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, Hon Librarian and Hon Editor of the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute. 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 Associates

In December 2004 there were 1074 RAI Fellows in all categories of Fellowship, 420 Members and 91 postgraduate Student Associates.
Message from the Outgoing and Incoming Presidents

**Professor Wendy James**

During 2004 the RAI has been able to improve its services and enhance the visibility of anthropology in public life in several ways. We are greatly indebted to the benefactors and foundations (see page 10) whose generosity made it possible to amalgamate our archival, manuscript, and photographic/film holdings into one integrated collection at Fitzroy Street. The improved working arrangements are appreciated by all who use the building. In May, the British Museum opened the handsome and modern Centre for Anthropology, which now houses the Anthropology Library and is expected to become a significant new focus for anthropological activities in central London.

During the year, the RAI completed negotiations with Blackwell Publishing for a new publishing contract, including provision for an extra guest-edited issue of the JRAI annually from 2006 (see page 4). The new Publications Committee will oversee this series, along with other proposals for diversifying the Institute’s publications.

Several helpful meetings with sister organisations and representatives of UK anthropology departments were held during this period. The RAI is making sustained efforts to renew academic links between the various specialist disciplines it represents. Detailed plans were made for a cross-anthropological workshop on early human kinship in 2005.

The potential place of anthropology in schools was discussed thoroughly by Council and its committees through the year, and as indicated below (page 11) we have given high priority to active pursuit of this issue.

During my three years as your President, I have greatly enjoyed working with the Director, Hilary Callan, the Council and the RAI staff. In the process I have learned much, not only about the way anthropology’s institutions (however ancient and distinguished) must adapt to changing conditions, but about the fine tradition we have inherited, and the future we may confidently anticipate for the discipline. I am delighted to welcome Alan Bilsborough as my successor.

**Professor Alan Bilsborough**

It is a significant responsibility and a great privilege to succeed Wendy James. Under her Presidency the Institute has strengthened its role as the representative voice of anthropology, grown its international links, and improved services for the membership.

Contemporary events reinforce our subject’s importance in a rapidly changing world, underlining the Institute’s role as an inclusive organisation for all interested in anthropology. Simultaneously, our membership in the universities faces imminent change with the introduction of top-up fees. However individual subjects may fare, anthropology cannot be isolated from the impact.

We need to ensure that the RAI continues to present anthropology to the widest audience, both for its own sake as an intellectual training, and for its many applications. Anthropology will then flourish in the future at least as well as in the past. I look forward to working with the Director, Council and colleagues in guiding the Institute over the next two years.
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 work of the highest quality 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 eight substantial peer-reviewed papers together with approximately 50 book reviews and other items including 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.

The Journal’s greatest strengths are its diversity and its openness to new developments across the field. It aims to occupy a position 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. New production arrangements will make it possible to improve the speed and efficiency of the decision process, while preserving the direct personal contact between authors, editors and readers which has been a hallmark of the JRAI from its earliest days.

2004 has seen the completion of Dr Susan Bayly’s term as Honorary Editor, and the handover of responsibility to Glenn Bowman. The RAI records its grateful thanks to Dr Bayly for her distinguished service, and welcomes Glenn as her successor.
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 and comments, Anthropology Today publishes conference, film and exhibition reviews and obituaries, together with letters, news and a calendar of anthropological events. The ‘Current vacancies’ web page is popular.

In 2004 71 items were published, excluding news, calendar and cover captions; of these 31 were substantive articles and 40 were shorter items such as obituaries, comments and letters. Three issues were devoted to specific themes, on tourism, education and bio(in)security. A range of other topical issues were addressed including: Maoist insurgency in Nepal, the European Union, the concept of ‘indigeneity’, second-hand clothing, academic freedom, HIV, the need for applied anthropology, and the abolition of the Ethnography Department at the British Museum. In line with the emphasis on debate, a large proportion of contributions concerned responses to previously published items, including 21 letters and comments.

