

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 2016

2015/2016

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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
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West Malling
Kent ME19 4JQ

CCLA Investment Management Ltd
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London EC2V 6DZ

Solicitors

Jacobs Allen Hammond Solicitors
5 Fitzhardinge Street
London W1H 6EF

Independent Examiners

WMT
Chartered Accountants
2nd Floor
45 Grosvenor Road
St Albans
Hertfordshire AL1 3AW

Investment Managers

Investec
30 Gresham Street
London EC2V 7QN

Registered Charity

1135395

Registered Company

06966984 (England and Wales)

Website

www.bisi.ac.uk

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.

Dr Mark Altaweel
Dr Gareth Brereton
Edward Chaplin CMG, OBE
Dr Paul Collins
Dr John Curtis OBE, FBA, President
Peter Defty, Hon Treasurer
Dr Nelida Fuccaro
Daniel Lowe
Dr John MacGinnis
Joan Porter MacIver
Dr Ellen McAdam
Dr Augusta McMahon
Professor Eleanor Robson, Chair of Council
Professor Charles Tripp, FBA, Vice-Chair of Council

The Council presents this report together with the financial statements of BISI for the period of twelve months ended 30 June 2016. The statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on page 21 and comply with the charity's regulations, applicable law and the requirements of the Charities SORP (FRS102) and Companies Act 2006. The 2016 report and accounts reflect BISI's activities over the course of the current financial year. They represent the sixth 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.

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, Finance, the Fundraising Taskforce, Outreach, Publications 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 MP; one President: Dr John Curtis; and two Honorary Vice-Presidents: Frank Baker, 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:

- **Lauren Mulvee**, BISI Administrator (part-time, 70%), who ensures the smooth-running of BISI's office, under the supervision of BISI's Chair and Vice-Chair of Council: Eleanor Robson and Charles Tripp
- **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: Peter Defty

In addition two Development Co-ordinators assisted the BISI Council with its fundraising endeavours:

- **Ali Khadr** (self-employed, 20-30%)
- **Phoebe Walker** (self-employed, 10%)

Personnel Costs

BISI pays the salary of its Administrator at an amount that is reflective of her experience and abilities, and sets the fee according to university norms. It chooses as its model the UCL Non-clinical grade structure with spinal points (http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/salary_scales/final_grades.php). Thus the Administrator's salary is currently £24,823 pro rata, including London allowance – the equivalent of UCL Grade 5 spine point 17.

BISI's self-employed personnel – its Financial Controller and Development Co-ordinators – 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 AND STRATEGIES

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; and offer funding opportunities to projects 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 2015/2016.

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

Every spring the Trustees of BISI set the Institute's objectives for the coming year, led by the Chair and the Strategy Committee and with input from all of Council's Committees. These are debated, agreed and incorporated into the Institute's rolling Five Year Plan, an internal document that guides the Institute's strategic decision making. The Plan is in three parts. First it summarises BISI's current situation then outlines an aspirational vision of BISI's activities and status in five years' time. Finally, it proposes a set of more concrete goals for each committee to work towards, in order to achieve that vision, the success of each of which is reviewed at the start of the next cycle.

The Trustees also undertake an annual Risk Review to ensure that the Institute has procedures in place to avoid and mitigate against possible mishaps in the delivery of its charitable mission. During this reporting period we were operating in difficult background circumstances in both Iraq and the UK. Fortunately the risk review we had undertaken in the summer of 2014, upon ISIS/Da'esh's invasion of northern Iraq, proved robust and our in-country activities continued to be directly unaffected. However, the ongoing costs of the war combined with deflated oil prices meant that the Iraqi economy was suffering badly and our usual pool of corporate donors had little to no spare resource for CSR work. Likewise, we found there to be similar levels of financial caution amongst potential UK donors while we were concerned about levels of yield on our own investments.

Given the circumstances, for the financial year 2015-16 the Institute set itself only modest strategic goals for projects, fundraising and governance, alongside the Institute's regular business of supporting research and education projects, and continuing its publications programme. Here I shall discuss six of them.

Since 2012 the Institute had been gradually developing a project with the Museum of the Imam Hussein Holy Shrine in Kerbala, to run a multi-year training and mentoring programme for its staff. After initial enthusiasm from a benefactor in 2013 came to nothing, it was agreed to start small, with a week-long pilot scheme. In 2015 we arranged for a UK-based expert on Shia material culture to visit the Museum in December, to hold preliminary workshops and to assess the viability of a larger programme of in-country training courses for archaeology, history and cultural heritage professionals. Unfortunately, that visit had to be cancelled at the last minute due to insurance issues and the Institute does not currently have sufficient expertise amongst its Trustees to continue the programme. This was a big disappointment for both us and the Museum, but neither side is out of pocket and there remains a strong fund of good will to build on in the future.

Meanwhile, the Institute's long-term Visiting Iraqi Scholars programme also struggled when the resignation of its co-ordinator (in order to concentrate on finishing his PhD) coincided with an increasingly tough stance from UK Visas and Immigration on visa applications. In the short term it was necessary to cancel one scholarship at short notice. However, we have now established clearer lines of communication with UKVI, thanks to the good services of the UK Embassy in Baghdad, and we were able to bring a further scholar to the UK, as planned.

More positively, this year the Institute put into action a long-term plan to inventorise its fieldwork archives, some of which go back to the 1940s and are currently housed in multiple sites. We funded an archival scoping exercise through our annual Pilot Projects scheme which will enable us to cost and draw up funding applications for larger-scale work in the coming years. Separately, it was agreed to fast-track the digitisation of the archaeological field records from Nimrud, a major Assyrian site badly damaged by ISIS/Da'esh in the spring of 2015. This documentation from the 1940s-60s, now held by the British Museum, will enable important decisions about the management and conservation of this globally important cultural heritage site in future years.



A monumental winged bull at the main entrance to King Assurnasirpal II's palace, Nimrud.
Photo: Eleanor Robson (2001)

The Institute set itself three main administrative and governance goals this year. First was to improve the BISI website, and develop the role of social media in our outreach, campaigning and fundraising. The Institute commissioned Pedalo/Allsund to undertake a complete redesign of the site, taking into account users' major needs. Meanwhile, the Institute worked effectively with UK Blue Shield on a print media and social media (Twitter, Facebook and blogging) campaign to lobby the UK Government to ratify the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its associated protocols. The successful campaign resulted in the Cultural Property (Armed Conflict) Bill, which has full parliamentary backing and is likely to pass into law in early 2017.

