

# 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 2017**

**2016/2017**

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

### 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.

Dr Mark Altaweel  
Dr Gareth Brereton  
Edward Chaplin CMG, OBE  
Dr Paul Collins, Chair of Council  
Dr John Curtis OBE, FBA, President  
Daniel Lowe  
Dr John MacGinnis  
Joan Porter MacIver, Vice-Chair of Council  
Dr Ellen McAdam  
Dr Augusta McMahon  
Dr Glen Rangwala  
Dr Sarah Savant

The Council presents this report together with the financial statements of BISI for the period of twelve months ended 30 June 2017. The statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out on pages 26 - 27 and comply with the charity's regulations, applicable law and the requirements of the Charity Sorp (FRS102). The 2017 report and accounts reflect BISI's activities over the course of the current financial year. They represent the seventh 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, 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, 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 Mulveen**, BISI Administrator (part-time, 70% until end Dec 2016) and **Ali Khadr** (from January 2017) who ensure 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.
- **Dr Jennifer Griggs** – Bisi Visiting Scholars' Programme Co-ordinator (Self-employed up to 20%)

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

- **Phoebe Walker** (self-employed, 10%)
- **Ali Khadr** (self-employed, 20% to December 2016)

### Personnel Costs

BISI pays the salary of its Administrator 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 ([http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/salary\\_scale/final\\_grades.php](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/salary_scale/final_grades.php)). Thus the Administrator's salary is currently £24,823, including London allowance – the equivalent of UCL Grade 5 spine point 17.

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 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 2016/2017.

**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



This is my first Annual Report as Chair of Council and, thanks to the commitment and hard work of my predecessor, Prof Eleanor Robson, I am pleased to report that the BISI has in place a robust governance structure with Committees working to clearly defined constitutions and terms of reference. While this will continue to be the subject of regular review, the current arrangements have helped to ensure that many of the goals for this reporting period, as set out in our internal rolling Five Year Plan, have been achieved despite the ongoing challenging financial environments in the UK and Iraq.

The security situation within Iraq, which fluctuates greatly from day to day and province to province, continues inevitably to impact the shape of our in-country work. Although the successful advance of Iraqi forces against ISIS/Da'esh during 2016-2017 liberated large areas of the north of the country, there remain considerable security concerns and the resulting uncertainty continues to be reflected in the financial caution of UK donors. Despite great effort by our Development Co-ordinators working to a focused fundraising strategy, it has proven difficult to significantly increase external support for our activities. Indeed, it was disappointing that

we were unable to find sponsorship for our planned international conference in Basrah to celebrate the opening of the first of Basrah Museum's public galleries in September 2016. The success of the conference in facilitating academic exchange and collaboration ultimately fully justified Council's decision to fund this important event, which saw scholars from across Iraq join with colleagues from around the world in a rich programme of lectures. The Institute will be publishing the conference papers as a volume in Arabic and English as a resource for the Basrah Museum as well as for the wider academic community. The BISI will continue to work closely with the Museum's director Mr Qahtan Al-Abeed and partner with the Friends of Basrah Museum, who are leading a second phase of gallery development following their award of funding from the UK government's Cultural Protection Fund, to help deliver staff training and other activities.

Supporting the cultural heritage in Iraq and the individuals and institutions involved in that work remains a priority for the Institute, not least in those regions of the country liberated from ISIS. Key to this is ensuring the continuation of our successful Visiting Iraqi Scholars Programme. In the Autumn of 2016 we appointed Dr Jennifer Griggs as Co-ordinator and, in April 2017, welcomed Omar Jassam as a Visitor Scholar, with further individuals due to arrive at the end of the year and in early 2018. Sustaining this Programme will remain the focus for our Fundraising Committee led by the Institute's Vice-Chair Joan Porter MacIver. She is joined in this work by Ali Khadr, who combines the role of Development Co-ordinator with that of the Institute's Administrator. They have been building on the success of our 2013 Gertrude Bell conference by organising fundraising presentations of the award-winning film *Letters from Baghdad*, with the very generous support of the film's directors Zeva Oelbaum and Sabine Krayenbühl. These events have not only provided funds for the Visiting Scholars Programme but raised the BISI's public profile and attracted new members.

