15 July 2016