Our second and third administrative and governance goals related to finance and fundraising in these increasingly challenging times. When the Institute's self-employed, part-time Development Co-ordinator gave notice in spring 2015, it was an opportunity to review and strengthen the responsibilities of this role. Although there was a hiatus of several months with no-one in post, the eventual outcome was a stronger, more experienced team of two Development Co-ordinators, who brought a great deal of new energy and expertise to the task. They helped with the redesign of the website, updated the Institute's Case for Support, re-activated the Fundraising Taskforce, and began to formulate strategic goals, including fundraising for the Visiting Scholars Programme and the Nimrud Digitisation Project. In parallel, the Finance Committee's main goal this year was to establish a comprehensive finance policy, including a clear fundraising strategy, anti-terrorism policy, and robust compliance with 2010 Bribery Act. All of these elements were put into effect.

In short, for BISI this reporting year was about consolidation and future-proofing, despite a few disappointing short-term setbacks. Working in, with and about Iraq always carries some risk of failure or delay. But there was no consequential damage or loss to the Institute or its collaborators and we have used these experiences to reflect on and improve our policies and practices for the coming years.

This is my final Annual Report as BISI's Chair of Council and the last with Lauren Mulvee as BISI's Administrator. Over the past five years we have, I think, worked very effectively -and certainly enjoyably- together to professionalise the Institute and to re-engage it with Iraq itself. While the Institute has not achieved all of the ambitious goals that we set for ourselves in that period, overall there is much to be proud of and thankful for. Most importantly, I am confident that our succession planning has been highly effective and I warmly welcome my successor, Dr Paul Collins, into post.

*Professor Eleanor Robson
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). In 2015/2016 we funded fieldwork into contemporary Iraq, four major archaeological excavations in-country and two international conferences.

Research Grants

- **Dr Zahra Ali (Chester University):** Civil Society Activism in Iraq: Between a Fragmented Nationhood, the Collapse of the State and Global Interferences
- **Dr Claudia Glatz (Glasgow University):** Cultural Connectivity and Early Imperialism: The Zagros-Mesopotamian Interface in the Second Millennium BC
- **Dr Robert Killick (Manchester University):** Preliminary Investigations at Charax Spasinou
- **Professor Roger Matthews (Reading University):** Excavations at Neolithic Bestansur, Iraqi Kurdistan
- **Dr Jane Moon (Manchester University):** Ur Region Archaeology Project 2016

Conference Grants

- **Dr Richard Dumbrill (School of Advanced Study, University of London):** Fifth Babylon International Conference for Arts and Cultures in Iraq at Babylon University (April 2016)
- **Dr Cameron Andrew Petrie (Cambridge University):** Innovation, Interaction and Interconnection in the Taurus-Zagros Arc and Beyond, 10,000-5000 BC

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.



Excavations at Tell Khaiber as part of the Ur Region Archaeology Project *Photo: URAP*



Richard Dumbrill at the Fifth Babylon International Conference for Arts and Cultures in Iraq, reading ancient Babylonian poetry to a crowd in Hillah. *Photo: Paul Cooper*

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, we funded the scholarship of Abather Saadoon from Baghdad University (September-December 2015). Through BISI's support Abather was able to spend two months working with Dr Mark Weeden at SOAS on his PhD project to publish cuneiform tablets from the Old Akkadian Period in Tell Al-Wilayah. He was able to meet and exchange research with some of the UK's leading Assyriologists and archaeologists from the Universities of London,

Oxford, Cambridge, Reading and Liverpool, and from the British Museum.

The scholarship also had further positive repercussions: this summer Abather informed BISI that he had successfully defended the PhD on which his scholarship was based.



Abather Saadoon defending his PhD at Baghdad University

Basrah: Its History, Culture And Heritage Conference

Basrah Museum opened the first of its public galleries on 27 September 2016. To celebrate this momentous occasion, the museum's director Mr Qahtan Al Abeed invited BISI to organise a conference on the key stories and heritage of the region to take place in Basrah over the 29-29 September 2016.

Much of the spring and summer of 2016 at BISI was spent on the academic and logistical preparations for this event, and in drawing together a line-up of international and UK experts.

We managed to create a rich and engaging programme on Basrah from the Hellenistic period to the present, geared at helping the Basrah Museum staff to make the most of their resources and visitor base and to develop future displays and exhibits.

The conference was an important and proud endeavour for the Institute, enabling us to fulfill our commitment to facilitate academic exchange and collaboration with colleagues in Iraq.

OUTREACH

Outreach Grants

BISI awards annual Outreach Grants (usually up to £500 per grant) as part of its charitable aim to further understanding and appreciation of Iraq's history, society and culture.

In 2015 / 2016 we offered grants to the following public engagement projects, taking place in the UK and Iraq:

- **Fawzia Alwaji:** Iraqi Cultural Days at the Rivercourt Church Hammersmith
- **Dr Sara Alsaraf and Tara Jaffar:** Chew & Glue: Dialogue and Cohesion amongst People of Iraqi Origin at the Arab British Centre (November 2015)
- **Dr Jehan Baban:** A Tribute Event for the late Dame Zaha Hadid at UCL (July 2016)
- **Professor Graeme Barker:** Improving Visitor Access to, and Understanding of, Shanidar Cave, Soran Province, Iraqi Kurdistan
- **Laura Hawkins:** The Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology 2016 at Oxford University (April 2016)
- **Verena Hewat and Vic MacRae:** Ancient Objects for Modern Dilemmas
- **Paul MacAlindin:** UPBEAT - a memoir of the National Youth Orchestra of Iraq

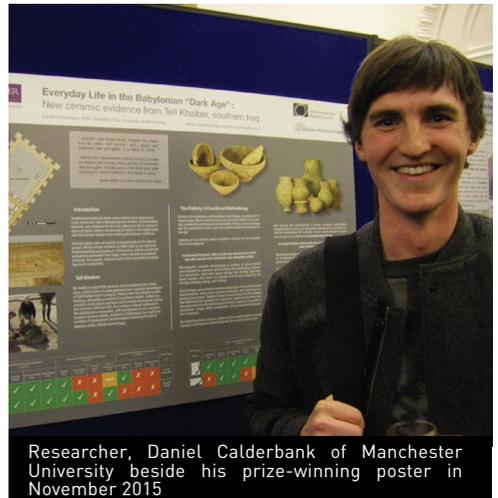


Improving visitor access and understanding of Shanidar Cave. Photo: Graeme Barker

To be eligible for Outreach Grants applicants must be residents of the UK, and the activity itself should take place in the UK or Iraq.

