

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

Registered Charity Number 1135395

A company limited by guarantee

Registered in England and Wales

Number 06966984

10, Carlton House Terrace
LONDON | SW1Y 5AH



REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

for

The Year Ended

30 June 2019

2018/2019

CONTENTS

Charity and Company Information.....	3
Report of the Council of Management.....	4-18
Statement of Council's Responsibilities.....	19
Independent Examiner's Report to the Members of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) for the year ended 30 June 2019.....	20
Statement of Financial Activities	21
Balance Sheet.....	22
Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2019	23



CHARITY AND COMPANY INFORMATION

**Registered Office and
Principal Address**

The British Academy
10 Carlton House Terrace
London SW1Y 5AH

Bankers

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

CAF Bank Limited
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

CCLA Investment Management Ltd
80 Cheapside
London EC2V 6DZ

Independent Examiners

WMT
Chartered Accountants
Verulam Point
Station Way
St Albans
Hertfordshire AL1 5HE

Investment Managers

Investec
30 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7QN UK

Solicitors

Jacobs Allen Hammond Solicitors
5 Fitzhardinge Street
London W1H 6EF

Registered Charity

1135395

Registered Company

06966984 (England and Wales)

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL OF MANAGEMENT

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

Mr Frank Baker CMG, OBE
Dr Gareth Brereton
Dr Tim Clayden, Hon Treasurer
Dr Paul Collins, Chair of Council
Dr John Curtis OBE, FBA, President
Dr Erica Hunter
Daniel Lowe
Dr John MacGinnis
Joan Porter MacIver, Vice-Chair of Council
Dr Ellen McAdam
Dr Glen Rangwala

The Council presents this report together with the financial statements of BISI for the period of twelve months ended 30 June 2019. The statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 24 and comply with the charity's regulations, applicable law and the requirements of the Charity SORP (FRS102). The 2019 report and accounts reflect BISI's activities over the course of the current financial year. They represent the eighth year of the charity operating as a company limited by guarantee.

GOVERNANCE, STRUCTURE AND MANAGEMENT

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

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

BISI's income comes from its own resources and endowment in addition to income from charitable activities.

Annual General Meeting

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

Council

A volunteer Council is responsible for the overall management of the charity and meets three times a year in London. It delegates much of its work to several Committees of the Council – currently Fieldwork and Research, Fundraising, University Engagement, Publications, Website and Strategy.

BISI's current Council members cover a broad range of expertise. The majority of Council members are academics, highly knowledgeable in Mesopotamian, Medieval Islamic and contemporary Iraq. Council members are elected by the full membership to serve a 3-year term. They may be re-elected for a further 3-year term and must then stand down for a minimum of 1 year. This rule does not apply to key office holders. Council members elect a Chair and Vice-Chair from within their ranks. The Hon Treasurer is a member of Council, nominated by the Council and elected by members on an annual basis.

Before joining Council, nominees are requested to review the Charity Commission guidelines 'CC3 - The Essential Trustee: What you need to know, what you need to do.' New Council members attend an induction meeting with the Chair and administrative staff and have access to electronic copies of all of BISI's governance documents. In addition, new trustees are required to sign a 'Trustee Code of Conduct,' which outlines their duties and BISI's expectations of them. Current Council members must complete an annual certification to confirm that they are not disqualified from acting as a charity trustee because of section 178 of the Charities Act 2011.

Patron, President and Honorary Vice President

BISI currently has three Patrons: Sir Terence Clark, The Rt Hon. The Lord Lamont of Lerwick and Nadhim Zahawi, one President: Dr John Curtis, and two Honorary Vice-Presidents: Jon Wilks CMG, British Ambassador to Iraq and Dr Salih Ali Husain, Iraqi Ambassador to the UK.

Decision-making: Council and Personnel

Collectively BISI Council Members are responsible for the general control and management of the administration of the charity, and take charge of all decisions on a strategic level.

Day-to-day operational decisions and activities are handled by BISI staff members. In the past financial year, the BISI administrative team was comprised of:

- **Ali Khadr**, BISI Executive Officer (full-time) who ensures the smooth-running of BISI's office, under the supervision of BISI's Chair and Vice-Chair of Council: Paul Collins and Joan MacIver. Ali had previously been development co-ordinator and he continues to spend 20% of his time in development activities.
- **Karon Cook**, BISI's Financial Controller (part-time, 20-30%, self-employed), who oversees BISI's financial activities, under the supervision of BISI's Hon Treasurer.
- **Isobel Ransome** – Bisi Visiting Scholars' Programme Co-ordinator (Self-employed up to 20%)

Personnel Costs

BISI pays the salary of its Executive Officer at an amount that is reflective of his experience and abilities, and sets the fee according to university norms. It chooses at its model the UCL Non-clinical grade structure with spinal points (www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/salary_scales/final_grades.php). Thus, the Executive Officer's salary is currently £29,683, including London allowance – the equivalent of UCL Grade 6 spine point 22.

BISI's self-employed personnel – its Financial Controller, Visiting Scholar Programme Co-ordinator and Development Co-ordinator – charge the institute an hourly rate, in line with their expertise and responsibilities.

Support from the British Academy

Since 2009, the British Academy has given BISI valuable support in-kind by providing a London base and the use of administrative resources, as well as providing a venue for meetings and lectures. Council is very appreciative of BISI's long-standing links with the British Academy and the assistance it provides.

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

OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

BISI's governing document sets out the aims of the charity as follows:

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

We achieve these aims through:

Research and Fieldwork: We promote high-quality research across our academic remit by making grants and providing expert advice and input. We support and facilitate academic exchange and collaboration between the UK and Iraq through programmes of visiting scholars and academic engagement.

Outreach: We inform and engage the public about Iraq through lectures and conferences that add to the public's understanding of Iraq's history, society and culture. In addition, we provide expertise and specialist knowledge on Iraq's heritage and culture to government bodies, journalists and other parties.

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

In the next few pages you can read in detail about the activities the BISI has carried out in the period of 2018/2019.

Concerning all BISI endeavours, Council has complied with the duty in section 17 (5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION TO THE ANNUAL REPORT



The contribution made by members of Council to the governance of BISI, as an independent charity, is vital, ensuring our financial probity and our strategic direction. They draw on their experience and professional expertise to provide advice, and participate in the development of our programmes and in the award of our research grants. This means we have been able to continue not only to support academic research of the highest quality by colleagues from the UK and, through our Visiting Scholars Programme, Iraq, but also deliver our own significant contribution to scholarship and engagement through publications and an international conference, details of which you can read about in this report and our annual Newsletter.

This success has been achieved during a period when the external financial environment remains very challenging. Council has steered a course intended to ensure we continue to meet our charitable and academic commitments without undermining our ability to do so in the future – it remains a delicate balancing act and we continue to seek additional resources to support our work.

The Institute has continued its activities in no small part because of the provision of office space and resources by the British Academy, for which we remain very grateful. The relationship will be strengthened further as we join the British International Research Institutes (BIRI) as a full member and which may eventually allow us to benefit from Government funding through the Academy. In August I joined a meeting of the other BIRI Directors in Rome where we discussed overlaps in activities and opportunities of working more closely together.

BISI will continue to nurture ever stronger connections with Iraq and a desire to work constructively with our Iraqi colleagues. Much of what was achieved over the last twelve months would not have been possible without the support of our two Vice-Presidents, Dr Salih Ali Husain, Iraqi Ambassador to the UK, and Jon Wilks, UK Ambassador to Iraq. By the time this report is published, they will have both completed their postings and on behalf of Council thank them, as well as their teams, for the great support offered to BISI over a number of years and wish them well for the future.

BISI has a loyal group of supporters as evidenced by the audiences at our evening lectures and events which have often been completely full. We are most grateful for this, because we believe that the more the success of BISI's activities is known and discussed, the greater will be the means available to prolong its activities. One of the key challenges for our future will be the ever clearer expression of the value of BISI as the UK's leading centre for the arts, humanities and social sciences research on Iraq. Over the coming year we intend to build on our research excellence and raise our profile through a network of student and academic ambassadors, all with the firm intention of strengthening our independence.

