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 Associates

In December 2007 there were 964 RAI Fellows in all categories of Fellowship, 470 Members and 115 postgraduate Student Associates.
Message from the President

Professor Alan Bilsborough

2007 has been an eventful year. The Film Festival and conference (see page 9) was an exceptional success, and it was fitting to recognise André Singer’s lifelong contribution to anthropological film by the award of the RAI Patron’s Medal. We thank Glenn Bowman for his outstanding work as JRAI Editor, and welcome Simon Coleman as his successor. Thanks are also due to Tim Ingold for his long service to the Esperanza Trust.

Raising public awareness of anthropology’s range, application and potential is an important RAI objective. Central to this is the education programme, which has made active progress in 2007 (see page 12). Other developments should bring more long-term benefits. We have been able to redeem the mortgage on our premises, removing a drain on resources and creating opportunities to develop an enhanced London base.

Work has also continued on improving virtual facilities, with the planned redesign of the RAI website and additional services. Membership administration has been brought in-house, with effect from 2008. These moves will facilitate effective communications, making the Institute more flexible and responsive to the concerns of the Fellowship.

It was a personal pleasure to present the Rivers Medal to Professor Andy Whiten at the AGM, after which Dr Daniel Nettle delivered an outstanding Curl Lecture. It has been a privilege to serve as your President, and heartening to know that my successor will bring distinction, great experience and wise leadership. But Presidents achieve nothing alone, and I wish to record thanks to the Institute’s Committee and Council members, officers and staff. The exciting developments in progress reflect their dedication to the RAI and to anthropology.

Professor Roy Ellen

The Institute’s position has seldom been stronger. We are financially sound, we have expanded our work in education and publication, and have established a solid reputation for services to the wider disciplinary community. Inhouse membership management will improve our administration’s effectiveness, and new publication initiatives will bring greater scholarly impact. Historically, we have been served well by forward-looking directors and officers, and an incoming president is fortunate to be able to rely on a management team, staff and honorary officers of self-evident excellence. This new presidential year has already seen both landmark occasions such as Adam Kuper’s memorable Huxley lecture, and less visible but equally important contributions to the profession through our evidence for the new Research Assessment Framework, and our role in ongoing national discussions regarding controversial and sensitive research. We look forward to the events planned over the coming months, and hope that those of you who can will join us at these.

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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 institutional 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)
- 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.
- Free access to The RAI Collection by appointment (see page 11)
- 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
- Free access to The RAI Collection by appointment (see page 11)
- 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 11)
- 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).

In 2007, the RAI took over responsibility for membership management. For more information on joining, and current fees, visit the RAI website at www.therai.org.uk.

Dipesh Kharel from Nepal, a student in the Visual Culture Studies Programme at Tromsø, is the winner of the Material Culture & Archaeology Prize for his film ‘Life with Slate’. He received the Harry Watt travel bursary in order to attend the festival and the conference.
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.

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 distributed without charge to RAI Fellows and to libraries subscribing to the Journal. The second volume in the series, entitled Wind, Life, Health: anthropological and historical perspectives edited by Chris Low and Elisabeth Hsu, was published in 2007. The third, The objects of evidence: anthropological approaches to the production of knowledge edited by Matthew Engelke, will appear in 2008.

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.

Public Debate ‘Anthropology on Television – Education or Entertainment?’

Alan MacFarlane (University of Cambridge), John Gledhill (University of Manchester; chair of ASA), André Singer (Chair RAI Film Committee, Filmmaker, Westpark Pictures), Anna Ford (chair, Co-Chancellor, University of Manchester) Sam Organ (BBC, Executive Producer of Tribe), Will Anderson (KEO Films, Director of Reverse Anthropology series)
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 obituarics, together with letters, news and a calendar of anthropological events. In 2007, 63 items were published, excluding news, calendar or cover captions; of these, 38 were substantive editorials, articles and interviews, and 25 were shorter items such as obituarics, comments, conference/exhibition reviews and letters. This included a special issue on hazardous sports.