Applicants are required to share time scales and practical details, and how they propose to reach their intended audience. This is important for ensuring that BISI funds only go towards effective public engagement projects.

Student Poster Competition



Researcher, Daniel Calderbank of Manchester University beside his prize-winning poster in November 2015

BISI held its first Student Poster Competition this year. Open to both undergraduates and postgraduates, the competition was part of a wider scheme to increase BISI's engagement and support of students involved in the study of the lands and peoples of Iraq.

Posters submitted to the 2015 competition were displayed at BISI's public lecture in November at the British Academy. This was a rare chance for the entrants to present and discuss their research with the academic community and general public. First place went to Daniel Calderbank, a PhD researcher, from Manchester University, for his poster on 'Everyday Life in the Babylonian 'Dark Age': new ceramic evidence from Tell Khaiber, southern Iraq.' Daniel received a prize of £100, 1 years' worth of free membership of BISI, and a publication of his choice.

Events

In 2015/2016 BISI furthered its aims to inform and engage the public about Iraq with a series of free lectures held at the British Academy, London:

- **Professor Helen Berry** *Gertrude Bell and the "Woman Question"* (November 2015)
- **Dr Géraldine Chatelard** *The Management Plans for the Marshlands and the Sites of Eridu, Ur and Uruk in the Context of their Submission for World Heritage inscription* (December 2015)
- **Dr Birger Ekornås** *Helgestad* and **Dr Jonathan Taylor** *Walking in Woolley's Footsteps: Ur Brought to Life for the Digital Age* (February 2016)
- **Rolf Killius** *Dusty Streets and Hot Music - Iraqi Music from the Past* (June 2016)

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.

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

Communications

A major project for 2015/2016 was the modernising of the BISI website and we appointed the web agency Pedalo/Allsund for this purpose. The resulting site is now far more accessible and navigable than its predecessor, meaning that visitors can easily find the information they need for their research and education on Iraq – whether it is a funding opportunity or a PDF of a BISI publication. Additionally, www.bisi.ac.uk is better suited to mobiles and tablets, which is so important for reaching users in Iraq who mainly view the website through hand-held devices.



Musicians at the Muharram Festival in Baghdad, October 2015.

Photograph by our June 2016 lecturer, the ethnomusicologist, Rolf Killius

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 did not publish any new volumes in 2015/2016. However we understand from those authors with outstanding works that good progress is being made, and we look forward to supporting 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.

Gertrude Bell and Iraq – A Life and Legacy Conference Proceedings

Spring 2016 saw the completion of the manuscript of *Gertrude Bell and Iraq: A Life and Legacy*. BISI's volunteer co-editors Paul Collins and Charles Tripp worked extremely hard to pull together this multi-authored volume that is based on the 2013 conference held by BISI and the British Academy in 2013.

As a study, it is the first of its kind to examine Gertrude Bell as an imperial administrator with a deep concern for the extraordinary archaeological heritage of Iraq. It is hoped that the publication will appeal to a wide range of scholars and students, enriching understanding of the British Empire, of the Middle East and of the role of women in public life in the early 20th century.

Gertrude Bell and Iraq – A Life and Legacy will be published as part of the British Academy's proceedings series by Oxford University Press in March 2017.



Gertrude Bell, the focus of the forthcoming proceedings, to be published by the British Academy. Photo: the Gertrude Bell Archive, Newcastle University, A_340

The Journal IRAQ

BISI's journal IRAQ has appeared since 1934. 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), currently in production, with co-editors Paul Collins (Ashmolean Museum) and Jon Taylor (British Museum)

BISI awards the co-editors an Honorarium of £1,000 each in acknowledgement of the enormous amount of work and dedication that goes into every volume. The co-editors are supported by an Editorial Board, presently including Council members: Mark Altaweel and Augusta McMahon, with further expertise provided by Mark Weeden of the School of Oriental and African Studies.

FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT

In October 2015, we appointed Ali Khadr and Phoebe Walker as BISI's Development Co-ordinators. Together they have worked incredibly hard to build relations with companies and trusts with the potential to help BISI to further realise its charitable aims.

BISI continued to receive valuable support from its members and donors in this financial year. In particular we were honoured to be presented with £5,000 from Sabah Zangana who dedicated the gift to his father-in-law, the highly respected archaeologist, Mohammed Ali Mustafa Umo Ali, "the Shaikh of excavators in Iraq." This donation has been put towards the costs of a special lecture due to take place in November 2016 with Professor Wathiq Ismail al-Salihi, the Canadian-based, Iraqi archaeologist and expert on Hatra.

As part of our fundraising efforts we held a private pre-festival screening of Letters from Baghdad, a documentary on Gertrude Bell, which was followed by a reception (June 2016). The event was well-attended by past and prospective donors, and a powerful way to communicate BISI's recent achievements and long history of supporting Iraq and its cultural heritage.

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:

- **Dr Mirjam Brusius** - for updating BISI's Academia page with resources for scholars (12 hours)
- **Manar Habib** - for assisting with the scanning and filing of BISI's archives (8 hours)
- **Agnes Henriksen, BISI's Basrah Conference Assistant** - for administering proposals and making practical preparations in the run-up to the conference (40 hours)
- **Jennifer Hicks, BISI's Social Media Co-ordinator** - for maintaining the Institute's Facebook and Twitter pages with news and insights into BISI and the heritage of Iraq (60 hours)

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, conference and pilot project grants

In autumn 2016 we appointed Jennifer Griggs as BISI's Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Co-ordinator. She will manage the scholarships of the following Iraqi academics who we look forward to welcoming to the UK in spring next year:

- **Haydar Koban (Al-Farabi Institute for Higher Studies):** *Scholarship on Otherness, Hybridity, and Indifference: A Postcolonial Study of Ali Bader's The Tobacco Keeper* with Professor Zahia Smail Salhi (Professor of Modern Arabic Studies at Manchester University)
- **Omar Jassam (Dokuz Eylül University):** *Scholarship on his PhD Research into Cultural Heritage Destruction in Iraq*

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 winter 2016.