Dr Paul Collins
Chair of Council

RESEARCH AND FIELDWORK

Academic Grants

BISI supports UK-led research and conferences on the lands and peoples of Iraq, from the full breadth of the arts, humanities and social sciences subjects. We do this through the provision of academic grants (up to £4,000 per grant) and a pilot project grant (usually up to £8,000). In 2018/2019 we funded fieldwork into contemporary Iraq, four major archaeological excavations in-country and one international conferences.

Research Grants

- **Dr Clemence Scalbert (University of Exeter):** At the Borders of the Literary Field and Feminist Activism? Kurdish Women Poets in Iraqi Kurdistan
- **Laith Shakir (SOAS):** Thomas Cook and the Rise of Iraqi Tourism
- **Professor Nicholas Postgate (University of Cambridge):** Analysis and Publication of Zoo-Archaeological Evidence from Abu Salabikh
- **Professor Roger Matthews (University of Reading):** Digitising Jemdet Nasr 1988-1989
- **Dr Augusta McMahon (University of Cambridge):** Lagash Archaeological Project 2019
- **Dr Louise Rayne (University of Leicester):** Landscape Archaeology of the Eridu Region: Discovering the Ancient Farms
- **Dr Zahra Ali (LSE Middle East Centre):** Protest and Repress: Issue Politics, "Militia-zation" and the Toxicity of Everyday Life in Iraq



Exeter Literary Festival *Photo: Clemence Scalbert Yucel*

Conference Grants

- **Dr John MacGinnis (British Museum):** East meets West: The Rise of Parthia



Art Activities with Refugee and IDP Children in Arbat Refugee Camp in Sulaimaniyah, Iraq *Photo: Safen Muhammad*

The Annual Pilot Project Grant was awarded to

- **Dr Daniel Calderbank (University of Glasgow):** Tepe Bor and the Political Landscape of the Upper Diyala during the 2nd Millennium BCE

BISI's Research and Conference grants are awarded to high quality projects that will impact on the academic environment (a requirement of applicants is that they all have robust publication and dissemination, and archiving plans); in this way the programme furthers the Institute's charitable aims to advance and stimulate research into Iraq.

The Archaeological Archives Project

In 2015/2016 BISI's annual £8,000 Pilot Project Grant was diverted to fund the beginnings of an important venture to archive the archaeological records of the current Institute and the BSAI. The project is directed by BISI Council Member Dr Ellen McAdam, with the assistance of a steering committee.

So far, the diverted grant has been used to pay consultants Manda Forster and Rebecca Roberts to conduct a comprehensive survey of the archaeological archives relating to BISI/BSAI excavations, many of which are in the homes and institutional repositories of former field directors and researchers.

The project's ambition is to collate an accessible gazetteer of the sites investigated by BISI/BSAI from the 1930s to the present, as well as to gain a better understanding of the extent of material currently retained in the UK. The final digital and public resource will have clear benefits for research and teaching on Iraq's pre-historic and ancient past, and the history of British archaeology in Iraq.

Visiting Iraqi Scholarships

BISI's Visiting Iraqi Scholarship programme enables Iraqi academics and heritage professionals to engage in research, training and collaborative projects in the UK. As well as fostering UK-Iraqi academic exchange, the programme offers scholars from Iraq the chance to access resources and expertise that are not readily available to them at home.

In this financial year, the BISI has partnered with the UCL base Nahrein Network to help develop the capacity of Middle Eastern universities, museums, archives and heritage site to enable cultural and economic growth in the region. With the generous support of the Nahrein Network, we have hosted five visiting scholars from Iraq.

Mr Ali Al Makhzomy, Founder of Bil Weekend Tour Company in Baghdad – to undertake research on developing new methods to strengthen Iraq's tourism infrastructure. Mr Al Makhzomy was kindly hosted by Professor Roger Matthews at Reading University, Dr

Paul Collins at Oxford's Ashmolean Museum, the World Monuments Fund, Daniel Lowe at the British Library and at the British Museum.

Dr Rozhen Mohammed-Amin, Head of Digital Cultural Heritage Research Group, Research Centre Coordinator and a Lecturer at the City Planning Department at Sulaimani Polytechnic University, Iraq – awarded a scholarship to assist Professor Maria Economou with work on the EMOTIVE project at the University of Glasgow.

Dr Alaa Hamdon, Lecturer and Researcher with the Remote Sensing Center at the University of Mosul – to work with Dr Robert Bewley and Dr Bijan Rouhani at Oxford University's Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa (EAMENA), with the aim of updating and obtaining a better understanding of the present condition of the archaeological site of Hatra.

Professor Maher Al-Helli, Professor at the History Department, Al Mustansiriyah University, Baghdad – to revitalise the teaching of medieval history in Iraq, through observation and discussion with UK colleagues and through visits to universities, libraries and medieval heritage sites across the UK. Professor Al-Helli was kindly hosted by Professor Martial Staub at Sheffield University's History Department.

Mr Mohammed Jasim, former Director of Mosul University Libraries – to help develop a management plan for the Mosul Library. Mr Jasim researched digitisation and documentation of the surviving collection, acquisition strategies, and staff training while being hosted at the British Library by Daniel Lowe.



BISI Vice-Chair Mrs Joan Porter MacIver alongside Professor Nasser Jassem in London *Photo: Ali Khadr*



Dr Maher Al-Helli at the British Academy *Photo: Ali Khadr*

OUTREACH

Outreach Grants

BISI did not award Outreach Grants for the year 2018/2019. We are currently developing an exciting new approach for supporting public engagement projects that promote a greater understanding of Iraq's history, society and culture.

As part of this new development, in 2018/2019, we offered support to two conferences that took place in the UK and Iraq:

- **The Second International Conference for Research and Protection on the Archaeological Heritage of Iraq.** The second International Conference for Research and Protection on the Archaeological Heritage of Iraq (ICRPAHI) was held at the University of Kufa campus in Najaf. The BISI was delighted to be one of the sponsoring institutions and have our Chair Dr Paul Collins on the Steering Committee alongside colleagues from the universities of Cambridge, Chicago and Pennsylvania, headed by Dr Haydar Al Hamdany of Kufa University.
- **The Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology.** The Conference aims to provide a venue for postgraduate and early career researchers in Assyriology and related fields to come together, share original research, and forge connections. It is the only forum of its kind in Europe, and plays an invaluable role in strengthening the health of the discipline.

Events

In 2018/2019 BISI furthered its aims to inform and engage the public about Iraq with a series of free lectures held at the British Academy, London:

- **Dr Noorah Al-Gailani** – A Sufi Shrine in Baghdad – the Challenges of Changing Times (June 2019)
- **Dr Robert Killick** – From Alexander to al-Tabari: Recent Investigations at Charax Spasinou (February 2019)
- **Rashad Salim** – The Ark Re-imagined: Navigating Iraqi Cultural Heritage on the Edge of Extinction (November 2018)

BISI lectures enable the public to hear experts talking about far-reaching subjects on Iraq, from pre-history to the present. Each event is followed by a reception which facilitates further discussion and exchange of research and ideas between the speakers and attendees.



Public Lecture – Dr Noorah Al-Gailani on "A Sufi Shrine in Baghdad – the Challenges of Changing Times"
Photo: Ali Khadr

Those unable to attend BISI lectures can listen to audio recordings (also for free) via the website.

BISI held one sold-out screenings of the documentary film *Letters from Baghdad* at the British Academy in association with the Emmanuel Society and the Harvard Club of the UK (May 2019). The screening was followed by a Q&A with BISI Vice-Chair Joan Porter MacIver and a drinks reception.