Topical themes addressed during the year included: the San landrights court case, ethical consumption, popular Dutch television, ethnography on beds, memorializing death, the Columbine massacre, mourning Pope John Paul II, money and credit, animal liberation and rights, the International Criminal Court, evolutionary biology, the FM 2-23 Counterinsurgency Manual, the ESRC counter-terrorism research project, the issue of torture and unwitting research for the CIA. In line with emphasis on debate, a large proportion of contributions related to previously published items. Anthropology Today achieved an increase of over 5% in the number of institutional subscriptions during the year (from 3627 to 3810 institutions, including combined subscriptions with the JRAI). An additional 2665 institutions gained access through licensed databases. Online readership increased by an estimated 23%. Anthropology Today depends greatly on the anonymous referees, its team of freelance consultants and volunteers, and the editorial board, who all breathe life into the publication.

The six issues of
Anthropology Today
Volume 23, 2007
Anthropological Index Online

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 revision of the keywords system begun in 2006 has been completed, enabling diacritics to be entered using international standards. These are now accessible from the online service, and selection can be made among results.

A computer breakdown in September 2007 unfortunately resulted in some loss of data. Most of this was recovered, and average productivity levels were maintained. The incident prompted a comprehensive review of the Index database content, which will be used to generate an updated picture of topical and regional coverage.

Productivity increased by 18% in 2007 against 2006, and the online management pages are fully functional. A campaign was set in motion in 2007 to market the Index, raise its profile internationally, and recruit additional subscribers.

Usage of the direct RAI service at Kent remains high. 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).

International representation in 2007

In March 2007 the RAI director was an invited speaker at a conference on ‘Building destination Palestine: challenges and opportunities’ hosted by the University of Bethlehem and sponsored by the TEMPUS programme of the EU. The director delivered closing remarks under the title ‘How can knowledge travel?’, identifying institutional, intellectual and public landscapes of knowledge flow.

Tiempo de Vals; student film by Rebecca Savage, Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology, about a girl’s coming-of-age celebration in Mexico (UK, 2006)
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 2).

The Library is open to the public for reference and research. RAI Fellows may borrow books and journals donated by the RAI (about 60% of total 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 (see page 5) may be searched. A selection of recent acquisitions and current journals 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.

During 2007, the Library was visited by 2307 individuals and groups from a wide range of ages and backgrounds. Of these, 273 were RAI Fellows. Two open mornings for students were held at the beginning of the academic year. A total of 3070 enquiries, including distance enquiries and personal visits, were received; many from Fellows. 1116 loans were made to RAI Fellows. 7743 books and journals (both RAI and Museum purchases) were used for reference in the Library by all readers. The RAI donated 478 books and 1453 journal issues to the Library. International exchange arrangements are also in place with scholarly institutions, under which the Library receives publications in exchange for RAI journals. It is expected that usage of the Library will expand greatly once an online catalogue is in place.

In June the vacancy for the Department’s Senior Librarian was filled by Jan Ayres, who joined the Museum staff from the College of Optometrists.

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 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. In 2007 the Archive organised a major conference at the University of Sussex under the theme “Celebrating 70 years of Mass Observation from the 1930s to the digital revolution”.

The contributors included our two RAI-appointed Trustees, Professor Brian Street and Professor Ruth Finnegan, who were joined on the platform by eminent speakers from the media, the academic world, community organisations and from the current Mass Observers Panel of writers. Keynote speakers included author Margaret Drabble speaking about using Mass Observation as a source for creative writing, and historian Juliet Gardiner describing the Archive’s value for research on the Second World War.

The use of the Mass Observation materials in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching has accelerated in the past year, and we are currently developing teaching materials together with Sussex anthropologists.

The year also marked the launch of both our newly designed website (www.massobs.org.uk) and the publication of the first tranche of digitised original Mass Observation papers by Adam Matthew Digital (www.amdigital.co.uk) which is being bought by libraries around the world. Copies of the 70th anniversary Annual Report are available by contacting www.sussex.ac.uk/library/speccoll
Anthropology, medicine and health

Chair of the Medical Anthropology Committee:
Dr Helen Lambert (to June 2007; from June 2007) Dr Elizabeth Hart

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. 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.

In September 2007 the Committee successfully organised a one-day conference on ‘Medical Anthropology Today’ held at, and with the support of, the School of Oriental and African Studies, London. The conference aimed to survey the current state and growing points of medical anthropology in the UK, with particular reference to the needs of postgraduate students wishing to enter the field. The intention is that this will become a regular biennial event in future.