Partly as a result of combined subscriptions with the JRAL, Anthropology Today achieved an increase in library subscriptions of 214% during the year (from 1108 to 2373 libraries around the world). A new online submission system for refereed submissions was introduced which will help to ensure that the flow of submissions is dealt with in timely fashion whilst keeping authors and reviewers in personal contact with the editors.

Anthropology Today is extremely grateful to the anonymous referees, its team of freelance consultants and volunteers, and to the editorial board, who all have been breathing life into it.
During 2004 a new contract was agreed between the RAI and Blackwell Publishing, who publish and distribute the RAI journals and administer the Institute’s subscriptions. This will bring significant benefits to the RAI and its membership. From 2006 onwards, a fifth issue of the *Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute* will be published annually. The fifth issue will be supplied free to RAI Fellows and will be available at a discounted price to RAI members and student associates. Libraries and institutions subscribing to the JRAI will receive the extra issue as part of the subscription package. It may take various forms in different years, such as single-authored volumes, collections of invited papers on a theme, or conference proceedings. Each issue is expected to have its own editor. A call for proposals for the first issue (to appear in 2006) was issued in 2004 and drew a strong response. Further invitations to submit proposals will be published on a regular basis in the journals and on the RAI website.

The RAI has established a new Publications Committee responsible for overseeing the JRAI special issue series, for co-ordinating the Institute’s publications policy across the board, and for developing new publishing activities.
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. Institutions are not eligible to join, but may subscribe to the RAI’s journals (for details visit www.blackwellpublishing.com/journals/ANTH). Fees are reviewed annually, and published in Anthropology Today.

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:

- Free access to The RAI Collection by appointment (see page 10)
- Free or reduced-rate admission to RAI events
- Voting rights and eligibility for election to the RAI Council
- 25% discount on Blackwell publications ordered via Blackwell

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
- Online access to the Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute
- Free access to The RAI Collection by appointment (see page 10)
- Free or reduced-rate admission to RAI events
- 25% discount on Blackwell publications ordered via Blackwell

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 10)
- 25% discount on Blackwell publications ordered via Blackwell

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 the RAI and current fees, visit the RAI website at www.therai.org.uk, and follow links to the Blackwell Publishing website.
The Anthropology Library

Honorary Librarian:
Professor Tom Selwyn

The Anthropology Library within the British Museum, incorporating the original Library of the RAI, is effectively Britain’s national anthropology library. The RAI contributes substantially to Library acquisitions and staffing. Fellows have special borrowing privileges (see page 5).

At the beginning of 2004, the Anthropology Library moved from the former Museum of Mankind at Burlington Gardens to the British Museum’s Centre for Anthropology (CfA). It re-opened to the public in May 2004. The move was a huge undertaking requiring a great deal of planning and preparation, and was completed without major problems. After a slow start, the Library has been increasingly well used by a variety of readers, who have appreciated the generous new Library space and the accessibility of a large part of the book collection for browsing on open shelves.

The Library is open to the public for reference and research. RAI Fellows may borrow the books acquired by the RAI (about 60% of total book holdings). There are 50 seats for readers and six OPAC terminals in the reading area, through which the Library catalogue and the Anthropological Index Online may be searched. A selection of recent acquisitions and current journals, and books of special interest, is on display. The British Museum’s Department of Africa, Oceania and the Americas hosts regular seminars in the Centre. The Department’s Collections Enquiries service is also situated within the Library environment.

Information leaflets, giving details of the Library and the RAI, have been widely distributed to University Anthropology departments and libraries during 2004. Early in the year the RAI conducted a limited survey among selected Departments to ascertain library user needs. This showed that the most important of these is for an online catalogue externally accessible. It is hoped that the British Museum administration will be able to put this in place as soon as possible.

In the period April-December 2004, 208 readers known to be Fellows used the library in person; other Fellows made enquiries by post, telephone and e-mail. 1376 loans to RAI Fellows were issued. 3903 books (both RAI and Museum purchases) were used for reference in the library by all readers. During 2004 the RAI acquired 723 books and 1,555 journal issues for the Library (statistics kindly provided by Library staff).