Outreach

Next year, BISI will increase the funding available to public engagement projects by offering Outreach Grants up to the amount of £1,000. The hope is that this will give practitioners the crucial foundation funds from which to build ambitious and intellectually enriching projects for the public.

We will run the Student Poster Competition for a second year to encourage and support both undergraduate and postgraduate students involved in the study of Iraq.

And for 2016/2017 we already have a superb schedule of free lectures covering Iraq, ancient and modern, which will be held at the British Academy:

- **Professor Wathiq Ismail al-Salihi** *Hatra: An Arab Kingdom in Roman Times* (November 2016) *A lecture in memory of Mohammed Ali Mustafa Umo Ali the Shaikh of excavators in Iraq, sponsored by Sabah Zangana*
- **Professor Graeme Barker FBA** *Neanderthals and Modern Humans in the Zagros Mountains: New Investigations at Shanidar Cave* (February 2017)
- **Dr Caecilia Pieri** *Rethinking Baghdad's Built Identity and Strategies (1915-2015)* (June 2017)



Professor Wathiq Ismail al-Salihi delivering his BISI lecture on Hatra. Photo: Joan Porter MacIver

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 2016/2017:

- *Umm Dabaghiyah* by Stuart Campbell
- *Cuneiform Texts from Nimrud VI* by J.N. Postgate
- *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

Fundraising and Development

Fundraising efforts for the next financial year will focus on sustaining the Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Programme to support our Iraqi colleagues working in desperately difficult situations, and to ensure the protection of their work. We will also be seeking donations for the next phase of the Archaeological Archives Project (page 8) and to kick-start the digitising of the archive of the archaeological site of Nimrud, attacked by Da'esh in 2015.

In September 2016, BISI's Development Co-ordinator Phoebe Walker came to the end of her contract but we are delighted that she will be still be able to assist us on a consultancy basis.

Administration and Operations

After 5 years of service, Lauren Mulvee resigned from her role as BISI's part-time Administrator in December 2016. She will be ably replaced by Ali Khadr, formerly BISI's Development Co-ordinator, who will take on full administrative responsibilities, whilst continuing to assist with the Institute's fundraising endeavours.

We thank Lauren and welcome Ali on board.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts for the year ended 30 June 2016 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 £46,014 after unrealised gains or losses on investment assets. This was made up of a deficit for the year for unrestricted funds of £38,422 to support BISI's ongoing work. A deficit to the restricted funds for the year of £6,569 related mostly to the funding of Visiting Iraqi Scholars.

Investment assets within the Investec portfolio were marked to market at the year-end and resulting in an unrealised gain of £22,618 for the year.

Unrestricted Funds

BISI had four principal sources of unrestricted income. They were from donations and legacies (£23,535), membership subscriptions, (£11,660), investment income from the investment assets (£51,470) and publication sales (£13,792).

Restricted Funds

Continued activity in the Iraqi Visiting Scholars Programme resulted in net outgoing resources of £11,772. A realised loss of £94 and an unrealised gain of £90 reduced the restricted funds available to the visiting scholar programme to £25,164.

Also included within restricted funds is a donation of £5,000 from Sabah Zangana who dedicated the gift to his father-in-law, the highly respected archaeologist, Mohammed Ali Mustafa Umo Ali, "the Shaikh of excavators in Iraq." This donation will be put towards the costs of a special lecture due to take place in November 2016.

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 unrestricted funds of the charity comprise mainly an investment portfolio which generates approximately 51% of the charity's annual income. As earned income alone, from membership subscriptions and publication income, is insufficient to cover the charity's operating costs and charitable activities, the Institute currently spends all its investment income and draws on the portfolio capital to maintain and grow its charitable activities.

The trustees are mindful of the need to ensure the long-term viability of the charity to meet the needs of future beneficiaries. To reduce the risk to the charity's activities through erosion of the investment portfolio because of capital drawdowns and adverse market conditions, the charity is looking to supplement its current income sources with a programme of funding applications. An additional funding source would secure the current levels of charitable activities without jeopardizing future activities.

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 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.

Cash reserves currently sit at 12 months of operational costs.

The level of cash 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 2016.

Dr Mark Altaweel
Dr Gareth Brereton
Edward Chaplin CMG, OBE
Dr Paul Collins
Dr John Curtis OBE, FBA
Peter Defty
Dr Nelida Fuccaro
Daniel Lowe
Dr John MacGinnis
Joan Porter Maclver
Dr Ellen McAdam
Dr Augusta McMahon
Professor Eleanor Robson
Professor Charles Tripp FBA
Alasdair Watson

The following Council member resigned before the end of the financial year: Alasdair Watson in June 2016.

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



.....
Eleanor Robson
Chair of Council



.....
Peter Defty
Hon Treasurer

Dated: 16 January 2017

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 independent examiner was unaware, and;
- that Trustee has taken all steps that he/she ought to have taken as a Trustee to make himself/herself aware of any relevant information and to establish that company's independent examiner was aware of that information.

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

**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 2016**

I report on the financial statements of the company for the period ended 30 June 2016 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activity, the Balance Sheet and the related notes numbered 1 to 20.

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.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of financial statements. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under Section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the '2011 Act') and that an independent examination is needed.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the financial statements under Section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state where particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the financial statements presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the financial statements and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the financial statements present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

a) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
- to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met; or

b) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the financial statements to be reached.