A Future in Mud: A Tale of Houses and Lives in Djenne, grounded in Trevor Marchand’s anthropological research, presents a narrative about contemporary building practices (Susan Vogel, Mali/UK/USA 2007)
Euthnographic Film and Video

Chair of the Film Committee: Dr. 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. Video and DVD sales make a significant contribution to the RAI’s overall income. The RAI’s ethnographic film library is one of the world’s largest and most important. All films are screened by the specialist Committee, guaranteeing a standard of excellence unparalleled elsewhere. New titles have been added in 2007 to both the sales and the archive reference holdings. Growing numbers of film company researchers and broadcasters now consult the RAI film materials.

The principal activity in 2007 has been the 10th RAI International Festival of Ethnographic Film; see page 9 for a report on the Festival and list of prizewinners.

The video holdings now form part of the combined RAI Collection; see page 11 for a report on Collection activities in 2007.

The RAI thanks the following for generous grants, sponsorship and donations during 2007:

Grants and donations to the Library and RAI Collection: William Buller Fagg Charitable Trust, Jonathan Benthall, Gheorgita Geana, Marja-Liisa Keinanen, Trevor Marchand, Katya Mihailova, Terje Oestigaard, Judith Okely, Roslyn Poignant, Dr S. Zivanovic. 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: Economic & Social Research Council, Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, Gibbs Trust, MLA (London), Mediabox, Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Charitable Trust, University of Cambridge Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, an anonymous donor


Sponsors of the 2007 Film Festival are listed separately on page 9.
Connecting the Global with the Local

The biennial RAI Film Festival is a well-established feature of the international ethnographic film calendar, and is recognized as making a major contribution to the development of the genre. It represents a flagship engagement in visual anthropology for the RAI and is, at the same time, an important platform enabling British scholars and film-makers in anthropology to participate in the international world of documentary film.

The 10th RAI Festival took place in Manchester from 27th to 30th June 2007, in conjunction with a conference Beyond Text?: Synaesthetic and Sensory Practices in Anthropology (30th June to 2nd July). The Festival and conference were jointly hosted by the Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology (School of Social Sciences) and the Centre for Screen Studies (School of Arts, Histories and Cultures), University of Manchester. The occasion celebrated the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Granada Centre. 77 films were screened in and out of competition, in parallel strands. A new Intangible Culture film prize was inaugurated, to recognise outstanding films in areas of music, dance and performance. Prizewinning films are listed in the box on this page.

Over 500 people registered for at least one day of the six-day combined event. Festival highlights included specialised workshops, a China Day and Castaways Exhibition, the Forman Lecture (a conversation between film-makers Hugh Brody and Kevin MacDonald) and a public debate chaired by broadcaster Anna Ford on ‘Anthropology on Television: Education or Entertainment?’

The high quality of the films submitted and screened during the Festival, and the lively discussions throughout, demonstrate that ethnographic films have a considerable influence on other genres of documentary filmmaking as well as being a part of mainstream anthropology. Thanks are due to the joint organising group, staff and volunteers for another highly successful Festival.

The RAI and Festival organisers acknowledge with thanks the generous sponsorship of the University of Manchester, Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology, BBC Cymru Wales, Blackwell Publishing, the Wenner-Gren Foundation, Keo Films, ITV Granada, Institut Français, the Hungarian Cultural Centre and the Embassy of Mexico.

Prizes awarded at the 10th International Festival of Ethnographic Film

RAI Film Prize
Every Good Marriage Begins with Tears. Simon Chambers, 2006, 63 mins UK.
Basil Wright Film Prize

Material Culture and Archaeology Film Prize
Living Through Things. Anna Waddell, 2005, 32 mins, UK.

Blackwell Student Film Prize
Sona and her Family. Daniela Rusnakova, 2006, 37 mins, Slovakia.

Intangible Culture Film Prize (Music, Dance, Performance)

Audience Prize
Sona and her Family. Daniela Rusnakova, 2006, 37 mins, Slovakia.
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, 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 anthropology of visual culture is becoming increasingly central to the discipline as a whole, and interest has correspondingly grown. The material contained in the photographic library is highly relevant to contemporary, as well as historical, concerns.

During 2007, a series of seminars were organised for students using the RAI photographic resources to address historical and current aspects of the involvement of photography in anthropology. These have now become established as regular events.

The photo library forms part of the combined RAI Collection; see page 11 for a report on Collection activities in 2007.