Address: Anthropology Library, The British Museum, Centre for Anthropology, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3DG Telephone: 020 7 323 8031; e-mail: anthropologylibrary@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

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

The RAI thanks the following for generous grants and donations during 2004:


Further donations: Mrs Roslyn Poignant, University of Cambridge Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Charitable Trust.

We also thank the publishers of journals who provide complimentary or concessionary subscriptions for titles to be included in the Anthropological Index Online.
Manuscript and Archive holdings

The RAI’s archive and manuscript collections together span a period of over 150 years, providing a unique historical record of the discipline and the Institute.

The Archives cover the history of the RAI itself from its origins in the 1840s, while the Manuscript collection contains priceless unpublished material donated or bequeathed to the RAI. Cataloguing and indexing is an ongoing task, and the material is available for consultation by researchers, students and other interested persons. Enquiries are welcomed, and can often be answered by email.

2004 has seen the successful removal of the archive and manuscript holdings from the former British Museum site at Burlington Gardens to the main RAI building at 50 Fitzroy St, where they now form part of the combined RAI Collection (see page 10). This has brought great improvements to the accessibility of the holdings. A newly established RAI Manuscripts and Archives Committee is responsible for strategic planning of acquisitions and conservation of the material, and for developing linkages with other collections.

The holdings have continued to benefit during the year from the invaluable voluntary services of Miss B.J. Kirkpatrick and Mrs B. Emery.

Chair of the Manuscripts and Archives Committee:
Professor Tom Selwyn

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 ongoing support to the Anthropological Index Online. A grant from the Trust, together with other funding, made possible the first stage in the establishment of the RAI Collection as an integrated research resource in 2004. The RAI is grateful to the Trust for its continuing support.
Ethnographic Film and Video

Chair of the Film Committee:
Dr André Singer

The making, showing and discussion of ethnographic film is a mode of anthropological enquiry in its own right. Together with other modes such as photography and multimedia representation, it goes to make up the developing sub-field of visual anthropology which is now recognised as integral to the discipline. The RAI, through its Film Committee, acts as contact point in the UK for information, networking and advice in visual anthropology, organizes 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.

While the advance of new technology has brought a decrease in demand for 16mm film hire, video and DVD sales are expanding and are making a growing contribution to the RAI’s finances.

The video holdings now form part of the combined RAI Collection (see page 10). A number of important new titles have been added in 2004, and international links with partners in ethnographic film, in continental Europe and beyond, have been strengthened. The highlight of the Committee’s activities is the organisation of the biennial RAI International Festival of Ethnographic Film, a major event in the international calendar of documentary film. The ninth Festival will be held in 2005 at Oxford University.

One view of the Wall at Bethlehem.
The RAI Photographic Library

Chair of the Photographic Committee: Christopher Wright

The RAI photographic library is unique. Consisting of over 75,000 historic prints, negatives, lantern-slides, 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 is highly relevant to contemporary as well as historical issues. The anthropology of visual culture is becoming increasingly central to the discipline as a whole, and interest has correspondingly grown. In 2004, the photographic holdings were incorporated within the combined RAI Collection (see page 10).

2004 also saw the successful completion of the project for digitisation of the W.B. Fagg photographic collection held by the RAI, in association with Yale University Art Gallery. This has paved the way for further collaborative projects involving other parts of the photo holdings and new international partners; these are under active development.

A view of one of the Bethlehem check points.
The RAI Collection: photographic, film and textual resources

The RAI was most fortunate in 2004 to receive generous grant funding from the William Buller Fagg Charitable Trust, Wenner-Gren Fund for Anthropological Research, Thriplow Charitable Trust and Harry Watt Fund. This has made it possible to implement the first stage of a plan to establish a permanent research resource within the RAI, combining the manuscript, archival, film and photographic holdings within an integrated collection. The first stage is scheduled to run from 2004-2007, and was marked by the relocation of the manuscript and archival material and its reorganisation at the main RAI site (see page 7).