**Elizabeth Irvine FCA
WMT - Chartered Accountants**

45 Grosvenor Road
St Albans
Herts; AL1 3AW

Dated: 16 January 2017

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

Statement of Financial Activities

The British Institute for the Study of Iraq

For the year ended 30 June 2016

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds	Designated Fund (Nimrud Ivories)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Fund	2016	2015
		£	£	£	£	£	£
Income and Endowments from:							
Donations and Legacies	2	23,535	-	5,000	-	28,535	29,126
Charitable Activities	3	25,452	-	-	-	25,452	29,263
Investments	4	51,470	-	207	-	51,677	32,089
Total		100,457	-	5,207	-	105,664	90,478
Expenditure on:							
Raising Funds	5	12,483	-	33	922	13,438	7,100
Charitable Activities	6	125,593	-	11,739	-	137,332	127,526
Total		138,076	-	11,772	922	150,770	134,626
Unrealised Gain/(Loss) on Investments	9	20,007	-	90	2,521	22,618	(21,480)
Realised (loss)/gain on Disposals	9	(20,810)	-	(94)	(2,622)	(23,526)	57,065
Net (losses)/gains on investments		(803)	-	(4)	(101)	(908)	35,585
Net (Expenditure)		(38,422)	-	(6,569)	(1,023)	(46,014)	(8,563)
Net movement in Funds		(38,422)	-	(6,569)	(1,023)	(46,014)	(8,563)
Reconciliation of funds							
Total Funds brought forward	19	1,230,325	1,326,000	36,733	137,727	2,730,785	2,739,348
Total Funds carried forward		1,191,903	1,326,000	30,164	136,704	2,684,771	2,730,785

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

Balance Sheet

The British Institute for the Study of Iraq at 30th June 2016

	Notes	Total Funds £	Prior Year Funds £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets	7	469	937
Heritage Assets	8	1,326,000	1,326,000
Investments	9	1,167,765	1,176,946
Total Fixed Assets		2,494,234	2,503,883
Current Assets			
Stock of publications		29,441	30,461
Debtors	10	1,885	15,977
Cash at bank and in hand	11	179,558	187,280
Total Current Assets		210,884	233,718
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	20,347	6,816
Total Liabilities		20,347	6,816
Net Current Assets		190,537	226,902
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		2,684,771	2,730,785
Total Net Assets			
		2,684,771	2,730,785
The funds of the charity:			
Unrestricted Fund	20	1,191,903	1,230,325
Designated Fund (Nimrud Ivories)	20	1,326,000	1,326,000
Endowment Fund (including transfer from G Bell Fund)	19	136,704	137,727
Restricted Fund	17	30,164	36,733
The funds of the charity:		2,684,771	2,730,785

The Institute was entitled to exemption from the requirement to have an audit under the provisions of Section 475 and 477 of the Companies Act 2006. No member has deposited notice with the Institute requesting that an audit be carried out. Under Companies Act 2006, Section 454, on a voluntary basis, the trustees can amend these financial statements if they subsequently prove to be defective.

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

The members of the Council acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring the company keeps accounting records which comply with Section 386 Companies Act 2006.
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial period and of its statement of financial affairs for the period in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 Companies Act 2006 and which otherwise complies with the requirements of the Act relating to accounts so far as they are applicable to the company.

Approved by the Council and signed on its behalf:

Dr Eleanor Robson



Chair of Council

Peter Defty



Hon Treasurer

Dated

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

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

Summary Income and Expenditure account for The British Institute for the Study of Iraq for the year ended 30th June 2016

	Note	Income Funds 2016 £	Income Funds 2015 £
Income	2, 3	53,987	58,389
Realised gains on investments	9	(20,904)	53,081
Interest and investment income	4	51,677	28,909
Gross income in the reporting period		84,760	140,379
Expenditure	5,6	148,738	133,090
Interest payable	6	642	796
Depreciation	6	468	468
Total expenditure in the reporting period		149,848	134,354
Net (expenditure)/income before tax for the reporting period		(65,088)	6,025
Tax payable		-	-
Net (expenditure)/ income for the financial year		(65,088)	6,025

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016

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.

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

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been categorised between fundraising costs, grants payable, programme related costs, support costs and other direct costs.

Reconciliation with previous generally accepted accounting practice

In preparing the accounts, the Trustees have considered whether in applying the accounting policies required by FRS 102 and the Charities SORP FRS 102 a restatement of comparative items was required. In accordance with the requirements of FRS 102 a reconciliation of opening balances and net income/(expenditure) for the year is provided with the net income/(expenditure) under previous GAAP adjusted for the presentation of the investment gains/(losses) as a component of reported income.

Reconciliation of net income/(net expenditure) per previous GAAP to net income/(net expenditure) under FRS 102

Net income as previously stated	£12,917
Adjustment for losses on investments now treated as a component of net income	£(21,480)
Net expenditure as restated	£8,563

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
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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 8) 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.

Stock

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

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

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

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. There are no judgments made that have a significant effect on the amounts recognised in the financial statements.

Pension Scheme

The Institute participates in the Universities Superannuation Scheme (the scheme). Throughout the current and preceding periods, the scheme was a defined benefit only pension scheme until 31 March 2016 which was contracted out of the State Second Pension (S2P). The assets of the scheme are held in a separate trustee-administered fund. Because of the mutual nature of the scheme, the scheme's assets are not hypothecated to individual institutions and a scheme-wide contribution rate is set. The Institute is therefore exposed to actuarial risks associated with other institutions' employees and is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis and therefore, as required by Section 28 of FRS 102 "Employee benefits", accounts for the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the income and expenditure account represents the contributions payable to the scheme in respect of the accounting period. Since the Institute has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit), the Institute recognises a liability, where material, for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement to the extent that they relate to the deficit and the resulting expense in the income and expenditure account.

2. Income from Donations and Legacies	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2016	Total 2015
			£	£
Gift aid recoverable	599	-	599	1,026
Provision of office facilities and rent in kind	20,000	-	20,000	22,768
Other donations	2,011	5,000	7,011	5,332
Provision of storage facilities	925	-	925	-
Total Income from Donations and Legacies	23,535	5,000	28,535	29,126

All income from donations was unrestricted

A donation of £5,000 was given in 2015/2016 by Sabah Zangana for the purpose of holding a lecture in memory of Mohammed Ali Mustafa Umo Ali the Shaikh of excavators in Iraq. The lecture will be held in November 2016.