The BISI organised a Memorial Event in association with the Friends of Basrah Museum (FOBM), in April 2019 to remember and celebrate the remarkable life of Dr Lamia Al-Gailani Werr who passed away on 18th January 2019. Dr Al Gailani was very closely associated with both organisations. She was a lifelong supporter of BISI and was its only honorary lifetime member. Dr Al Gailani also received the Institute's Gertrude Bell Memorial Medal in 2009. Speakers included, Dr Paul Collins (BISI Chair), Mr Nazar Mirjan Mohammed (Deputy Head of Mission, Iraq Embassy), Dr John Curtis OBE FBA (BISI President & FOBM Chairman), Professor Julian Reade (University of Copenhagen), Ms Jane Arraf (NPR International Correspondent), Professor Eleanor Robson (University College London), Dr Hala Fattah (Qatar University), Dr Georgina Hermann OBE FBA, and Mrs Joan Porter MacIver (BISI Vice-Chair).



BISI President, Dr John Curtis, speaking at Dr Lamia Al Gailani's Memorial Event Photo: Ali Khadr

THE NIMRUD DIGITISATION PROJECT

Thanks to generous support from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, the BISI is working on an important initiative to digitise and release online documents relating to the excavation of Nimrud. This will be an important contribution to the international effort led by the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage to manage and conserve this globally important cultural site.

Located about 30 kilometres south of Mosul in northern Iraq, Nimrud was under the control of ISIS until November 2016. During its occupation, many important historical monuments and artefacts were deliberately damaged or destroyed, including rare examples of painted Assyrian relief sculptures.

Nimrud was excavated by BISI's predecessor the British School of Archaeology in Iraq, between 1949 and 1963, and is arguably one of the most important British archaeological ventures undertaken in the Middle East.

The detailed excavation notebooks and plans were stored at the British Museum and, with their agreement and support, these are now being professionally digitised by Wessex Archaeology, one of the UK's leading heritage practices. The records will then be made available online, under Open Access license.

PUBLICATIONS

Legacy Volumes

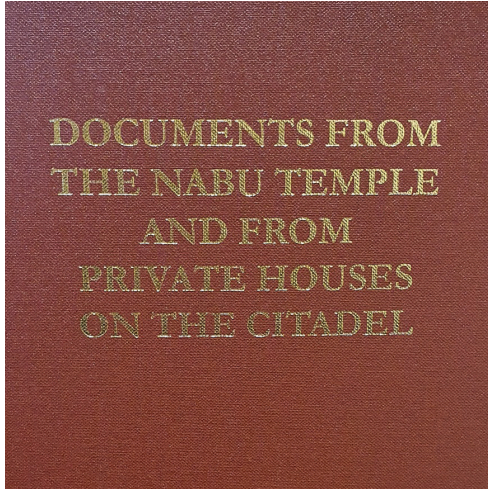
The BSAI supported many excavations during its presence in Iraq from the 1930s-1990s, in Iraq and in adjacent countries (e.g., Syria, Kuwait). An ongoing project for BISI today is to ensure that the outstanding reports and data from these excavations are made available in book or online form, in order to benefit academics and the interested public.

BISI published the following book this year, which is available in print-form and online:

- *Cuneiform Texts from Nimrud VI*
by J.N. Postgate

We look forward to supporting the authors with outstanding works and hope to guide them through the publication process in due course.

In the meantime, BISI's back catalogue continues to be freely available as open access PDFs at www.bisi.ac.uk. This includes all of the volumes from the Abu Salabikh, Cuneiform Tablets from Nimrud, Ivories from Nimrud and Samarra Studies series, as well as Archaeological Reports and other occasional publications.



DOCUMENTS FROM THE NABU TEMPLE AND FROM PRIVATE HOUSES ON THE CITADEL

Cuneiform Texts from Nimrud VI by J.N. Postgate

The Journal IRAQ

BISI's journal IRAQ has appeared continuously since 1934 except during World War II. Today the journal includes articles on the history, art, archaeology, religion, economic and social life of Iraq and, to a lesser degree, of the neighbouring countries where they relate to it, from the earliest times to about AD 1750.

Cambridge University Press is the publisher of IRAQ and the entire digital archive of IRAQ can be viewed through Cambridge Journals Online by anyone who wishes to take up a subscription. The archive is an invaluable research resource, containing articles by the leading Mesopotamian archaeologists and historians of the past eighty years.

- IRAQ 77 (2015) co-edited by Paul Collins (Ashmolean Museum) and Jon Taylor (British Museum), published in January 2016
- IRAQ 78 (2016), co-edited Paul Collins (Ashmolean Museum) and Jon Taylor (British Museum), published in December 2016
- IRAQ 79 (2017), Editor in Chief Prof Eleanor Robson (UCL), published in December 2017
- IRAQ 80 (2018), Co-Editor in Chief Dr Augusta McMahon (University of Cambridge) and Co-Editor in Chief Dr Mark Weeden (School of Oriental and African Studies), published in December 2018
- IRAQ 81 (2019), currently in production, with Co-Editor in Chief Dr Augusta McMahon (University of Cambridge) and Co-Editor in Chief Dr Mark Weeden (School of Oriental and African Studies)

BISI previously awarded the co-editors an Honorarium of £1,000 each in acknowledgement of the enormous amount of work and dedication that goes into every volume. Since IRAQ 80, BISI Council approved for the Honorarium to be used to reimburse the newly expanded Editorial Board for travel costs incurred on Editorial Board duty. The Editors in Chief are supported by an Editorial Board, presently including Council members – Dr Erica Hunter, with further expertise provided by Dr Claudia Glatz (University of Glasgow), Professor Eleanor Robson (UCL), Dr Dan Lawrence (University of Durham), and Dr Mark Altaweel (UCL).

FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT

During the year BISI focused part of its fundraising energies on the Jews of Iraq Conference and the BISI Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Programme. The September Conference successfully met its aims to evaluate the many contributions of the Jewish community in Iraq within the spheres of the arts and culture, social policy, education, government and the economy in the early modern and modern period. The Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC) funded Nahrein Network has been financially supporting the BISI's Visiting Iraqi Scholarships since 2018 and will continue to do so until 2020. To date, we have welcomed 5 Visiting Iraqi Scholars, and expect to host another 5 Nahrein-BISI Visiting Scholars over the coming year. The BISI supports the vital role of the Visiting Scholarship Co-ordinator, Ms Isobel Ransome, from its own resources.

BISI held one fundraising screenings of the documentary film *Letters from Baghdad* at the British Academy in association with the Emmanuel Society and the Harvard Club of the UK (May 2019). The screening was followed by a Q&A with BISI Vice-Chair Joan Porter MacIver and a drinks reception. The Q&A recording is available on the BISI website. All profits raised from the *Letters from Baghdad* ticket sales went directly to the Institute's Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Programme.

The generosity of David Dangoor and Dangoor Education has made possible the future publication of an educational book on *The Sumerians* by Paul Collins to be published in English and in Arabic by the Ashmolean Museum in 2019/2020. It has long been BISI's intention to support the National Curriculum within the context of Iraq's history and heritage. This will be an important and tangible way for the Institute to enhance the understanding of Iraq at this critical educational stage both in the UK as well as in Iraq.

Previous BISI goals for fundraising included supporting the development of a research library at the Basrah Museum. The BISI is now partnering with the Friends of Basrah Museum on the extension to its Cultural Protection Fund grant (2019-2020), managed by the British Council, to establish this

library, which will house the BSAI/BISI's library. BISI Trustees Paul Collins, John Curtis (FOBM Chairman), Daniel Lowe and Joan MacIver were in Basrah along with the BISI Executive Officer Ali Khadr and FOBM Trustee Clare Bebbington and Library Consultants Ayub Khan and John Dolan for the formal opening of the Basrah Museum and for the initial library workshop to discuss the project's implementation. Council is grateful to the Charlotte Bonham-Carter Charitable Trust for a donation to assist with the transport of the BSAI/BISI library to Basrah and other aspects of this work.

BISI continued to receive valuable support from its members and donors in this financial year.