Thanks to the grants received, it has been possible to equip a large and airy room on the first floor of 50 Fitzroy St for research consultation, meetings and small exhibitions. Visitors are welcome by appointment. Textual material and photographic images can be studied, videos previewed and copies ordered. Access to the RAI Collection is free to RAI Fellows, Members and Student Associates, and to undergraduate students; other users are charged an access fee.

The launch of the Collection in 2004 opens new opportunities for researchers to explore the combined potential of material which has hitherto been held and worked on separately within the RAI. Work is progressing on a combined catalogue and database that should enable visitors to locate cross-referenced items quickly and easily.

Images of refugee life: one of the camps in Bethlehem under the jurisdiction of UNRWA.
Anthropology in pre-University education

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

With the exception of an optional module within the International Baccalauréate, anthropology is not taught as a distinct discipline at pre-University level in the UK. There have been a number of attempts in the past to introduce anthropology to secondary curricula, and the RAI has played a part in these initiatives. The Institute’s Strategic Review, completed in 2003, identified the reactivation of this effort as a high priority. A new Committee on Anthropology in Secondary and Further Education was established in 2004.

Throughout the year, the Committee has been actively investigating conditions and procedures for enhancing knowledge of anthropology among pre-university students and teachers, and for securing its acceptance as an examination subject and as a component of broader (such as citizenship) curricula. At the request of the International Baccalauréate Organisation, advice has been provided for the IB social and cultural anthropology review. A contribution is also being made to the annual London Anthropology Day for schools, held at the British Museum and designed to inform potential students of the possibilities of anthropology as a university subject. A guest editorial by the Chair on ‘Anthropology and Education’ in Anthropology Today drew a number of responses.

The RAI believes that promoting knowledge of anthropology at secondary and FE level is in the interest of the subject, and also in the broader interest of education through the contribution anthropology can make to the development of globally well-informed adults.

Wedding outfits at the Maghrebian ‘Soleil’ Market, Marseille, patronised by Moroccan families.
The Mass-Observation Archive

Director of the Archive: Dr Dorothy Sheridan

RAI Trustees: Professor Ruth Finnegan, Professor Brian Street

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 wishing to use the material are warmly welcomed (by appointment) and research enquiries should be sent to library.specialcoll@sussex.ac.uk.

For the first time since its arrival at the University of Sussex, the Archive has been able to invest in a development programme. Although the core costs have been provided by the University for many years, all additional activities – including the active collection of contemporary material – have relied upon external funding, mainly income from commercial use (publications, television, radio and the press) and from charitable donations including the Archive Friends’ Scheme. This year, a number of long-term publishing projects have been completed. They include Our Hidden Lives, an anthology of post-war M-O diaries edited by journalist Simon Garfield (Ebury) which was widely and positively reviewed in the national press. The microfilm series of early M-O material published by Adam Matthew Publications have sold well (particularly to North American university libraries); consequently international access to the collection is now much improved. Income from these and other publications has made it possible to create a two-year part-time Development Officer post in 2004, with the remit of promoting the M-O Project – the active collection of writing from people all over the UK which has been going since 1981. One key aim is to expand the panel of writers and to attract younger people and people who have been under-represented on the panel. Themes on which opinions and experiences have been gathered in 2004 include letters and emails, Saturday diaries, public and private spaces, using numbers, the BBC and the war in Iraq.

Details of current publications and research are included in the Archive’s 2003-4 Annual Report, available by sending a SAE to The Mass-Observation Archive, Special Collections, University of Sussex Library, Brighton BN1 9QL. Further information about the Archive can be found at www.massobs.co.uk

medical anthropology

Chair of the Medical Anthropology Committee: Dr Helen Lambert

The points of intersection between anthropology and medicine have stimulated some of the most innovative recent debates in both fields. The RAI, through its Medical Anthropology Committee, is actively engaged with anthropological research and teaching relating to health and medical issues. The Committee provides information and advisory support to the RAI on these matters. It also aims to promote anthropological understanding among non-anthropologists working in health-related fields. It seeks to provide a forum for contact between those teaching courses in medical anthropology, a means for those trained in medical anthropology but working outside the academy to keep in touch with the discipline, and a platform for those seeking to advance medical anthropology within anthropology departments or in the clinical/health care context.