The Visiting Iraqi Scholars Programme will also be underpinned and expanded further through a partnership between the Institute and a UK government Global Challenges Research Fund AHRC project, 'The Nahrein Network', led by Professor Robson, Dr Saad Eskander and myself. The project will undertake new ancient history research for education in Iraq and its neighbours and offer BISI at least twenty funded joint Visiting Scholarships over four years, as well as access to security advice on in-country work.

There are additional signs of optimism around fundraising following an anonymous donation to BISI in support of our plans to publish online the British School of Archaeology in Iraq's excavation records from Nimrud. Work is now underway to digitise these documents, which will assist the Iraqi State Board of Antiquities and Heritage in planning the future management of the site.

Early in 2017 the Strategy Committee met - with an extended membership that included all Chairs of Committees - to review activity against goals and aspirations and to agree those for the coming calendar year. Alongside work in Iraq itself, the Committee was keen to ensure that the Institute continues to provide strong support for research and public education on Iraq in the UK and to explore ways of expanding these activities. To facilitate this Council had already agreed to provide the Outreach Committee with increased funding to encourage ambitious and intellectually enriching public engagement projects. Another potential area for development is materials for schools, both in print and online and in English and in Arabic, especially around the Primary Schools national curriculum subjects of the Sumerians and Baghdad c.AD 900. Meanwhile, work on an inventory of our fieldwork archives is reaching a stage where it will be possible to submit funding applications in order to create a permanent repository as an educational resource. For all this activity it is important that we better understand our potential UK-wide audience. The Institute will therefore be undertaking evaluation work to provide funding bodies with this necessary data as well as also to help us identify potential new members.

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 2016/2017 we funded fieldwork into contemporary Iraq, four major archaeological excavations in-country and two international conferences.

### Research Grants

- **Dr Claudia Glatz (University of Glasgow):** The Ritual Production of Local and Imperial Identities in the Zagros-Mesopotamian Interface.
- **Professor Douglas Baird (University of Liverpool):** Eastern Fertile Crescent Prehistory Project.
- **Dr Jane Moon (University of Manchester):** Ur Region Archaeology Project 2017.
- **Professor Nicholas Postgate (University of Cambridge):** Salvaging Contents of Abu Salabikh Dig House.
- **Dr Robert Killick (Manchester University):** Ground Survey, Investigation and Documentation of Charax Spasinou
- **Rolf Killius (British Library):** Songs of Longing and Love – Recording, Research and Documentation Project on Traditional Rural Music in Iraq-Kurdistan.
- **Professor Eleanor Robson (University College London) and Mr Muzahim Mahmoud Hussein (Retired Director of Excavations, Nimrud, Nineveh Governorate, Iraq State Board of Antiquities and Heritage):** Digitisation of Iraqi Excavation Records of Nimrud.
- **Professor Roger Matthews (University of Reading):** Excavations at Neolithic Bestansur, Iraqi Kurdistan.

### Conference Grants

- **Dr Aula Hariri (London School of Economics and Political Sciences):** Approaching Iraqi History: Challenges and Prospects in Kufa, Iraq (November 2017).
- **Miss Mónica Palmero Fernández (University of Reading):** Sixth Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology in the UK (April 2017).

### The Annual Pilot Project Grant was awarded to

- **Professor Andrew Petersen (University of Wales Trinity Saint David):** Basra Pilot Project

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.



Professor Postgate with Professor Al-Husseiny surveying the discard pit at the Abu Salabikh Dig House. Photo: Nicholas Postgate



Two articulated juvenile skeletons found during excavations at Neolithic Bestansur in Iraqi Kurdistan. Photo: Roger Matthews

## 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 Omar Jassam of the University of Mosul (April-May 2017). Omar spent one month working with Dr Emma Cunliffe, Research Associate in the Department of Archaeology, at the University of Durham and a member of the EAMENA (Endangered Archaeology in the Middle East and North Africa) team on his PhD thesis on the Destruction of Cultural Heritage in Regions of Armed Conflict: Iraq.

During his scholarship, Omar was provided with access to key books and articles, an instruction to media information verifications, basic introductions to satellite imagery and damage assessment, and a clearer understanding of damage assessment.