From February 2017 the Fundraising Committee has been chaired by Joan Porter MacIver.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are a vital part of the Institute, helping us in the areas of communications, administration, and events. We would like to thank the following volunteers who made a major contribution to the Institute in the past financial year:

- **Anne-Marie Misconi** – for assisting at a BISI Conference (24 hours)
- **Amal Al-Jubouri** – for assisting at a BISI Conference (24 hours)
- **Lauren Mulvee** – for assisting with proof reading
- **Zainab Mehdi** – for assisting with proof reading and at various lectures

In addition, we must credit Daniel Lowe (British Library), Professor Roger Matthews (University of Reading), Professor Martial Staub (University of Sheffield), Dr Paul Collins (Ashmolean Museum), and Dr Maria Economou (University of Glasgow) who assisted with BISI's Visiting Iraqi Scholarships in the current year – building lasting links with our scholars, and lending resources and expertise

FUTURE EVENTS AND PLANS

Research and Fieldwork

Over the coming years, BISI will maintain its support of high quality, UK-led research into Iraq, through the provision of research and conference grants. BISI will not be offering pilot project grants for the year 2019/2020, Council approved the repurposing of the grant to assist with the costs of the 'Jews of Iraq – Engagement with modernities' Academic Conference.

Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Programme

Ms Isobel Ransome, appointed in February 2018, remains in her role as BISI's Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Co-ordinator. She will continue to manage the scholarships of the following Iraqi academics who we look forward to welcoming to the UK this year as Nahrein-BISI Scholars:

- **Professor Nasser Jassem**, the Director of the University of Mosul's Orientalism Unit. Professor Jassem will be researching the history of British Orientalists at University College London.
- **Dishad Mutalb**, the Director of Antiquities of Soran, will be researching museum display materials and outreach activities for Shanidar Cave Site. To be hosted by Professor Graeme Barker at the University of Cambridge.
- **Dr Sadiq Abid Khalil**, Prime Minister's Office, will be working on building effective advocacy through case-study analysis of Iraqi religious and non-religious heritage in crisis. To be hosted by Professor Fran Lloyd at Kingston University.
- **Dr Ali Naji Diebil**, University of Kufa, will be researching the role of intangible cultural heritage in revival of Najaf tangible heritage. To be hosted by Dr Edward Denison at University College London.
- **Dr Laith Hussein**, University of Baghdad, will be researching the republication and edition of cuneiform texts of the Old Babylonian Period from Tall ab-Dibai (Zaralulu) in the Iraq Museum, Baghdad. To be hosted by Professor Eleanor Robson at University College London.

BISI will also strive to support the post-ISIS rebuilding of cultural heritage in Iraq and the individuals and institutions involved in that work. We are now pushing on with plans with the British

Museum (who hold the relevant records) to digitise and release online as much as possible of the BSAI's old excavation documentation from Nimrud (1948–1963), so that decisions can be made about the badly damaged site with the fullest information to hand. We hope that the project can begin over the winter of 2019/20.

Outreach

Next year, BISI will replace the current Outreach Committee with a University Engagement Committee. The University Engagement Committee will be provided with a budget to actively pursue and encourage university groups to work with BISI as part of a UK-wide network.

BISI will continue to organise an annual lecture programme, which will be determined by the Chair, Vice-Chair and Executive officer with contributions from Council.

We have one more lecture scheduled for 2019 and we are working on scheduling more lectures for 2020, covering Iraq, ancient and modern, which will be held at the British Academy:

- **Matthew Vincent and Chance Coughenour** – Democratising Access and Public Engagement in the Cultural Heritage Sector.

BISI Conference 2019

The BISI organised an international academic conference *The Jews of Iraq – engagement with modernities* in collaboration with the Center for Middle Eastern Studies at the University of Chicago and the department of History, Religions and Philosophies at SOAS in September 2019. The conference met many of its aims to evaluate the varied contributions of the Jewish community in Iraq within the spheres of the arts and culture, social policy, education, government and the economy in the early modern and modern period. Iraqi Jews constituted one of the world's oldest and most historically significant Jewish communities and were in Iraq for over 2,500 years. There is a widening academic interest in the history and contributions of the Jewish community as well as growing interest in Jewish history in contemporary Iraq. The conference brought together UK, Iraqi and international scholars, who are interested in exploring and researching the contributions of this important community to modern Iraq. There was a special screening on Day 2 of the film *Remember Baghdad* with a Q & A with David Dangoor, moderated by Orit

Bashkin. BISI is particularly grateful to the non-BISI Steering Committee members: Orit Bashkin (University of Chicago); Zvi Ben-Dor Benite (New York University); Joseph Sassoon (Georgetown University); and Ella Shohat (New York University) for their time and major commitment in shaping the conference and chairing the panels. Avi Shlaim FBA participated in the memory panel on the first day of the conference. BISI was represented on the committee by Joan Porter MacIver (conference coordinator); Glen Rangwala, Daniel Lowe and Ali Khadr with the support of the academic host Erica Hunter of SOAS. BISI is also grateful to SOAS and to the AV and catering team for their assistance. The filming of the conference talks will be made available online.



Group Photo of Steering Committee Members and Speakers Photo: Michelle de Gruchy

Publications

Over the next few years, the Publications Committee will work closely with authors who have outstanding reports on BSAI-led excavations to ensure that their findings are disseminated as widely and expeditiously as possible.

It is anticipated that the following books will be published in 2019/2020:

- *Umm Dabaghiyah* by Stuart Campbell
- *Glimpses into life by the Tigris* from late Antiquity to the post-medieval period: the results of rescue excavations and surface collections at *Qara Dere and Babneet Village (Eski Mosul)* by the British Archaeological Expedition to Iraq by St. John Simpson
- *The Sumerians*, a publication to support National Curriculum Key Stage 2 History – by Paul Collins and published in partnership with the Ashmolean Museum.

Fundraising and Development

Fundraising efforts for the next financial year will continue to focus on raising core funds to sustain the future Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Programme to support our Iraqi colleagues, coming from a range of institutions in Iraq, working in academia and in cultural heritage arenas.

We will be seeking donations for the next phase of the Archaeological Archives Project, and phase two of the Nimrud Digitisation Project after a successful anonymous grant to support the initial phase of the digitisation project.

The BISI relies on the donations of its members and friends to help fund an increase in its activities and grant giving. The BISI fundraising committee would be grateful for suggestions of potential donors, including introductions to interested individuals, corporate sponsors, and foundations. BISI receives no direct funds from any government and has to rely on its own resources and the generosity of its donors – past, present and future.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts for the year ended 30 June 2019 are attached to this report and a review of BISI's transactions and financial position is set out below.

BISI had net outgoing resources of £30,598 after net gains on investment assets. This was made up of a deficit for the year for unrestricted funds of £41,154 to support BISI's on-going work and a surplus to the restricted funds for the year of £10,253. The investment gain on the endowment fund after investment manager fees was £303.

Investment assets within the Investec portfolio were marked to market at the year-end and resulting in net realised and unrealised gains of £11,406 for the year.

Unrestricted Funds

BISI had four principal sources of unrestricted income. They were from donations and legacies (£21,262), membership subscriptions (£8,917), investment income from the investment assets (£48,930) and publication sales (£12,705).

Restricted Funds

Continued activity in the Visiting Iraqi Scholars Programme resulted in net incoming resources of £159. Restricted donations of £30,194 and restricted income from events of £995 were received during the year.

Two new restricted funds were established during the year.

A fund was established through a donation of £3,000 received during the year from the Charlotte Bonham-Carter Charitable Trust to be used for the further development of the Basrah Museum.

A fund was established to facilitate the running

of a conference entitled Jews of Iraq Conference – Engagement with Modernities.

Note 15 provides details of all the income, expenditure and balances remaining on all restricted funds.

Investment Policy

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

The current investment policy statement continues to reflect the current position of the Institute.