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

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

	2016	2015
	£	£
3. Income from Charitable Activities		
Subscriptions from members	11,660	14,186
Publication subventions	-	9,548
Publication sales and copyright fees	13,792	5,529
Total Income from Charitable Activities	25,452	29,263

All income from charitable activities was unrestricted

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	2016	2015
	£	£	£	£	£
4. Income from Investments					
Bank interest	35	-	-	35	8
Investment portfolio income	51,435	207	-	51,642	32,081
Total Income from Investments	51,470	207	-	51,677	32,089

	2016	2015
	£	£
5. Expenditure on Raising Funds		
Development co-ordinator costs	5,165	4,661
Investment manager fees	8,273	2,439
Total Expenditure on Raising Funds	13,438	7,100

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

a. Grants payable - Unrestricted funds

	2016	2015
	£	£
BISI made grants to 15 individuals in the year (20 in 2014/15).		
Research, travel and conference grants	17,000	17,000
Project grants	8,000	8,000
Development/Outreach grants	3,787	2,500
Publication support grants	-	1,700
Artefact preservation grant	-	1,757
Returned grants	(350)	(5,000)
	28,437	25,957

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

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

	2016	2015
	£	£
Research, Travel and Conference and Fieldwork Grants		
Unrestricted research grants were made to 6 individuals (7 in 2014/15)		
Dr Mark Altaweel : Holocene Channel Formation, Landscape Change and Settlement in the Shahrizor, NE Iraq	-	4,000
Lana Askari : Imagining Future: Agency and Temporality among Kurdish Returnees in Iraq	-	2,300
Gregory Bilotto : Early Islamic Period Metalwork of the Umayyads, Abbasids and Fatimids	-	2,000
Dr Jane Moon : Ur Region Archaeology Project	-	4,000
George Richards : Hymns to the Peacock King: liturgical chant of the Yezidi People of Iraq	-	1,660
Richard Dumbrill: Fourth Babylon International Conference for Arts and Cultures in Iraq at Babylon University (April 2015)	-	1,500
Dr Yagmur Heffron: Textual Archaeology in the Ancient Near East: Are we doing it wrong?	-	1,540
Professor Roger Matthews (Reading University): Excavations at Neolithic Bestansur, Iraqi Kurdistan	2,000	-
Dr Zahra Ali (Chester University): Civil Society Activism in Iraq: Between a Fragmented Nationhood, the Collapse of the State and Global Interferences	2,500	-
Dr Robert Killick (Manchester University): Preliminary Investigations at Charax Spasinou	2,500	-
Dr Jane Moon (Manchester University): Ur Region Archaeology Project 2016	3,000	-
Dr Claudia Glatz (Glasgow University): Cultural Connectivity and Early Imperialism: The Zagros-Mesopotamian Interface in the Second Millennium BC	3,000	-
Richard Dumbrill (University of London): Fifth Babylon International Conference for Arts and Cultures in Iraq at Babylon University (April 2016)	2,000	-
Dr Cameron Andrew Petrie (Cambridge University): Innovation, Interaction and Interconnection in the Taurus-Zagros Arc and Beyond, 10,000-5000 BC	2,000	-
Subtotal Fieldwork, Research & Academic Conference Grants	17,000	17,000
BISI Pilot Project Grants and other project grants		
Unrestricted project grants were made to 1 individuals (1 in 2014/15)		
Dr Janroj Keles : Transnational Mobility and Digital Social Networking: the case of the Iraqi-Kurdish young people in the UK	-	8,000
Dr Ellen McAdam : Archaeological Archives Project	8,000	-
Total Pilot Project and Other Project Grants	8,000	8,000

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

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

Development & Outreach Grants

	2016	2015
	£	£
Unrestricted Development grants were made to 8 individuals (5 in 2014/15).		
Erica Hunter: IRAQI CHRISTIANITY IN CRISIS: Exploring a century of Persecution, SOAS	-	500
Koutaiba Al-Janabi: The Window (feature-length film)	-	500
Laura Hawkins: Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology 2015 at Oxford University (April 2015)	-	540
Louise Alden: Project to develop KS2 teaching resources on Ancient Sumer at Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery, including a teacher's study day	-	500
Joy Stacey: Autonomy of Self	-	460
Paul Collins: Conflict and Cultural Heritage Conference	250	-
Verena Hewat and Vic MacRae: Ancient Objects for Modern Dilemmas	492	-
Professor Graeme Barker: Improving Visitor Access to, and Understanding of, Shanidar Cave, Soran Province, Iraqi Kurdistan	450	-
Dr Sara Alsaraf and Tara Jaffar: Chew & Glue: Dialogue and Cohesion amongst People of Iraqi Origin at the Arab British Centre (November 2015)	460	-
Fawzia Alwaji : Iraqi Cultural Days at the Rivercourt Church Hammersmith	500	-
Laura Hawkins: The Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology 2016 at Oxford University (April 2016)	550	-
Dr Jehan Baban: A Tribute Event for the late Dame Zaha Hadid at UCL (July 2016)	585	
Paul MacAlindin: UPBEAT - a memoir of the National Youth Orchestra of Iraq	500	
Total Development & Outreach Grants	3,787	2,500

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

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

Publication Support Grants	2016	2015
No publication support grants were made in the year (2 in 2014/15)	£	£
St John Simpson : 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	-	1,500
Nicholas Postgate : Cuneiform Texts from Nimrud VI	-	200
Total Publication Support Grants	-	1,700
Total Unrestricted Grants Payable	28,787	29,200
b. Grants payable - Restricted funds		
Visiting Scholars Grants	2016	2015
In addition to the 2015/16 grants detailed above, BISI funded 1 Iraqi Visiting Scholarships (1 during 2014/15)	£	£
Salwa Tawfeeq	1,839	3,528
Abather Saadoon	7,840	-
Total Visiting Scholar Grants	9,679	3,528
c. Returned Grants		
Returned grant from Rana Ibrahim	100	-
Returned grant from Paul Collins	250	-
Returned from Rosie Garthwaite	-	500
Returned from Mike Laird	-	1,000
Returned from Jon Taylor	-	3,000
Returned from Mark Altaweel	-	500
Total Returned Grants	350	5,000