Activities in 2004 have concentrated on planning a published collection of essays demonstrating the importance of anthropological perspectives in medical science, health care and health services; and a series of linked seminars (to be held in 2005-6) on social representations of the body.
The RAI programme of Fellowships in Urgent Anthropology

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. Since 2001 the Fellowship programme has been hosted at Durham University.

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 in 2004 were:

Dr Ananda Rajah, conducting a project entitled ‘Karen refugees in the Thailand-Burma borderlands: ethnic conflict, flight and cultural change’

Dr Rogaia Abusharaf, conducting a project entitled ‘The impact of Arabization and Islamization on identity and self-hood among the Southern Sudan’s indigenous peoples’.

The Fellowship for 2004 was awarded to Dr Emma Gilberthorpe, whose project is on the Fasu and Min people of Papua New Guinea.

A special grant was also awarded in 2004 by the Anthropologists’ Fund to Dr Tatiana Bulgakova, for a project entitled ‘Bringing traditional Nanay knowledge from the archive to the school’.

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 host institution in 2004 was the University of Sussex.

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

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**Recipients of awards in 2004**


**Sutasoma Awards**: E. Cory-Pearce, A. Hall, W. Norman, K. Tomlinson

**Firth Award**: R. Marsland

**Leach-RAI Fellowship**: Dr Peter Luetchford

**Emslie Horniman Fund**: S. Byrne, T. Clack, L. Scarangella, S. Tiwari, T. Widger

**Sutasoma Awards**: C. Feather, L. Chua

**Ruggles-Gate Fund**: N. Barrickman, S. Zaatari
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 2004 was Professor Dame Marilyn Strathern FBA, William Wyse Professor of Social Anthropology at the University of Cambridge. Professor Strathern’s lecture, entitled *A Community of Critics*, was given at University College London on 8th December.

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 Medallist in 2004 was Professor Chris Stringer of the Natural History Museum, London.

The Henry Myers Lecture is given in alternate years by a Lecturer elected by the RAI Council, on a subject related to the role of religion in society. The lecturer in 2004 was Professor Wendy Doniger, Mircea Eliade Distinguished Service Professor of the History of Religions at the University of Chicago. Professor Doniger’s lecture, entitled *The Mythology of Self-Imitation in Passing: Race, Gender and Politics*, was given at the School of Oriental and African Studies, London, on 20th September.

The Curl Lecture is given in alternate years by a Lecturer under 40 years of age elected by Council, on a topic in the field of biological anthropology, archaeology, material culture, ethnomusicology or linguistics. The next Curl Lecture is expected to be given in 2005.

The Lucy Mair Medal for Applied Anthropology is awarded 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. No award was made in 2004.

The Patron’s Medal is awarded from time to time by the RAI Council, for distinguished service to anthropology and/or to the Institute. In 2004 the Medal was awarded to Niel Sebag-Montefiore, retiring Honorary Treasurer of the RAI.

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 and at their discretion. The 2004 award is expected to be announced in 2005.

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. Judging for the 2003 award took place in 2004; the Prize was awarded jointly to Professor Peter D. Little and Professor Daniel P. Reed for their respective books *Somalia: economy without state* (published by James Currey Publishers) and *Dan Ge Performance: masks and music in contemporary Côte d’Ivoire* (published by Indiana University Press).

The J.B. Donne Prize on the Anthropology of Art is awarded in alternate years; the next award is expected to be made in 2005.