Current Investment Policy Statement

1. The statement is produced in accordance with section 15 of the Trustee Act.
2. The Trustees have agreed to delegate the investment of specified funds to Investec.
3. The investment policy of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq is to seek to produce the optimal total return from its investment portfolio, with the target being the Consumer Price Index plus 5% on an annualised basis over rolling three-year periods.
4. The Trustees wish to adopt a medium risk strategy. This should be achieved through a diversified portfolio of investments.
5. The investment manager should have regard to the suitability of investments pertaining to a charity and monitored by the Charity Commission.
6. The Trustees are willing to agree the widest range of investments as permitted by the Trustee Act 2000, with consideration to the aforementioned.
7. A review of the investments is to be provided by the investment manager to The British Institute for the Study of Iraq's Finance Committee on the basis determined by the committee.
8. The Finance Committee will undertake periodic reviews (every two or three years) of the investment performance and will contact other investment advisers during this review.

Statement about Risk and Reserves Policy

The Council undertakes a review of the major risks to which BISI is exposed, and systems designed to mitigate those risks have been considered.

The Institute is currently heavily dependent on investment income to sustain its activities, as earned income alone, from membership subscriptions and publication income, is insufficient to cover the charity's operating costs. Relying only on earned income would require BISI to significantly deplete capital within the investment portfolio which could impact the viability of the Institute in the medium to long term.

To avoid this risk, the trustees have agreed to keep levels of unrestricted cash reserves to ensure that main operations can continue for a period of up to approximately 12 months.

The main concerns of the board are to ensure:

- that staff can continue working, primarily to secure new funding
- that charitable activities can continue within that period.

At the year end unreserved cash reserves sat at 5 months of operational costs but the trustees recognise that the investment portfolio is highly liquid and cash can be generated for operational requirements quickly.

The level of reserves is monitored every quarter by the finance manager.

This policy is reviewed yearly and whenever there are significant changes in annual running costs.

If it should appear likely that these limits will be breached, Council should consider, on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, what appropriate action to take.

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

(See also note 8 to the accounts)

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

In 2015, after consideration by the Trustees, BISI decided to move the value of the ivories from the general unrestricted fund to a designated fund. This move reflects the restrictions on use applied to the ivories and demonstrates that, although the ivories have significant monetary value, BISI is not able to access that value in an unrestricted manner. As such the ivories are a non-income earning asset and are not BISI's to sell, only to protect.

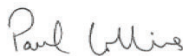
The following served as members of the BISI Council for all or part of the year ended 30 June 2019.

Mr Frank Baker CMG, OBE
Dr Gareth Brereton
Dr Tim Clayden, Hon Treasurer
Dr Paul Collins, Chair of Council
Dr John Curtis OBE, FBA, President
Dr Erica Hunter
Daniel Lowe
Dr John MacGinnis
Joan Porter MacIver, Vice-Chair of Council
Dr Ellen McAdam
Dr Glen Rangwala

Dr Sarah Bowen Savant (retired June 2019)

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

BY ORDER OF THE COUNCIL



.....
Paul Collins
Chair of Council

Date: 06/01/2020

STATEMENT OF COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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

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

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

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

Disclosure of information to the independent examiner.

Each of the persons who is a Trustee at the date of approval of this report confirms that:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant available information of which the company's auditor was unaware, and;
- that Trustee has taken all steps that the Trustee ought to have taken as a Trustee to make himself/herself aware of any relevant independent examination information and to establish that company's independent examiner was aware of that information.

Independent Examiners report to the Trustees of the British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

I report to the trustees (who are also Directors for the purpose of company law) on my examination of the financial statements of the British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) ('the charitable company') for the year ended 30 June 2019 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and related notes.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in this report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the trustees of the charitable company you are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the financial statements of the charitable company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of the charitable company's financial statements carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act') and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

An independent examination does not involve gathering all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently does not cover all the matters that an auditor considers in giving their opinion on the financial statements. The planning and conduct of an audit goes beyond the limited assurance that an independent examination can provide. Consequently I express no opinion as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair' view and my report is limited to those specific matters set out in the independent examiner's statement.

Independent examiner's statement

I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of ICAEW, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in respect of the charitable company as required by section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
- the financial statements do not accord with those records; or
- the financial statements do not comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the financial statements give a 'true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
- the financial statements have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



Graham Wintle FCA - 13/01/2020

WMT Chartered Accountants

Verulam Point, Station Way, St Albans, Hertfordshire, AL1 5HE

Statement of Financial Activities

For the year ended 30 June 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2019 (£)	Designated Funds 2019 (£)	Restricted Funds 2019 (£)	Endowment Fund 2019 (£)	Total 2019 (£)	Total 2018 (£)
Statement of Financial Activities							
Income and Endowment from:							
Donations and legacies	2	21,262	-	41,194	-	62,456	59,105
Charitable Activities	3	21,622	-	1,633	-	23,255	15,823
Investment income	4	48,930	-	197	-	49,127	51,407
Total Income and Endowment		91,814	-	43,024	-	134,838	126,335
Expenditure on:							
Raising Funds:	5	(7,688)	-	(35)	(969)	(8,692)	(8,989)
Charitable Activities:	6	(135,368)	-	(32,782)	-	(168,150)	(136,780)
Total Expenditure		(143,056)	-	(32,817)	(969)	(176,842)	(145,769)
Net gains/(losses) on investments	8	10,088	-	46	1,272	11,406	(3,931)
Net income/(expenditure)		(41,154)	-	10,253	303	(30,598)	(23,365)
Net movement in funds		(41,154)	-	10,253	303	(30,598)	(23,365)
Reconciliation of Funds							
Brought forward		1,177,623	1,326,000	43,133	143,682	2,690,438	2,713,803
Carried forward		1,136,469	1,326,000	53,386	143,985	2,659,840	2,690,438

Balance Sheet At 30th June 2019

	Notes	2019 (£)	2018 (£)
Fixed Assets:			
Heritage assets	7	1,326,000	1,326,000
Investments	8	1,233,450	1,230,737
Total Fixed Assets:		2,559,450	2,556,737
Current assets:			
Stocks		23,547	27,673
Debtors	9	2,255	1,926
Cash at bank and in hand	10	112,741	135,335
Total Current assets:		138,543	164,934
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	26,356	31,233
Total Liabilities		26,356	31,233
Net Current Assets		112,187	133,701
Net asset or liabilities excluding provision for liabilities		112,187	133,701
Provision for liabilities	13	11,797	-
Total Net Assets		2,659,840	2,690,438
The funds of the charity:			
Funds of the charity			
Restricted Funds	19	53,386	43,133
Endowment Fund	19	143,985	143,682
Unrestricted Funds	19	1,136,469	1,177,623
Designated Funds (Nimrud Ivories)	19	1,326,000	1,326,000
Total Funds of the charity		2,659,840	2,690,438

For the year ending 30th June 2019 the Institute was entitled to exemption from audit under the provisions of Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The Council acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and for the preparation of the accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

Under Companies Act 2006, section 454, on a voluntary basis, the trustees can amend these financial statements if they subsequently prove to be defective.

Approved by the Council and signed on its behalf:

Dr Paul Collins



Chair of Council

Dated 06/01/2020

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

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

Income and Expenditure account

The British Institute for the Study of Iraq
For the year ended 30 June 2019

		2019	2018
	Notes	£	£
Income			
Income	2,3	85,711	74,928
Gains on investments		10,134	(3,493)
Interest and investment income	4	49,127	51,407
Gross income in the reporting period		144,972	122,842
Expenditure			
Expenditure		(175,873)	(144,775)
Depreciation		-	(1)
Total expenditure in the reporting period		(175,873)	(144,776)
Tax payable		-	-
Net (expenditure) before tax for the reporting period		(30,901)	(21,934)

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts

1. Accounting Policies

Basis of Preparation and assessment of going concern

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)) effective 1 January 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

The Financial Statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of certain fixed assets, and the inclusion of investments at market value.

The Charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

Income

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Institute is legally entitled to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Where applicable income is stated after trade discounts and net of VAT.

Investment income is recorded when receivable. Income arising on endowment funds is treated as unrestricted.

Gift aid reclaimable on donations to the charity is included with the amount received.