Omar Jassam and BISI Trustee Dr Gareth Brereton at the British Museum

## OUTREACH

### Outreach Grants

BISI awards annual Outreach Grants (up to £1,000 per grant) as part of its charitable aim to further understanding and appreciation of Iraq's history, society and culture.

In 2016/2017 we offered grants to the following public engagement projects, taking place in the UK and Iraq:

- **Serpentine Trust:** Zaha Hadid Exhibition at the Serpentine Gallery
- **Amar Ahmed:** Iraqi Choral Group
- **Ahmed Mukhtar:** We are all Babylonians arts and cultural events at the Poets Arts House, Baghdad
- **Kelcy Davenport:** From Basrah to Cambridge and Back - The Art and Geology of Al-Hammar Marshes
- **Daniel Gorman:** Shubbak Literature Festival Event at the British Library, London
- **Lyn Edmonds:** The First World War: the Iraqi Perspective schools project with Lancashire Country Council



Keepers of the Flame Panel featuring Author Dunya Mikhail at the Shubbak Literature Festival Event. Photo: Shubbak

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

BISI held its second 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.

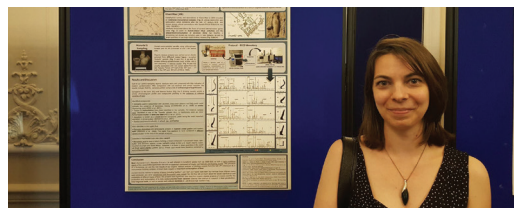
Posters submitted to the 2017 competition were displayed at BISI's public lecture in June at the British Academy. This was a rare chance for the entrants to present and discuss their research with the academic community and general public. First place went to Elsa Perruchini, a PhD student in Archaeology at the University of Glasgow, for her poster titled 'Thirsty for More? Preliminary Results of Organic Residue Analysis of Late Bronze Age Vessels from Khani Masi, Kurdistan, Iraq'. Elsa received a prize of £100, and 1 years' worth of free membership of BISI.

Second place went to Ula Merie, a PhD candidate at the University of Sheffield, School of Architecture, for her poster titled 'The University Campus as an Urban Generator with Special Reference to the University of Baghdad, Iraq'. Ula received a prize of £50, and 1 years' worth of free membership of BISI.

Mr Al-Robaeei, First Secretary at the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in the UK attended the awards ceremony and presented both Elsa and Ula with prizes on behalf of HE Dr Salih Husain Al-Tamimi.



Mr Al-Robaeei, of the Embassy of the Republic of Iraq in the UK and BISI Chair Dr Paul Collins presenting Elsa Perruchini and Ula Merie with their Student Poster awards. Photo: Ali Khadr



Elsa Perruchini of Glasgow University beside her prize-winning poster in June 2017. Photo: Photo: Ali Khadr

## Events

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

The Institute of Historical Research organised a very well attended screening of the documentary film *Letters from Baghdad* in collaboration with the BISI in April 2017. The event was followed by a Q&A with BISI Trustee Joan Porter MacIver and a reception, both of which helped to facilitate very interesting discussions on Iraq, Gertrude Bell and Great Britain.

## Press and the Media

One of BISI's charitable objectives is to provide expertise to journalists reporting on Iraq's cultural heritage. In 2016 BISI trustees gave up hours of their time to explain to the media the significance of the cultural sites that had been destroyed – in particular, Mosul Museum, and the ancient cities of Nimrud, Nineveh and Hatra. With the liberation of large swathes of land including Hatra, Nimrud and the destroyed Shrine of Nabi Yunus from ISIS in 2016/2017 by Iraqi Government Forces, BISI trustees once again gave up their time to provide their expertise to journalists reporting on these sites. BISI trustees appeared in features on numerous media outlets, including *CBS News*, *Fox News*, the *Telegraph* and the *New Arab*.



Dr Paul Collins and Professor Graeme Barker at February's Annual Mallowan Lecture. Photo: Joan Porter MacIver

## THE NIMRUD DIGITISATION PROJECT

Thanks to generous support from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, the BISI can announce the start of 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 did not publish any new volumes in 2016/2017. 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.