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. The 2004 Prize was awarded to Ms Sophie Haines of University College London, for an essay entitled *Landscapes of terror and denial in the Israel/Palestine conflict*.
Honorary Fellowship

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

Honorary Fellows in 2004
Australia: Ian Dunlop, John Mulvaney
Austria: Gertrud Hauser, Gerhard Kubik
Belgium: Luc de Heusch
Brazil: Roberto C. de Oliveira, Francisco M. Salzano
Bulgaria: Nickolai Kaufman
Canada: Cyril Belshaw, K.O.L. Burridge, Robert Paine
France: Yves Coppens, Claude Lévi-Strauss
Germany: H. Baitsch
Ghana: J.H. Nketia
Guatemala: Ricardo Falla S.J.
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
Poland: Andrzej Paluch
Russia: Mikhail Kryukov
South Africa: Phillip V. Tobias
Spain: Carmelo Lisón-Tolosana
Sweden: Ulf Hannerz
Switzerland: Jacques Hainard, Hans Kummer
USA: Noam Chomsky, Elizabeth Colson, Carleton Gaajuske, Clifford Geertz, F. Clark Howell, W.W. Howells, Marshall Sahlins
No Denominated State: Jane Goodall
The shift in balance in the RAI’s sources of income away from fellowship and membership and towards institutional subscriptions has continued in 2004, with an increase in revenue from JRAI and AT subscriptions of nearly 20%. Despite this trend, the RAI continues to find ways of enhancing its services to Members and Fellows, and to postgraduate students by expanding Student Associate numbers in 2004.

As described elsewhere in this Report (see pages 1 and 10), the RAI archive and MS collections have been relocated to our building at Fitzroy Street, providing the opportunity for much improved access to these important anthropological resources. The RAI has been able to address the costs of the move, and the ongoing cost of running the collections for a three-year period, through the generosity of the Wenner-Gren Fund, the Thriplow Charitable Trust, the William Buller Fagg Trust and the Harry Watt Fund. I would like to add my voice to that of the outgoing President in expressing our gratitude for this support.

The RAI has also been most fortunate during 2004 to benefit from a generous legacy from the late Dr Jeanne Fisher. This, together with gains on investments and some very cautious (and in my view quite correct) cost management on the part of the Director, the Council and my colleagues on the Finance Committee, has led to the financial circumstances of the RAI being in a very healthy state indeed.

The RAI’s healthy financial position should allow the Council in future to take a flexible approach to refinancing its £275,000 mortgage, which is secured against the value of the Fitzroy Street property, and which will mature in 2007. The building remains in the accounts at cost although its value has in all likelihood increased over the years since its purchase. This asset underpins the RAI’s balance sheet and, if the RAI’s subscription revenues continue to grow relative to its costs, I believe these two factors will enable the RAI to continue to invest in future initiatives to the benefit of its membership and of the wider discipline.

I would like to highlight the efforts in particular of the Director, but also of the entire RAI staff, in consistently working to bring the goals of the 2003 Strategic Review to fruition in the face of a carefully controlled budget. I am tremendously encouraged also by the support found by the RAI’s initiatives (both financial and otherwise), and the determination within the RAI to carry through those initiatives despite the often considerable uncertainties at the outset.

Finally, I would like to thank Mr Niel Sebag-Montefiore for his immense contribution to the RAI over the 15 years he served as Honorary Treasurer. The current financial health of the RAI is due in no small part to Niel’s efforts, and his ongoing advice continues to be most welcome.
# Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Designated Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>Total 2004</th>
<th>Total 2003</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Net Incoming Resources

**Donations and Similar**

**Incoming Resources:**

- **Donations and Gifts**: £43,780
- **Grants for Charitable Activities and Research**: £10,500

**Activities in Furtherance of the Charity’s Objects:**

- **Grants Received**: £24,080
- **Fellowship/Membership Income**: £72,384
- **Publications, Subscriptions & Sales**: £317,682
- **RAI Collection (Photographs, Films & Archives)**: £39,688

**Activities for Generating Funds:**

- **Investment Income**: £10,062
- **Other Income**: £3,215
- **Rental Income**: £38,676

**Total Incoming Resources**: £521,391

## Charitable Expenditure

**Grants Payable in Furtherance of the Charity’s Objects:**

- **Costs of Activities in Furtherance of the Charity’s Objects:**
  - **Publications**: £220,916
  - **RAI Collection**: £40,426
  - **Library**: £69,060
  - **Support Costs**: £128,576