Donated services and facilities are included at the value to the charity where this can be quantified. The value of the service provided by the volunteers has not been included in these accounts.

Expenditure

Grants are included in the accounts in the period to which they relate. Time related grants received in advance are treated as deferred income.

Fixed Assets

Tangible fixed assets over £500 are capitalised and included at cost including any incidental expenses of acquisition. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost or valuation less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful life, as follows;

Computer and Office Equipment: 3 years straight line

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

Heritage Assets

The ivories held by the British Museum were donated to the Institute and have been treated as heritage assets and included in the accounts at market value. No depreciation has been charged on these assets (see note 7) as they are considered to have an indefinite life.

Investments

Investments are carried at market value. Changes in market value are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year that they occur.

The value of Investment transactions (purchase price, sale price, unrealised and realised gain) are apportioned across the general and restricted funds in line with the value generated by the sale of each fund portfolio when the investment managers were changed in 2015.

Financial Instruments

The Charity only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities such as debtors and creditors. Financial instruments are initially measured at transaction value. They are assessed at the end of each report period for objective evidence of impairment. If objective evidence of impairment is found, an impairment loss is recognised in the SOFA.

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment losses.

Stock

Stock of publications is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes the current bank accounts and no notice deposit bank accounts of the Institute.

Liabilities

Liabilities for expenditure are recognised in accordance with the accruals concept. Support costs are allocated in full to expenditure incurred on charitable activities. The majority of costs are allocated on a pro-rated basis over the different activities undertaken by the institute, excluding activities which are financed by restricted funds. Support costs which are related to a specific activity are allocated to that activity in full. The Trustees consider this to be the most appropriate method of allocation.

Judgements, Estimates and Assumptions.

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the balance sheet date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the period. The nature of estimation means the actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. Estimates relating to the Institute's pension scheme and their impact on the financial statements are detailed in note 13.

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

Pension Scheme

FRS 102 makes the distinction between a group plan and a multi-employer scheme. A group plan consists of a collection of entities under common control typically with a sponsoring employer. A multi- employer scheme is a scheme for entities not under common control and represents (typically) an industry-wide scheme such as Universities Superannuation Scheme. The accounting for a multi-employer scheme where the employer has entered into an agreement with the scheme that determines how the employer will fund a deficit results in the recognition of a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement (to the extent that they relate to the deficit) and the resulting expense in the profit or loss in accordance with section 28 of FRS 102. The trustees are satisfied that Universities Superannuation Scheme meets the definition of a multi-employer scheme and has therefore recognised the discounted fair value of the contractual contributions under the recovery plan in existence at the date of approving the financial statements.

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Total (£)	2018 (£)
--	---------------------	-------------------	------------------	--------------	-------------

2. Income from Donations and Legacies

Donations	200	41,194	-	41,394	37,855
Gift aid recoverable	137	-	-	137	325
Provision of office facilities and rent in kind	20,000	-	-	20,000	20,000
Provision of storage facilities in kind	925	-	-	925	925
Total Income from Donations and Legacies	21,262	41,194	-	62,456	59,105

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Total (£)	2018 (£)
--	---------------------	-------------------	------------------	--------------	-------------

3. Income from Charitable Activities

Membership subscriptions	8,917	-	-	8,917	8,866
Events	-	1,633	-	1,633	
Publication sales and copyright fees	12,705	-	-	12,705	6,957
Total Income from Charitable Activities	21,622	1,633	-	23,255	15,823

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Total (£)	2018 (£)
--	---------------------	-------------------	------------------	--------------	-------------

4. Income from Investments

Investment income	48,908	197	-	49,105	51,393
Bank interest	22	-	-	22	14
Total Income from Investments	48,930	197	-	49,127	51,407

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Total (£)	2018 (£)
--	---------------------	-------------------	------------------	--------------	-------------

5. Expenditure on Raising Funds

Investment manager fees	7,688	35	969	8,692	8,989
Total Expenditure on Raising Funds	7,688	35	969	8,692	8,989

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Total (£)	2018 (£)
--	---------------------	-------------------	------------------	--------------	-------------

6. Expenditure on charitable activities

Grants payable	27,249	23,372	-	50,621	40,063
Other charitable activity costs	108,119	9,410	-	117,529	96,717
Total Expenditure on charitable activities	135,368	32,782	-	168,150	136,780

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Total (£)	2018 (£)
--	---------------------	-------------------	------------------	--------------	-------------

a. Grants Payable

Grants Payable					
Research, travel and conference grants	20,575	-	-	20,575	20,342
Outreach grants	1,784	-	-	1,784	4,270
Project grants	6,890	-	-	6,890	7,810
Visiting Scholars Grants	-	23,372	-	23,372	8,428
Returned grants	(2,000)	-	-	(2,000)	(787)
Total Grants Payable	27,249	23,372	-	50,621	40,063

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Total (£)	2018 (£)
Grants Payable - BISI made grants to 11 individuals in the year (15 individuals in 2018)					
Research, travel and conference grants					
Dr John MacGinnis: East meets West: The Rise of Parthia	4,000	-	-	4,000	-
Dr Clemence Scalbert Yucel: At the Borders of the Literary Field and Feminist Activism? Kurdish Women Poets in Iraqi Kurdistan	2,000	-	-	2,000	-
Prof Nicholas Postgate: Analysis and Publication of Zoo-Archaeological Evidence from Abu Salabikh	2,070	-	-	2,070	-
Prof Roger Matthews: Digitising Jemdet Nasr 1988-1989	1,500	-	-	1,500	-
Dr Augusta McMahon & Dr Recht : Fierce Lions, Angry Mice and Fat-Tailed Sheep: Animal Encounters in the Ancient Near East	4,000	-	-	4,000	3,000
Dr Louise Rayne: Landscape Archaeology of the Eridu Region: Discovering the Ancient Farms	4,000	-	-	4,000	-
Dr Zhara Ali: Protest and Repress: Issue politics, "Militia-zation" and Toxicity of Everyday Life in Iraq	2,605	-	-	2,605	-
Laith Shakir: Thomas Cook and the Rise of Iraqi Tourism	400	-	-	400	-
Dr Charountaki Marianna : A Century of State Making in Iraq: The Middle East in Transition	-	-	-	-	3,625
Mathilde Touillon-Ricci : The London Postgraduate Conference for the Ancient Near East	-	-	-	-	1,550
Professor Douglas Baird : Eastern Fertile Crescent Prehistory Project	-	-	-	-	2,762
Dr Michael Brown : The Parthian Mountain Fortress of Rabana	-	-	-	-	2,265
Jade Al-Saraf A Recording, Research and Documentation Project on the Ma'adan Legend of Hufaidh	-	-	-	-	1,890
Michelle De-Gruchy Digging the Khandaq Shapur	-	-	-	-	4,000
Richard Dumbrell Babylon International Festival for the Arts and Culture 2018	-	-	-	-	1,250
Total Research, travel and conference grants	20,575	-	-	20,575	20,342
Development/Outreach Grants					
Lynn-Salamambo Zimmermann: Contribution towards the 8th Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology	1,000	-	-	1,000	-
Dr Hayder Al Hamdany \$1000:Contribution towards the Second International Conference for Research and Protection on the Archaeological Heritage of Iraq.	784	-	-	784	-
Dr Clemence Scalbert Yucel: Literature from the other Iraq - laying the foundations for translating Kurdish literatures in the UK	-	-	-	-	1,000
Selena Wisnom and Martin Worthington : Studying Ancient Egypt and Mesopotamia at University: A conference for sixth formers	-	-	-	-	500
Zena Kamash : Re-materialising Mosul Museum	-	-	-	-	770
Monica Palmero Fernandez: The 7th Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology	-	-	-	-	550
Fran Haselton: The Zipang Recording Project	-	-	-	-	450
Shenah Abdullah: Art activities with Refugee and IDP children in Arbat Refugee Camp in Sulaimaniyah in Iraq	-	-	-	-	1,000
Serpentine Trust: Zaha Hadid Exhibition at the Serpentine Gallery	-	-	-	-	0
Total Development/Outreach Grants	1,784	-	-	1,784	4,270
Pilot Project grants					
Dr Daniel Calderbank :At the Margins of Power - Tepe Bor and the Political Landscape of the Upper Diyala during the 2nd Millennium BCE	6,890	-	-	6,890	-
Dr Rebecca Briant : Bahr Al-Najaf: Assessing Palaeolithic Potential in Southern Iraq	-	-	-	-	7,810
Total Pilot Project grants	6,890	-	-	6,890	7,810

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

Grants payable - Restricted funds

In addition to the grants detailed above, BISI funded 5 visiting scholars during 2018/19 (during 2017/18 BISI funded 2 scholars).