Still Life, a student film by Diana Allen, FAS Harvard, recalls the memories of a fisherman in southern Lebanon before the Israeli occupation. (USA, 2007)
The RAI Collection: photographic, film and textual resources

**Chair of the Manuscripts and Archives Committee:**
Professor Tom Selwyn

The RAI Collection incorporates the Institute’s film, video and photographic collections (see pages 8-10) 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 enabled the RAI to embark on Phase 2 of the Collection’s development programme, scheduled for the coming three years. Conditions for access and use of the Collection were much improved at the end of 2007, when the Institute was able to occupy new space at 50 Fitzroy St and open a dedicated research room.

Work has continued in 2007 on cataloguing the manuscript collection. A large proportion of the early handlists, and the archive catalogues, have been converted to Word documents enabling better searching and response to queries. A link has been established with AIM25, a project providing internet access to descriptions of archives held by HE institutions and learned societies within the Greater London area. Over time, this will result in the RAI’s collections becoming known to a wider audience.

The Munro project, an international collaboration between UK and Japanese partners aiming to digitise materials relating to N.G. Munro’s studies of the Ainu people of Hokkaido in the early 20th century, has proceeded throughout 2007. Two members of the RAI Collection staff visited Japan during the year, supported by a travel grant from the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation.

The RAI suffered a sad loss in 2007 with the death at the age of 88 of Miss Brownlee J. Kirkpatrick MBE. Miss Kirkpatrick was Librarian at the RAI from 1948 to 1976, and continued to serve as Honorary Archivist until shortly before her death. Obituaries were published in *The Independent* and *Anthropology Today*.

**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.

*Going for the Kill*, an insider’s account of the banning of foxhunting with hounds in England, is part of the BBC Storyville production ‘A Very English Village’, a series about Ditchling in rural Sussex, the native village of the filmmaker Luke Holland (UK 2006)
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 of the discipline, and also in the broader interest 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 2007 to develop a broadly based, sustainable programme of education in anthropology designed primarily for students and teachers at pre-university level. Following earlier funding awarded by the Higher Education Funding Council for England, a three-year grant made by the Economic and Social Research Council under its Science in Society scheme provides co-funding for the RAI’s education programme over three years to December 2009; and supports the Education Officer staff post for that period.

The education 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 pre-university students, teachers, careers advisers and parents. Much of the information will eventually be web-based, and a dedicated Discover Anthropology website (www.discoveranthropology.org.uk) is scheduled for launch in 2008. A blogspot Anthropologist About Town, a weekly diary of anthropology-related events of interest to those new to the discipline, was launched in 2007. Funding was obtained during the year from Museums Libraries Archives London (MLA) for an educational microsite targeted to citizenship education. The RAI is a partner, with the University of Sussex and Brighton Museum, in an ongoing project Discovering Anthropology through Museums, to develop a schools’ teaching pack based on museum collections.

Activities in 2007 have included co-organising the annual London Anthropology Day for school students and teachers held at the British Museum, and contributions to the ESRC’s Festival of Social Science and BAAS Festival of Science. A grant obtained from Media Box, a government-funded youth media body, made possible a project entitled South East Ethnography, under which the RAI in partnership with Goldsmiths College and Greenwich Community College supported a group of disadvantaged teenage students in making short ethnographic films within their own environments. These films were screened with great success at a public event, and DVDs have been widely distributed.

Anthropology is not currently taught as a distinct discipline at pre-University level in the UK, with the exception of an optional course within the International Baccalauréate. The curricular strand of the education programme seeks to develop a presence for anthropology within school and FE curricula. The emphasis during 2007 has been on developing a structure and content for an A level qualification in anthropology. At the end of the year, agreement was reached with the AQA awarding body that AQA will develop the A level and submit it to the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority for possible accreditation in 2008.

In SchoolScapes, David MacDougall explores the social aesthetic of the famous progressive Richi Valley School in South India. Winner of the Basil Wright Film Prize (Australia 2007), and a visually stunning contribution to the festival panel Visualizing Childhood: methodological approaches and challenges’
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 2007 were:

Dr M. Thanuja, for a project entitled ‘The Konda Reddis: perspectives on their social organisation and shifting cultivation overlooked by developmental intervention.’

Dr Dario Novellino, for a project entitled ‘Enabling the “indigenous voice”: beyond technocratic solutions to forest conservation on Palawan Island (the Philippines).’
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.