**Management and Administration**: £15,683

**Total Resources Expended**: £483,921

## Net Incoming Resources

- **Gain on Investments**: £20,228
- **Transfers between funds**: £10,000

**Net Movement in Funds**: £47,698

**Fund Balances at 1 January 2004**: £360,291

**Fund Balances at 31 December 2004**: £407,989

## Grants Receivable

The Institute received the following grants during the year:

- From the W B Fagg Charitable Trust in respect of the costs of the Anthropological Index Online: £6,000
- From the W B Fagg Charitable Trust in respect of the RAI Collection 2004-2007: £50,000
- From the W B Fagg Charitable Trust in respect of the Archives: £3,820
- From the Wenner-Gren Fund in respect of the RAI Collection: £8,380
- From the Thriplow Charitable Fund in respect of the RAI Collection: £9,000
- From the Esperanza Trust for Anthropological Research in respect of: £16,500
- From Nuffield Foundation in respect of Research: £9,260
- From Anthropologists’ Fund for Urgent Anthropological Research (USA) for research: £23,316

**Grants Receivable**: £126,276
Balance sheet as at 31 December 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2004</th>
<th></th>
<th>2003</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td></td>
<td>£</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible Fixed Assets</td>
<td>694,084</td>
<td></td>
<td>688,223</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments at Market Value</td>
<td>408,206</td>
<td></td>
<td>260,230</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,102,290</td>
<td></td>
<td>948,453</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>118,676</td>
<td></td>
<td>94,422</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at Bank and in Hand</td>
<td>288,208</td>
<td></td>
<td>391,332</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>406,884</td>
<td></td>
<td>485,754</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creditors-amounts falling due within one year</strong></td>
<td>(309,405)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(357,339)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)</strong></td>
<td>97,479</td>
<td></td>
<td>128,415</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1,199,769</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,076,868</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creditors-amounts falling due after one year</strong></td>
<td>(275,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td>(275,000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income Funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Funds</td>
<td>248,872</td>
<td></td>
<td>206,217</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated Funds</td>
<td>267,908</td>
<td></td>
<td>235,360</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Charitable Funds</td>
<td>407,989</td>
<td></td>
<td>360,291</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>924,769</td>
<td></td>
<td>801,868</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These summarised accounts are extracted from the full unqualified audited accounts approved by the trustees on 30 May 2005. 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 30 May 2005.

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 2004.

H.W. Fisher & Company
Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditor, Acre House, 11-15 William Road, London, NW1 3ER
Dated: 30 May 2005
Members of the RAI Council and Officers in 2004

President
Professor Wendy James BLitt, MA, DPhil, FBA
Professor Alan Bilborough MA, Dip. Hum. Biol., DPhil

Vice Presidents (elected)
Professor Robin Dunbar BA, PhD, AcSS, FBA
Professor Roy Ellen B Sc, PhD, FLS, FBA
Professor Alan MacFarlane MA, MPhil, DPhil, PhD, FBA
Professor Julian S. Thomas BTech, MA, PhD

Vice Presidents (past Presidents)
Professor Michael P. Banton CMG, JP, PhD, DSc
Dr John Davis BA, MA, PhD, FBA
Professor Michael H. Day MA, BS, DSc, PhD, FRCS, LRCP
Professor Geoffrey Ainsworth Harrison MA, BSc, DPhil
Professor Wendy James BLitt, MA, DPhil, FBA
Professor Jean La Fontaine BA, PhD
Professor Roland M. Littlewood BSc, MB, BS, DPhil, DLit, DipSocAnth, FRCPsych
Professor Adrian C. Mayer BA, PhD
Professor Eric Sunderland OBE., MA, PhD, LL.D, F. I. Biol.