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Total (£)	2018 (£)
Visiting Scholar grants					
Dr Alaa Hamdon	-	5,910	-	5,910	-
Dr Maher Al Helli	-	6,057	-	6,056	-
Mr Ali Al-Makhzomy	-	5,028	-	5,028	-
Dr Rozhen Mohammed-Amin	-	4,000	-	4,000	-
Mohammed Jasim Aal-Hajjahmed	-	2,222	-	2,222	-
Prof Nasser Jassem (2019/20 scholar)	-	155	-	155	-
Dr Sabi Sami Mehdi Al-Ali	-	-	-	-	4,332
Dr Nawrast Sabah	-	-	-	-	4,096
Total Visiting Scholar Grants	-	23,372	-	23,372	8,428

	Unrestricted (£)	Restricted (£)	Endowment (£)	Total (£)	2018 (£)
b. Other Charitable Activity Costs					
Programme related costs					
Visiting Scholars expenditure (excluding visiting scholar grants)	-	7,658	-	7,658	5,735
London activities and lecture expenditure	3,461	125	-	3,586	7,794
Other conferences	5,190	1,627	-	6,817	0
PR, newsletter and website expenses	771	-	-	771	922
Total Programme related costs	9,422	9,410	-	18,832	14,451
Other direct costs					
Printing annual report	750	-	-	750	906
Publication and journal costs	12,347	-	-	12,347	7,965
Total Other direct costs	13,097	-	-	13,097	8,871
Support costs allocated to activities					
London office salaries and contractor costs	38,087	-	-	38,087	39,845
Pension costs	16,976	-	-	5,179	4,572
Office expenditure	4,251	-	-	4,251	3,765
Rent and service charges	20,000	-	-	20,000	20,000
Bank and credit card charges	766	-	-	766	604
Examination fee	3,819	-	-	3,819	3,462
Payroll costs	466	-	-	466	372
Council and committee meetings	815	-	-	815	532
Council and other travel expenses	420	-	-	420	242
Depreciation	-	-	-	-	1
Total Support costs allocated to activities	85,600	-	-	85,600	73,395
Total other charitable activity costs	108,119	9,410	-	117,529	96,717

Designated Funds
(£)

7. Heritage Assets - movements in the year

brought forward 1 July 2018	1,326,000
Movements in the year	-

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

carried forward at 30 June 2019

1,326,000

The heritage assets of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq are held at cost.

During 2010/11 the Council of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq signed a memorandum of understanding with the British Museum, that detailed the donation by the charity of certain specific ivories totalling £1,404,000 in value in consideration of the care the Museum had taken in conserving these valuable heritage assets for over two decades. The Museum was able to raise funds through its 'Nimrud Ivories Appeal' to acquire specific ivories totalling £1,170,000 in value from the Institute and the sixty-five ivories, valued at £1,326,000 have been retained and are shown in the accounts as heritage assets. The Institute retains a written record describing the 65 ivories and as part of the arrangements the British Museum will continue to take care of these ivories, which will now be covered under UK government indemnity against loss or damage. There is currently no public access available to the ivories.

The value of the Nimrud Ivories is recorded within a designated fund within the Institute's accounts. This designation recognises that the Trustees are not able to dispose of the Ivories on the open market.

8. Investments

Investments	2019		2018	
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
	£	£	£	£
Listed Investments				
Endowment Fund	126,658	137,478	127,112	137,176
Total Endowment Funds	126,658	137,478	127,112	137,176
Restricted Funds				
Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	2,385	2,588	2,393	2,583
Mallowan Fund	2,174	2,360	2,182	2,354
Total Restricted Funds	4,559	4,948	4,575	4,937
Unrestricted Funds				
	1,005,156	1,091,024	1,008,759	1,088,624
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,005,156	1,091,024	1,008,759	1,088,624
Total Investments				
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
	£	£	£	£
Total Endowment Fund	126,658	137,478	127,112	137,176
Total Restricted Funds	4,559	4,948	4,575	4,937
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,005,156	1,091,024	1,008,759	1,088,624
Total	1,136,373	1,233,450	1,140,446	1,230,737

Total 2019	Total 2018
£	£

Movement in Investment Assets

Brought forward at 1 July 2018	1,224,502	1,235,722
Investment additions	112,144	240,547
Investment disposal proceeds	(139,804)	(248,189)
Investment realised and unrealised gains/(losses)	11,406	(3,578)

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

Investments carried forward at 30 June 2019	1,208,248	1,224,502
Capital Account	25,202	6,235
Total carried forward	1,233,450	1,230,737

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	2019 (£)	2018 (£)
9. Debtors		
Trade debtors	1	76
Prepayments	1,322	974
Publication Income due	199	505
Tax Recoverable	459	371
Vat Receivable	274	-
Total Debtors	2,255	1,926

	2019 (£)	2018 (£)
10. Cash at bank and in hand		
Current Accounts and Cash	110,149	132,743
Deposit Accounts	2,592	2,592
Total Cash	112,741	135,335

	2019 (£)	2018 (£)
11. Creditors – due in less than one year		
Trade Creditors	1,342	1,277
Grants Payable	20,195	26,882
Accruals	4,322	2,700
Payroll Liabilities	497	20
VAT Payable	-	354
Total Creditors due in less than one year	26,356	31,233

	2019 (£)	2018 (£)
12. Employees		
Salaries	28,124	25,541
Pension Contributions	16,976	4,572
Total Employees	45,100	30,113

The Institute employed 1 full-time employee during the year (2018:1)

One employee received remuneration between £20,001- £30,000, (2018:1 between £20,001 and £30,000)

Key management personnel compensation for 2019 was £33,303 (2018 - £30,113)

13. Pension Costs and Provisions

The total cost charged to the profit and loss account is £16,967 which includes a pension deficit provision of £11,797. In 2018 the charge to the profit and loss account was £4,572 which included no provision.

2019 (£)	2018 (£)
-------------	-------------

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

Provision for Liabilities

Pension Deficit Provision b/f	-	-
Pension Deficit charge for the year	11,797	-
Pension deficit provision c/f	11,797	-

The latest available complete actuarial valuation of the Retirement Income Builder is at 31 March 2018 (the valuation date), which was carried out using the projected unit method.

Since the institution cannot identify its share of USS Retirement Income Builder assets and liabilities, the following disclosures reflect those relevant for those assets and liabilities as a whole.

The 2018 valuation was the fifth valuation for the scheme under the scheme-specific funding regime introduced by the Pensions Act 2004, which requires schemes to adopt a statutory funding objective, which is to have sufficient and appropriate assets to cover their technical provisions. At the valuation date, the value of the assets of the scheme was £63.7 billion and the value of the scheme's technical provisions was £67.3 billion indicating a shortfall of £3.6 billion and a funding ratio of 95%.

The key financial assumptions used in the 2018 valuation are described below. More detail is set out in the Statement of Funding Principles.