**Recipient of Awards in 2007**

**Radcliffe-Brown Memorial Fund:**
B. Gerke, W. Cheng, D. Montag,
L. Scarangella, M. High, C. Kidd,
J. Hartley, R. Reynolds

**Sutasoma Awards:**
N. Beckmann,
A. Boudreault-Fournier,
E. Engebrestsen, P. Fortis

**Emslie Horniman Fund:**
E. Swan,
P. Richardson, A. Cant, D. Hussain,
A. Pickles

**Sutasoma Award:**
J. Ransley

**Ruggles-Gates Fund:**
M. Moreau,
N. Hawley, C. Comandulli, J. Copsey

*The Devil’s Mills*, Janos Tari’s visual account of the life of migrant funfair operators received a commendation for the Material Culture Film Prize. (Hungary 2006)
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 2007 was Professor Adam Kuper of Brunel University. Professor Kuper’s lecture, entitled ‘Changing the subject’ was given at the British Museum on 14th 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 Medal was awarded in 2007 to Professor Andrew Whiten of St Andrews University.

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. No award was made in 2007.

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 Wellcome Medal for 2006 was awarded in 2007 to Professor Sophie Day of Goldsmiths College.

The Patron’s Medal is awarded from time to time by the RAI Council, for distinguished service to anthropology and to the Institute. In 2007 the Patron’s medal was awarded to Dr André Singer of West Park Pictures, for his lifetime contribution to ethnographic film and visual anthropology.

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 2007 Curl Lecture was given at the British Museum on 26th September by Dr Daniel Nettle of Newcastle University, and entitled ‘Nature versus culture, or how is human behaviour to be explained?’

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 Myers Lecture will be given in 2008.

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 2007 Prize was awarded to Professor Deborah Winslow of the University of New Hampshire, for her essay ‘The village clay: recursive innovations and self-fashioning among Sinhalese potters.’

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 2006 award took place in 2007; the Prize was awarded to Dr Harri Engelund of Cambridge University for his book Prisoners of freedom: human rights and the African poor, published by the University of California Press.

The J.B. Donne Prize on the Anthropology of Art is awarded in alternate years. No award was made in 2007.

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 2007 prize was awarded to Paul Anderson of the University of Edinburgh for his essay ‘Is altruism possible?’

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 2007 prize was awarded to Anna Ruddock of the University of Sussex, for her essay “Sorry”: an anthropological study of performative apology and its potential for collective healing.”
Honorary Fellowship

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

Honorary Fellows in 2007

Australia: Ian Dunlop, John Mulvaney
Austria: Gertrud Hauser, Gerhard Kubik
Belgium: Luc de Heusch
Brazil: Francisco M. Salzano
Bulgaria: Nikolai Kaufman
Canada: Cyril Belshaw, K.O.L. Burridge, Robert Paine
France: Yves Coppens, Philippe Descola, Claude Lévi-Strauss, 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
Spain: Carmelo Lisón-Tolosana
Sweden: Ulf Hannerz
Switzerland: Jacques Hainard, Hans Kummer
USA: Noam Chomsky, Elizabeth Colson, Richard G. Fox, Marshall Sahlins
No Denominated State: Jane Goodall


In Oss Tales, John Bishop returns after some 53 years to a film shot in 1951 by Alan Lomax in Padstow, Cornwall. "Revisiting and Recontextualizing Archival Films" was the topic of a festival workshop, comparing various ways in which archival materials can be deployed in new films (USA, 2007).
This year was significant for the RAI in that, when our interest-only mortgage matured in October, we paid off the amount (£275,000) in full. To do this we used a welcome legacy from the late Mrs Laura Edwards, together with some of our own reserves. As we no longer pay the mortgage interest, we were able to forego the income from rental of the Annex, and have occupied this space. Therefore we now have an appropriate space for visiting researchers, and a proper education office. We were very fortunate to receive continuing support from the W.B. Fagg Trust, and also from the ESRC towards our pre-university education programme (see page 12). The ESRC funding enables us to maintain the Education Officer post for the present.

Our income from our publisher has remained steady, and we are pleased to say that the merger of Blackwell with Wiley, creating a new entity, Wiley-Blackwell, has not adversely affected our position. However, it has been a matter of some concern that we should maintain our fellowship base as strongly as we can, and for this reason we decided to take the administration of our membership in-house. Saving money that would otherwise have been spent on outsourcing our administration, we were able to reallocate resources by the end of the year to augmenting our office staff, and engaging NomadIT to prepare a membership data-base. The new system runs from 2008 onwards, and first indications are most encouraging.