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

Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

d. Other Charitable Activity Costs

Programme related Costs	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Governance	2016 Total	2015 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Visiting Scholars expenditure and appeal events (excluding visiting scholar grants)	-	1,935	-	1,935	2,768
London activities and lecture expenditure	5,809	125	-	5,934	2,680
PR, newsletter and website expenses	10,967	-	-	10,967	1,796
Total Programme Related Expenditure	16,776	2,060	-	18,836	7,244
Other direct costs					
Printing annual report	-	-	929	929	456
Publication and journal costs	14,145	-	-	14,145	22,812
Total Other direct costs	14,145	-	929	15,074	23,268
Support costs allocated to activities					
London office administration salary	34,163	-	-	34,163	34,689
Pension costs	3,272	-	-	3,272	3,041
Office expenditure	1,682	-	35	1,717	1,973
Rent and service charges	20,000	-	-	20,000	22,768
Bank and credit card charges	642	-	-	642	796
Examination fee	-	-	2,172	2,172	1,551
Payroll costs	-	-	289	289	339
Legal fees and miscellaneous	-	-	-	-	15
Council and committee meetings	-	-	2,356	2,356	1,570
Council and other travel expenses	-	-	227	227	319
Depreciation	-	-	468	468	468
Total Support costs	59,759	-	5,547	65,306	67,529
Total Resources expended (excluding grants)	90,680	2,060	6,476	99,216	98,041

The independent examination fee for the year amounted to £2,400 (2015 fee £2,100)

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Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

7. Tangible Fixed Assets

	Computer Equipment
	£
Cost	
brought forward at 1 July 2015	5,577
Acquisitions	-
carried forward at 30 June 2016	<u>5,577</u>
Depreciation	
brought forward at 1 July 2015	4,640
Charged for the year	468
carried forward at 30 June 2016	<u>5,108</u>
Net Book Value at 30 June 2016	<u>469</u>
Net Book Value at 1 July 2015	<u>937</u>

8. Heritage Assets

	Designated Fund
	£
Movements in the year	
brought forward at 1 July 2015	1,326,000
carried forward at 30 June 2016	<u>1,326,000</u>

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.

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Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

9. Investments

	2016		2015	
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
	£	£	£	£
Endowment Fund				
Listed Investments	129,550	130,157	133,304	130,915
	<u>129,550</u>	<u>130,157</u>	<u>133,304</u>	<u>130,915</u>
Restricted Funds				
Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	2,439	2,451	2,510	2,465
Mallowan Fund	2,224	2,234	2,288	2,247
Total Restricted Funds	<u>4,663</u>	<u>4,685</u>	<u>4,798</u>	<u>4,712</u>
Unrestricted Funds	1,028,110	1,032,923	1,060,324	1,041,319
Total Investments	<u>1,162,323</u>	<u>1,167,765</u>	<u>1,198,426</u>	<u>1,176,946</u>

	2016			2015		
	Cost	Market Value	Revaluation Reserve	Cost	Market Value	Revaluation Reserve
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Total Endowment Fund	129,550	130,157	607	133,304	130,915	(2,389)
Total Restricted Funds	4,663	4,685	22	4,798	4,712	(86)
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,028,110	1,032,923	4,813	1,060,324	1,041,319	(19,005)
	<u>1,162,323</u>	<u>1,167,765</u>	<u>5,442</u>	<u>1,198,426</u>	<u>1,176,946</u>	<u>(21,480)</u>

Movements in Investment Assets	2016		2015	
	Cost	Market Value	Cost	Market Value
	£	£	£	£
Brought forward at 1 July 2015	1,198,426	1,176,946	1,265,738	1,357,250
Disposals	(179,271)	(152,012)	(1,265,738)	(1,414,316)
Acquisitions	143,168	143,739	1,198,426	1,198,426
Increase/(decrease) in valuation	-	22,619	-	(21,480)
Realised (loss)/ gain	-	(23,526)	-	57,066
Carried forward at 30th June 2016	<u>1,162,323</u>	<u>1,167,765</u>	<u>1,198,426</u>	<u>1,176,946</u>

All investments were held in the UK

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Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

10. Debtors	2016	2015
	£	£
Investment Income debtor	-	11,899
Prepayments	-	910
Publication Income due	943	1,922
Tax Recoverable	942	1,246
Total Debtors	1,885	15,977

11. Cash at bank and in hand	2016	2015
	£	£
Current Accounts and Cash	176,967	184,690
Deposit Accounts	2,591	2,590
Total Cash	179,558	187,280

12. Creditors	2016	2015
	£	£
Accruals	3,332	4,300
Payroll Liabilities	24	232
Accounts Payable	5,065	2,284
Vat payable	941	-
Grants Payable	10,985	-
Total Creditors	20,347	6,816

13. Employees	2016	2015
	£	£
Salaries	19,633	19,006
Social Security	-	88
Pension Contributions	3,272	3,041
Total Employees	22,905	22,135

The Institute employed 1 part-time employee during the year (2015:1)

One employee received remuneration between £10,001 and £20,000 (2015: 1)

Key management personnel compensation for 2016 was £22,905 (2015 – £22,135)

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Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

14. Pensions

The total cost charged to the profit and loss account is £3,272 (2015: £3,041) as shown in note 13.

The latest available full actuarial valuation of the scheme was at 31 March 2014 (“the valuation date”), which was carried out using the projected unit method.

Since the Institute cannot identify its share of scheme assets and liabilities, the following disclosures reflect those relevant for the scheme as a whole.

The 2014 valuation was the third valuation for USS 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 £41.6 billion and the value of the scheme’s technical provisions was £46.9 billion indicating a shortfall of £5.3 billion. The assets therefore were sufficient to cover 89% of the benefits which had accrued to members after allowing for expected future increases in earnings.