FINANCIAL ASSUMPTIONS	31 March 2018	31 March 2017
Market derived price inflation	In line with the difference between the Fixed Interest & Index Linked yield curves	
Inflation Risk Premium (IRP)	0.3% p.a.	0.3% p.a.
Price inflation (RPI)	Market derived price inflation less IRP	
RPI / CPI gap	1.0% p.a.	1.0% p.a.
Price inflation (CPI)	RPI less RPI / CPI gap	
Pension increases in payment	CPI assumption (for both pre and post 2011 benefits)	
Discount rate:	<p>Years 1-10: CPI +0.14% reducing linearly to CPI -0.73%</p> <p>Years 11-20: CPI +2.52% Reducing linearly to CPI + 1.55% by year 21</p> <p>Years 21+: CPI +1.55%</p>	<p>Years 1-10: CPI -0.53% reducing linearly to CPI -1.32%</p> <p>Years 11-20: CPI +2.56% Reducing linearly to CPI + 1.7% by year 21</p> <p>Years 21+: CPI +1.7%</p>

Demographic assumptions	31 March 2018	31 March 2017
Mortality – base table	Pre-retirement: 71% of AMC00 (duration 0) for males and 112% of AFC00 (duration 0) for females	
	<p>Post-retirement: 97.6% of SAPS S1NMA "light" for males and 102.7% of RFV00 for females</p>	<p>Post-retirement: 96.5% of SAPS S1NMA "light" for males and 101.3% of RFV00 for females</p>

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

Mortality – future improvements	CMI_2017 with a smoothing parameter of 8.5 and a long term improvement rate of 1.8% pa for males and 1.6% pa for females	CMI_2016 with a smoothing parameter of 8.5 and a long term improvement rate of 1.8% pa for males and 1.6% pa for females
Commutation	No Allowance	

The current life expectancies on retirement at age 65 are:

	Cohort	Period
Males currently aged 65 (years)	24.4	22.5
Females currently aged 65 (years)	25.9	24.0
Males currently aged 45 (years)	26.3	n/a
Females currently aged 45 (years)	27.7	n/a

A new deficit recovery plan has been put in place as part of the 2018 valuation, which requires payment of 2% of salaries over the period 1 October 2019 to 30 Sept 2021 followed by 6% until 31 March 2028. The 2019 pension liability provision noted in these financial statements reflects this plan. The provision figures have been produced using the following assumptions as at 31 March 2018 and 2019.

	2019	2018
Discount rate	3.00%	2.64%
Pensionable salary growth	1.0%	n/a
Pension increases (CPI)	2.11%	2.02%

14. Related Party Transactions

During the year, 2 Trustees were paid a total of £305 (2018: £241) in travel expenses. No trustees received remuneration in the year. Dr Paul Collins was paid £811 for reimbursement of fees of \$1,000 that were paid to a conference speaker.

15. Restricted Income Funds

Donations and legacies	30,194	-	-	-	-	3,000	8,000	41,194
Charitable activities income	995	-	-	-	-	-	638	1,633
Investment Income	-	103	94	-	-	-	-	197
Raising Funds	-	(18)	(17)	-	-	-	-	(35)
Charitable activities expenditure	(31,030)	(75)	(50)	-	-	-	(1,627)	(32,782)
Net incoming resources before valuations and investment assets and disposals	159	10	27	-	-	3,000	7,011	10,207
Gains on revaluations and disposal of investment assets								
Realised and Unrealised	-	24	22	-	-	-	-	46
Net movement in Funds	159	34	49	-	-	3,000	7,011	10,253
Fund balance brought forward	10,606	3,765	2,994	17,600	8,168	-	-	43,133

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

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

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

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

The Sumerians Fund was funded by the generosity of David Dangoor and Dangoor Education with the aim of producing a book for children on the Sumerians.

The Nimrud Digitisation Fund was established thanks to generous support from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous. BISI is undertaking this important initiative to digitise and release online documents relating to the excavation of Nimrud. This will be an important contribution to the international effort led by the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage to manage and conserve this globally important cultural site.

A donation of £3,000 was received during the year from the Charlotte Bonham-Carter Charitable Trust to be used for the further development of the Basrah Museum.

The Jews of Iraq Conference Fund was established to hold donations and record expenditure related to the conference **The Jews of Iraq – Engagement with Modernities** to be held in September 2019.

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	Visiting Scholar Fund 2018 (£)	Bonham Carter Lecture Fund 2018 (£)	Mallowan Fund 2018 (£)	Sumerians Fund 2018 (£)	Nimrud Digitisati on Fund 2018 (£)	Total Restricted Funds 2018 (£)
16. Comparative Year Restricted Income Funds						
Donations and legacies	11,987	-	-	17,600	8,168	37,755
Charitable activities income	240	-	-	-	-	240
Investment Income	-	107	98	-	-	205
Raising Funds	-	(19)	(17)	-	-	(36)
Charitable activities expenditure	(18,020)	(75)	(50)	-	-	(18,145)
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before valuations and investment assets and	(5,793)	13	31	17,600	8,168	20,019
disposals						
Gains/(losses) on revaluations and disposal of investment assets						
Realised and Unrealised	-	(9)	(8)	-	-	(17)
Net movement in Funds	(5,793)	4	23	17,600	8,168	20,002
Fund balance brought forward	16,399	3,761	2,971	-	-	23,131
Fund balance carried forward	10,606	3,765	2,994	17,600	8,168	43,133

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

17. Comparative Year Statement of Financial Activities

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds 2018 (£)	Designated Funds 2018 (£)	Restricted Funds 2018 (£)	Endowment Fund 2018 (£)	Total 2018 (£)
Statement of Financial Activities						
Income and Endowment from:						
Donations and legacies	2	21,350	-	37,755	-	59,105
Charitable Activities	3	15,583	-	240	-	15,823
Investment income	4	51,203	-	204	-	51,407
Total		88,136	-	38,199	-	126,335
Expenditure on:						
Raising Funds:	5	(7,960)	-	(36)	(993)	(8,989)
Charitable Activities:	6	(118,635)	-	(18,145)	-	(136,780)
Total		(126,595)	-	(18,181)	(993)	(145,769)
Net gains/(losses) on investments		(3,477)	-	(16)	(438)	(3,931)
Net income/(expenditure)		(41,936)	-	20,002	(1,431)	(23,365)
Net movement in funds		(41,936)	-	20,002	(1,431)	(23,365)

Reconciliation of Funds

Brought forward	1,219,559	1,326,000	23,131	145,113	2,713,803
Carried forward	1,177,623	1,326,000	43,133	143,682	2,690,438

18. Financial Instruments

All of the financial instruments of the charity are basic financial instruments

Financial Assets	Measurement method	2019 £	2018 £
Cash	Cash held	112,741	135,335
Trade and other debtors	Settlement amount after any trade discounts (provided normal credit terms apply)	1,522	1,555
Total Financial Assets		114,263	136,890
Financial liabilities	Measurement method		
Trade and other creditors	Settlement amount after any trade discounts (provided normal credit terms apply)	38,153	30,879

British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial)

Notes to the Accounts (continued)

	Unrestricted Funds 2019	Endowment Fund 2019	Designated Fund 2019	Visiting Scholars Fund 2019	Mallowan Fund 2019	Bonham Carter Lecture Fund 2019	Sumerians Fund 2019	Nimrud Digit- isation 2019	Basrah Museum Fund 2019	Jews of Iraq Conference Fund 2019	Total Funds 2019
	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)	(£)
19. Analysis of Total Funds											
Investments	1,091,024	137,478	-	-	2,360	2,588	-	-	-	-	1,233,450
Heritage Assets	-	-	1,326,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,326,000
Stock	23,547	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23,547
Debtors	1,944	-	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	300	2,255
Cash and deposits at bank	88,437	-	-	(12,009)	398	436	17,600	8,168	3,000	6,711	112,741
Creditors including pension scheme liability	(38,153)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(38,153)
Inter fund transfers	(30,330)	6,507	-	22,763	285	775	-	-	-	-	-
Balance of Funds at 30 June 2019	1,136,469	143,985	1,326,000	10,765	3,043	3,799	17,600	8,168	3,000	7,011	2,659,840

THE BRITISH INSTITUTE FOR THE STUDY OF IRAQ
(Gertrude Bell Memorial)



www.bisi.ac.uk



or



Follow us on Twitter

@BISI1932