Hon Secretary
Eric Hirsch BSc, MSc, PhD

Hon Treasurer
Niel C. Sebag-Montefiore, MA
Richard S.B. Sanders BA, PhD

Hon Editor, Journal of the Royal Anthropological Institute
Susan Bayly BA, MA, PhD
Glenn Bowman BA, MA, MA, Dip Soc Anthrop

Hon Librarian
Professor C. Thomas Selwyn BSc, PhD

Ordinary Members of Council
Marion Berghahn MA, PhD
Professor Alan Bilborough MA, Dip. Hum. Biol., DPhil
Lissant Bolton BA, MA, Dip Museum Studies, PhD
Jo A. Boyden, PhD, BSc
Brian Durrans BSc, PhD
Jeanette Edwards BA, PhD
Professor Richard Fardon BSc, PhD
Professor Robert Foley MA, PhD, ScD, FLS
Elizabeth Hallam BA, PhD

Deborah James BA, MA, PhD
Sian Jones BA, PhD
Helen Lambert MA, DPhil
Professor Jeremy MacClancy MA, BLitt, DPhil
Daniel Nettle BA, PhD
Filippo Osella BSc, PhD
Professor Michael Rowlands BSc, PhD
Jan Savage RGN, BSc, PhD
Arnd Schneider MA, PhD
David Shankland MA, PhD
André Singer BSc (Econ), BLitt, DPhil
Professor Lawrence Taylor PhD
Professor Julian S. Thomas BTech, MA, PhD
Soraya Tremayne MA, PhD
Maya Unnithan MA, MPhil, PhD
C.W. Watson PhD
Professor Harvey Whitehouse BA, PhD
Christopher Wright MA
Sushila Zeitlyn BSc, CQSW, PhD

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1 (to 15 September)
2 (from 15 September)

Staff of the RAI in 2004

Director
Hilary Callan MA, MLitt

Assistant Director (Finance and Personnel)
Christine M.R. Patel BA

Editor, Anthropology Today
Gustaaf Houtman BA, PhD

Assistant Reviews Editor, JRAI
Maureen Bloom BA, MSc, PhD

Office Manager and Director’s PA
Martin Parkinson BA, Dip Law (to March 2004)
Amanda Vinson MA (from March 2004)

Editorial Officer, Anthropological Index Online
Massimiliano Carocci MA

Index Officers, Anthropological Index Online
Florencio Badalonia MA, PhD
Isisde Carbone MA, MPhil

Film Officer
Susanne Hammacher MA

Photographic Curator
Arkadiusz Bentkowski MA

Library Officer
Janice Archer BSc

Archives Officer
Sarah Walpole BA, Dip Lib

Hon Archivists
Brownlee J. Kirkpatrick MBE
Beverley Emery

Anthropology Today freelance consultants
Mandy Garner BA, MA
Rachel Gomme BA, PG Dip Tech Spec Trans
Peter Jones BA (Hons), MA
Sean Kingston PhD
Stefanie Lotter
Dominique Remars BA (Hons)

In 2004 we welcomed Amanda Vinson. We said goodbye to Martin Parkinson, with thanks for his contribution to the RAI and best wishes for the future.
Donations, sponsorship and legacies
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.

During 2004, the RAI was privileged to receive a generous bequest from the Estate of the late Dr Jeanne Fisher. Legacies to the RAI are particularly 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.
The photographs in this edition of the Annual Report are taken from the Bethlehem, Marseille, Chania, Nicosia (north) and Nicosia (south) sites of the MED-VOICES project web site (www.MED-VOICES.org) to be publicly launched in the autumn of 2005. The RAI is associated with MED-VOICES, which is part-funded by the EC as a component of its EUROMED HERITAGE Programme. The project consists of a three-year collaborative research programme investigating oral history and intangible heritage in 13 Mediterranean cities. Partners include university research units in Alexandria, Bethlehem, Beirut, Nicosia (south), Nicosia (north), Istanbul, Chania (Crete), Ancona, Valletta, Marseille, Granada, Ciutat de Mallorca, and Las Palmas. It is co-ordinated from London Metropolitan University by Julie Scott, Raoul Bianchi, and Tom Selwyn. Further information from j.karkut@londonmet.ac.uk.

The photographs reproduced here have been selected to illustrate four of the project’s unifying themes of borders, neighbourhoods, space, and mobility.

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