This year also saw a most successful film festival at Manchester, and we congratulate the organizers on their excellent financial management, which enabled the event to break even. Income from the sale of videos shows a slight downward trend, but we hope to address this in the forthcoming year.

Overall, I am pleased to say that the RAI finances are currently sound. Rapidly changing market conditions, and equally rapidly changing technological innovations, may affect the way that we operate in the future. However, at present I believe that we may express cautious optimism.
Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 December 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unrestricted Funds</th>
<th>Designated Funds</th>
<th>Restricted Funds</th>
<th>2007 Total</th>
<th>2006 Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
<td>£</td>
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**Incoming resources**

**Incoming resources from generated funds:**
- Voluntary Income and grants received: £56,193, £768, £151,603, £208,564, £121,498
- Investment Income: £59,724, £511, £3,636, £63,871, £58,999
- Other Income: £3,606, £-£, -£, £3,606, £5,459

**Incoming resources from charitable activities:**
- Fellowship and Membership: £81,089, £-, £-, £81,089, £77,069
- Publications: £422,553, £-, £-, £422,553, £414,297
- RAI Collection: £30,476, £-, £-, £30,476, £32,136

**Total Incoming Resources:** £653,641, £1,279, £155,239, £810,159, £709,458

**Resources Expended**

**Charitable Activities**
- Policy and Profile: £66,148, £-, £26,658, £92,806, £95,240
- Fellowship and Membership: £27,286, £-, £-, £27,286, £31,275
- Publications: £328,509, £-, £40,185, £328,590, £317,804
- RAI Collection: £86,216, £-, £40,185, £126,401, £108,127
- Library: £88,769, £-, £-, £88,769, £90,998
- Education Programme: £29,654, £-, £61,659, £91,313, £56,053
- Governance: £11,171, £-, £-, £11,171, £10,123

**Total Resources Expended:** £637,753, £128,502, £766,255, £709,620

**Net Incoming Resources:** £15,888, £1,279, £26,737, £43,904, £162

**Gain on Investments:** £7,303, £(452), £(1,398), £5,453, £45,803

**Transfers between funds:** £(159,372), £154,372, £5,000, £-, £-

**Net Movement in Funds:** £(136,181), £155,199, £30,339, £49,357, £45,641

**Fund Balances at 1 January 2007:** £322,015, £574,792, £251,078, £1,147,885, £1,102,244

**Fund Balances at 31 December 2007:** £185,834, £729,991, £281,417, £1,197,242, £1,147,885

**Voluntary income**
- Gifts in kind of journals to the Institute: £46,523
- Other donations: £2,345

**Grants Receivable**
- Nuffield Foundation: £7,325
- W B Fagg Charitable Trust: £28,970
- Education Grants: £75,732
- Esperanza Trust for Anthropological Research: £17,000
- Anthropologists’ Fund for Urgent Anthropological Research (USA) in respect of research: £18,154
- Grants of less than £5,000 each: £12,515
- **Total:** £208,564
Balance sheet as at 31 December 2007

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<tr>
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<td>£</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tangible Fixed Assets</td>
<td>689,587</td>
<td>689,978</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments at Market Value</td>
<td>362,768</td>
<td>537,347</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Fixed Assets</strong></td>
<td>1,052,355</td>
<td>1,227,325</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Current Assets</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>160,962</td>
<td>181,553</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Cash at Bank and in Hand</td>
<td>377,090</td>
<td>360,070</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creditors-amounts falling due within one year</strong></td>
<td>538,052</td>
<td>541,623</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Current Assets</strong></td>
<td>(393,165)</td>
<td>(346,063)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Current Assets</strong></td>
<td>144,887</td>
<td>195,560</td>
<td>1,197,242</td>
<td>1,422,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creditors-amounts falling due after one year</strong></td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(275,000)</td>
<td>1,197,242</td>
<td>1,147,885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income Funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Restricted Funds</td>
<td>281,417</td>
<td>251,078</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated Funds</td>
<td>729,991</td>
<td>574,792</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Charitable Funds</td>
<td>185,834</td>
<td>322,015</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income Funds</strong></td>
<td>1,197,242</td>
<td>1,147,885</td>
<td>1,197,242</td>
<td>1,147,885</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These summarised accounts are extracted from the full unqualified audited accounts approved by the trustees on 30 May 2008. 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 WIT 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 2008. 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 2007.