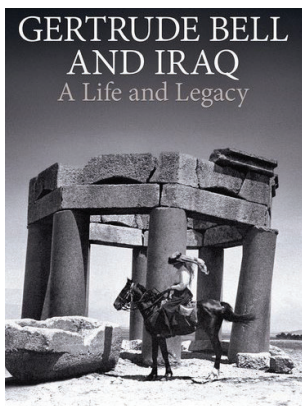
In the meantime, BISI's back catalogue continues to be freely available as open access PDFs at [www.bisi.ac.uk](http://www.bisi.ac.uk). This includes all of the volumes from the *Abu Salabikh*, *Cuneiform Tablets from Nimrud*, *Ivories from Nimrud* and *Samarra Studies series*, as well as *Archaeological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

### Gertrude Bell and Iraq – A Life and Legacy Conference Proceedings

March 2017 saw the publication of *Gertrude Bell and Iraq – a Life and Legacy* as part of the Proceedings of the British Academy series by Oxford University Press.

*Gertrude Bell and Iraq – a Life and Legacy* is the first book-length examination of Gertrude Bell as an imperial administrator with a deep concern for the extraordinary archaeological heritage of Iraq.

To celebrate the publication of the book, BISI organised a panel discussion in April 2017 at the British Academy. Chaired by Dr Nelida Fuccaro the panel brought together the Editors Dr Paul Collins, Professor Charles Tripp and volume contributors Dr Rosalind Wade Haddon and Dr Mark Jackson. Attendees were treated to a stimulating and detailed discussion on Gertrude Bell's legacy in Iraq. The discussion was followed by a reception where attendees were able to further discuss the book and Gertrude Bell both with the panelists and other guests.



Gertrude Bell and Iraq, a Life and Legacy has now been published.

Photo: OUP

Edited by Paul Collins and Charles Tripp

### 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], currently in production, with Editor in Chief Prof Eleanor Robson (UCL)

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. For the production of IRAQ 79, 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 Editor in Chief is supported by an Editorial Board, presently including Council members – Dr Mark Altaweel, Dr Augusta McMahon, Dr Sarah Savant, with further expertise provided by Dr Erica Hunter (SOAS), Dr Claudia Glatz (University of Glasgow), Dr Mark Weeden (SOAS), and Dr Dan Lawrence (University of Durham).

## FUNDRAISING AND DEVELOPMENT

During the year BISI focused its fundraising energies on applying to a few Foundations for specific projects and the BISI Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Programme, which aims to foster scholarly exchange between Iraq and the rest of the world. From February 2017 the Fundraising Committee has been chaired by Joan Porter MacIver. The BISI Council and Committee would like to thank Jane Weeks for joining the Committee and adding her knowledge and expertise to our fundraising efforts.

We are grateful to HE Dr Salih Ali Husain, Iraqi Ambassador to the UK, for hosting a special event in January 2017 for BISI supporters and donors to raise awareness of our activities. Dr Paul Collins and Dr John Curtis gave short talks, highlighting recent projects in Iraq and the importance of our ongoing work, along with the then recently announced Cultural Protection Fund (CPF) grant project for the completion of the new Basrah Museum working alongside the State Board of Antiquities and Heritage (SBAH). HE Dr Salih also provided important remarks regarding our work and that of the Friends of Basrah Museum.

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

## 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 office assistance, scanning and filing of BISI's archives and event assistance (9 hours)
- **Reman Sandani** – Social media volunteer (3 hours)
- **Eva Miller** – for sitting on BISI's Outreach Committee and assisting at events (4 hours)
- **Helene Maloigne** – for sitting on BISI's Outreach Committee and assisting at events (6 hours)
- **Agnes Henriksen** – Basrah Conference assistant (120 hours)
- **Fatime al-Badri** – for assisting at a BISI event (2 hours)

In addition, we must credit Dr Emma Cunliffe (University of Durham) who assisted with BISI 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, conference and pilot project grants

In autumn 2016 we appointed Dr 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:

- **Saba Sami Al Ali (Al Nahrain University):** Scholarship to assist with research into the Collection of Archival Material available in the UK for the Documentation and Preservation of Infrastructure and Prestigious Buildings built during British Colonial Rule in Iraq.
- **Dr Nawrast Sabah Abdalwahab (University of Basrah):** Scholarship on Stratigraphy and Climate Changes Record of Mesopotamian Marshland and some Archaeological Sites During Quaternary.

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 2017/18.

### Outreach

Next year, BISI will increase the funding it makes 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.