Defined benefit liability numbers for the scheme have been produced using the following assumptions:

2016 2015

Discount rate	3.6%	3.3%
Pensionable salary growth	n/a	3.5% in the first year and 4.0% thereafter
Pension increases (CPI)	2.2%	2.2%

The main demographic assumption used relates to the mortality assumptions. Mortality in retirement is assumed to be in line with the Continuous Mortality Investigation's (CMI) S1NA tables as follows:

Male members’ mortality	98% of S1NA [“light”] YoB tables – No age rating
Female members’ mortality	99% of S1NA [“light”] YoB tables – rated down 1 year

Use of these mortality tables reasonably reflects the actual USS experience. To allow for further improvements in mortality rates the CMI 2014 projections with a 1.5% pa long term rate were also adopted. The current life expectancies on retirement at age 65 are:

2016 2015

Males currently aged 65 (years)	24.3	24.2
Females currently aged 65 (years)	26.5	26.3
Males currently aged 45 (years)	26.4	26.2
Females currently aged 45 (years)	28.8	28.6

2016 2015

Scheme assets	£49.8bn	£49.1bn
Total scheme liabilities	£58.3bn	£60.2bn
FRS 102 total scheme deficit	£8.5bn	£11.1bn
FRS 102 total funding level	85%	82%

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Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

15. Related Party Transactions

During the year, 2 Trustees were paid a total of £ 227 (2015 : £125) in travel expenses. No trustees received remuneration in the year.

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.

Dr Mark Altaweel was given an outreach grant of £4,000 in 2015. Dr Paul Collins was awarded an outreach grant of £250 during the year which was returned in the period.

Dr Paul Collins was awarded an honorarium of £1,000 for the work done on co-editing issues of the journal Iraq during the year.

16. Financial Instruments

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

Financial Assets	Measurement Method	Amount (£)
Listed Investments	Fair Value	1,167,765
Cash	Cash held	179,558
Trade & other Debtors	Settlement amount after any trade discounts (provided normal credit terms apply)	943
Total Financial Assets		<u><u>1,348,266</u></u>
Financial Liabilities	Measurement Method	Amount (£)
Trade & other	Settlement amount after any trade discounts	
Creditors	(provided normal credit terms apply)	<u>8,397</u>

Unrestricted cash of approximately 12 months running costs of the Institute is held in order to minimise risk to the Institute's future operations in the event of a significant fall in the value of its investment portfolio. The cash is split between a number of bank accounts to ensure that the Institute's cash balances are protected under the Deposit guarantee scheme.

Debtors and creditors are kept low by robust financial management.

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Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

17. Restricted Income Funds	Appeal & Fund for Iraq	Mallowan Fund	Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	November Lecture Fund	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Income					
Investment Income	-	99	108	5,000	5,207
	-	99	108	5,000	5,207
Expenditure					
Raising Funds	-	(16)	(17)	-	(33)
Charitable Expenditure	(11,614)	(50)	(75)	-	(11,739)
Net outgoing resources before valuations and investment assets disposals	(11,614)	33	16	5,000	(6,565)
Gains/(losses) on revaluations and disposal of investment assets					
Unrealised	-	43	47	-	90
Realised	-	(45)	(49)	-	(94)
Net movement in Funds	(11,614)	31	14	5,000	(6,569)
Fund balance brought forward	30,449	2,738	3,546	-	36,733
Fund balance carried forward	18,835	2,769	3,560	5,000	30,164

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. On 23 January 2007, the Bell Fund was transferred from the British Museum to the British School of Archaeology in Iraq and after consultation with the Charity Commission, these funds were designated endowment funds.

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.

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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.

This year the Institute was honoured to be presented with £5,000 from Sabah Zangana who dedicated the gift to his father-in-law, the highly respected archaeologist, Mohammed Ali Mustafa Umo Ali, "the Shaikh of excavators in Iraq." This donation has been put towards the costs of a special lecture due to take place in November 2016 with Professor Wathiq Ismail al-Salihi, the Canadian-based, Iraqi archaeologist and expert on Hatra.

18. Comparative Prior Year Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Fund £	Designated Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Endowment Fund £	2015 Total £
Income and Endowments from:					
Donations and Legacies	26,026	-	3,100	-	29,126
Charitable Activities	29,263	-	-	-	29,263
Investment	28,791	-	118	3,180	32,089
Total	84,080	-	3,218	3,180	90,478
Expenditure on:					
Raising Funds	(6,819)	-	(9)	(272)	(7,100)
Charitable Activities	(121,063)	-	(6,463)	-	(127,526)
Total	(127,882)	-	(6,472)	272	(134,626)
Transfers between funds	(1,326,000)	1,326,000	-	-	-
Net gains on investments	33,933	-	57	1,595	35,585
Net income/ expenditure	(1,335,869)	1,326,000	(3,197)	4,503	(8,563)
Net movement in Funds	(1,335,869)	1,326,000	(3,197)	4,503	(8,563)
Reconciliation of Funds					
Total Funds brought forward	2,566,194	-	39,930	133,224	2,739,348
Total Funds carried forward	1,230,325	1,326,000	36,733	137,727	2,730,785

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Notes to the Accounts for the year ended 30th June 2016 (continued)

**19. Analysis of Total
Funds**

	Endow- ment Fund	Designated Fund	Un- restricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Mallowan Fund	Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	November Lecture Fund	Total
	£		£	£	£	£	£	£
Investments	130,157	-	1,032,923	-	2,234	2,451	-	1,167,765
Heritage Assets	-	1,326,000	-	-	-	-	-	1,326,000
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	-	469	-	-	-	-	469
Stock	-	-	29,441	-	-	-	-	29,441
Debtors	-	-	1,885	-	-	-	-	1,885
Cash and deposits at bank	-	-	174,557	1	-	-	5,000	179,558
Creditors	-	-	(25,347)	-	-	-	-	(25,347)
Inter fund transfers	6,547	-	(27,025)	18,834	535	1,109	-	-
Balance of Funds at 30th June 2016	136,704	1,326,000	1,191,903	18,835	2,769	3,560	5,000	2,679,771

20. Unrestricted Funds

	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund	Total
			£
brought forward at 1 July 2015	1,230,325	1,326,000	2,556,325
Realised and unrealised gains and losses	(803)	-	(803)
Net outgoing resources	(37,619)	-	(37,619)
carried forward at 30 June 2016	1,191,903	1,326,000	2,517,903

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Unrestricted funds include unrealised gains of £ 4,813 (2015: loss of 19,005) in relation to investment assets (note 9).

The council of management has reviewed the level of the unrestricted fund and has concluded that it is sufficient to cover contingencies. A separate contingency fund was deemed unnecessary.

The unrestricted funds are available to be spent for any purpose of the charity.

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