H.W. Fisher & Company
Chartered Accountants, Registered Auditor, Acre House, 11-15 William Road, London, NW1 3ER, UK
Dated: 30 May 2008
Members of the RAI Council and Officers in 2007

**President**
Professor Alan Bilsborough MA, Dip. Hum. Biol., DPhil (1)
Professor Roy Ellen BSc, PhD, FLS, FBA (2)

**Vice Presidents (elected)**
Professor Robin Dunbar BA, PhD, FBA (1)
Professor Richard Fardon BSc (Econ), PhD, FBA
Professor Jeremy MacClancy MA, BLitt, DPhil
Professor Julian S. Thomas BTech, MA, PhD (2)

**Vice Presidents (past Presidents)**
Professor Michael P. Banton CMG, JP, PhD, DSc, Dr (h.c.)
Professor Alan Bilsborough MA, Dip. Hum. Biol., DPhil (2)
Dr John Davis BA, MA, PhD, FBA
Professor Michael H. Day MB, BS, PhD, DSc, MRCS, LRCP, FCS (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)

**Hon Secretary**
Eric Hirsch BSc, MSc, PhD

**Hon Treasurer**
David Shankland MA, PhD

**Hon Librarian**
Professor C. Thomas Selwyn BSc, PhD

**Ordinary Members of Council**
Simone Abram LGSM, BSc/MEng, MSt, DPhil (2)
Jocelyn A. Boyden, PhD, BSc (1)
Simon Coleman BA, MA, PhD (1)
Alan Dangour BSc, MSc, PhD (2)
Professor Elizabeth Edwards BA, MA
Professor Roy Ellen BSc, PhD, FLS, FBA (1)
Matthew Engelke BA, MA, PhD
Professor James Fairhead BA, MA, PhD (2)
Peggy Froerer BA, MA, MSc, PhD
Professor Maia Green BA (Hons), PhD (2)
Elizabeth Hallam BA, PhD (1)
Narmala Halstead MA, PhD (2)
Elizabeth Hart BA, Cert Anth, PhD (2)
Helen Lambert MA, DPhil (1)
Professor Alan MacFarlane MA, MPhil, DPhil, PhD, FBA
David Mills BA, MA, PhD
Peter Parkes MA, BLitt, PhD (2)
David Pratten MA, PhD, MA
Paul Rainbird BA, PhD, FSA (2)
Arnd Schneider MA, PhD, Habit (1)
Julie Scott BA, Grad Dip (Economic Development), MA, PhD
Professor Paul Sillitoe MA, PhD, FBA (2)
André Singer BSc (Econ), BLitt, DPhil (2)
Robert Storrie BSc, MA, PhD
Professor Brian Street BA, Dip Soc Anth, DPhil
Professor Lawrence Taylor PhD (1)
Maya Unnithan MA, MPhil, PhD (1)
Professor C.W. Watson PhD (1)

**Casual vacancy** (2)
(1) to 26 September
(2) from 26 September

Staff of the RAI in 2007

**Director**
Hilary Callan MA, MLitt

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

**Editor, Anthropology Today**
Gustaf Houtman BA, PhD

**Assistant Reviews Editor, JRAI (Acting Reviews Editor Sept-Dec)**
Maureen Bloom BA, MSc, PhD

**Office and Membership Manager and Director’s PA**
Amanda Vinson MA

**Editorial Officer, Anthropological Index Online**
Massimiliano Carocci MA, PhD

**Index Officers, Anthropological Index Online**
Florentina Badalanova Geller MA, PhD
Iside Carbone MA, MPhil

**Film Officer**
Susanne Hammacher MA

**Photographic Curator**
Arkadiusz Bentkowski MA, PhD

**Library Officer**
Janice Archer BSc

**Archives Officer**
Sarah Walpole BA, Dip Lib

**Hon Archivist**
Beverley Emery

**Education Officer**
Gemma Jones BA, MA

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

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.
The images in this edition of the annual report have been selected from stills of films screened at the 10th RAI International Festival of Ethnographic Film, held in Manchester from 27 June – 2 July 2007, or from photos taken during the festival (image copyright courtesy of the filmmakers or the RAI). Further information on the biennial RAI Film Festival or the films that were screened can be found on www.raifilmfest.org.uk, or by contacting the RAI Film Officer, Susanne Hammacher, at film@therai.org.uk, phone 020 73870455.


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