And for 2017/2018 we already have a superb schedule of free lectures covering Iraq, ancient and modern, which will be held at the British Academy:

- **Dr Lamia al-Gailani Werr** – A Museum in Baghdad: The Story of the Iraq Museum in the First Half of the Twentieth Century (November 2017)
- **Dr Franco D'Agostino and Dr Licia Romano** – Italian Archaeological Mission at Abu Tbeirah in Southern Iraq (February 2018)



Dr Lamia al-Gailani Werr delivering her BISI lecture on the Iraq Museum. *Photo: Professor Eleanor Robson*



## 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 2017/2018:

- *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 increasing and sustaining the 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.

In September 2017 as part of our fundraising efforts for the Visiting Iraqi Scholarship Programme we held a ticketed screening of *Letters from Baghdad*, a documentary on Gertrude Bell, supported by the Directors Zeva Oelbaum and Sabine Krayenbühl. The event at the British Academy was very well attended by past and prospective donors, and proved a powerful way to raise funds for the Programme and to communicate BISI's recent achievements. We are now exploring the possibility of holding further fundraising screenings of *Letters from Baghdad* (LFB) outside of London.

Through a kind introduction by Zeva Oelbaum, LFB Co-Director, to one of the film's Executive Producers, David Dangoor of Exilarch and Dangoor Education, BISI received a generous donation to fund our first 2017-2018 Visiting Iraqi Scholar and a further commitment to donate funds to an important outreach project on Mesopotamian studies in UK Schools. BISI looks forward to developing its partnership with Exilarch and Dangoor Education over the coming years and thanks the Foundation for these generous and important donations to the BISI work.

We will also be seeking donations for the next phase of the Archaeological Archives Project (page 8) and phase two of the Nimrud Digitisation Project (page 11) after a successful anonymous grant to support the initial phase of the digitisation project.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

The accounts for the year ended 30 June 2017 are attached to this report and a review of BISI's transactions and financial position is set out below.

BISI had net incoming resources of £29,032 after net gains on investment assets. This was made up of a surplus for the year for unrestricted funds of £27,656 to support BISI's on-going work and a deficit to the restricted funds for the year of £7,033 related mostly to the funding of Visiting Iraqi Scholars. The investment gain on the endowment fund after investment manager fees was £8,409.

Investment assets within the Investec portfolio were marked to market at the year-end and resulting in an unrealised gain of £78,225 for the year.

### Unrestricted Funds

BISI had four principal sources of unrestricted income. They were from donations and legacies (£21,629), membership subscriptions, (£10,614), investment income from the investment assets (£56,148) and publication sales (£13,961).

### Restricted Funds

Continued activity in the Visiting Iraqi Scholars Programme resulted in net outgoing resources of £5,907. A transfer of £3,471 from the November lecture fund took place and so the balance carried forward on the visiting scholars fund was £3,471. Realised gains of £337 on the other restricted funds increased balance held on all restricted funds to £23,131.

## 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.

Cash reserves currently sit at 10 months of operational costs.

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.

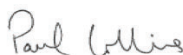
The following served as members of the BISI Council for all or part of the year ended 30 June 2017.

Dr Mark Altaweel  
Dr Gareth Brereton  
Edward Chaplin CMG, OBE  
Dr John Curtis OBE, FBA, President  
Daniel Lowe  
Dr John MacGinnis  
Dr Ellen McAdam  
Dr Augusta McMahon  
Dr Sarah Bowen Savant  
Dr Glen Rangwala  
Dr Paul Collins, Chair of Council  
Joan Porter MacIver, Vice-Chair of Council

The following Council member resigned before the end of the financial year: Peter Defty in June 2017, Dr Nelida Fuccaro in June 2017, Professor Eleanor Robson in February 2017 and Professor Charles Tripp also in February 2017.

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**

**Dated: 2 January 2018**

## 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)**

Dated: 02 January 2018

Herts; AL1 3AW

### **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The British Institute for the Study of Iraq (Gertrude Bell Memorial) for the year ended 30 June 2017**

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 ('the charitable company') for the year ended 30 June 2017 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 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.



**Elizabeth Irvine FCA**  
**WMT - Chartered Accountants**

45 Grosvenor Road  
St Albans

## 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 2017

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Designated Fund (Nimrud Ivories)	Restricted Funds	Endowment Fund	2017	2016
<b>Income and endowment from:</b>							
Donations and Legacies	2	21,629	-	-	-	21,629	28,535
Charitable Activities	3	24,575	-	-	-	24,575	25,452
Investments	4	56,148	-	226	-	56,374	51,677
<b>Total</b>		<b>102,352</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>102,578</b>	<b>105,664</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>							
Raising Funds	5	11,179	-	35	968	12,182	13,438
Charitable Activities	6	137,931	-	7,561	-	145,492	137,332
<b>Total</b>		<b>149,110</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,596</b>	<b>968</b>	<b>157,674</b>	<b>150,770</b>
<b>(Losses)/gains on Investments</b>							
Net gains/(losses) on investments		74,414	-	337	9,377	84,128	(908)
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>		<b>27,656</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(7,033)</b>	<b>8,409</b>	<b>29,032</b>	<b>(46,014)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>							
Total Funds brought forward		1,191,903	1,326,000	30,164	136,704	2,684,771	2,730,785
Total Funds carried forward		1,219,559	1,326,000	23,131	145,113	2,713,803	2,684,771

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

### Balance Sheet

The British Institute for the Study of Iraq

As at 30 June 2017

	Notes	Total Funds 2017	Total prior year funds 2016
		£	£
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Tangible Assets	7	1	469
Heritage assets	8	1,326,000	1,326,000
Investments	9	1,243,211	1,167,765
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<b>2,569,212</b>	<b>2,494,234</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Stock of publications		28,356	29,441
Debtors	10	3,207	1,885
Cash at bank and in hand	11	134,151	179,558
<b>Total Current Assets</b>		<b>165,714</b>	<b>210,884</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	12	21,123	20,347
<b>Total Liabilities</b>		<b>21,123</b>	<b>20,347</b>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>		<b>144,591</b>	<b>190,537</b>
<b>Total Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		<b>2,713,803</b>	<b>2,684,771</b>

### The funds of the charity:

Restricted	16	23,131	30,164
Endowment	18	145,113	136,704
Unrestricted	18	1,219,559	1,191,903
Designated (Nimrud Ivories)	18	1,326,000	1,326,000
<b>Total funds of the charity:</b>		<b>2,713,803</b>	<b>2,684,771</b>


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.

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 Paul Collins



Chair of Council

Dated: 02 January 2018

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

The British Institute for the Study of Iraq

For the year ended 30 June 2017

		2017	2016
	Notes	£	£
<b>Income</b>			
Income	2,3	46,204	53,987
Realised gains on investments	9	5,903	(20,904)
Interest and investment income	4	56,374	51,677
<b>Gross income in the reporting period</b>		<b>108,481</b>	<b>84,760</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Expenditure	6	(156,238)	(149,380)
Depreciation	6	(468)	(468)
<b>Total expenditure in the reporting period</b>		<b>(156,706)</b>	<b>(149,848)</b>
Tax payable		-	-
<b>Net (expenditure) before tax for the reporting period</b>		<b>(48,225)</b>	<b>(65,088)</b>

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

### **Notes to the Accounts**

The British Institute for the Study of Iraq

For the year ended 30 June 2017

#### **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

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

### 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.

### 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 institution participates in the Universities Superannuation Scheme (the scheme). With effect from 1 October 2016, the scheme changed from a defined benefit only pension scheme to a hybrid pension scheme, providing defined benefits (for all members), as well as defined contribution benefits. 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 attributed to individual institutions and a scheme-wide contribution rate is set. The institution is therefore exposed to actuarial risks associated with other institutions'

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

employees and is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. As required by Section 28 of FRS 102 "Employee benefits", the institution therefore accounts for the scheme as if it were a wholly defined contribution scheme. As a result, the amount charged to the income and expenditure account represents the contributions payable to the scheme. Since the institution has entered into an agreement (the Recovery Plan) that determines how each employer within the scheme will fund the overall deficit, the institution recognises a liability for the contributions payable that arise from the agreement to the extent that they relate to the deficit and therefore an expense is recognised.

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016	
	£	£	£	£	
2. Income from Donations and Legacies					
	336	-	336	599	
Gift aid recoverable					
Provision of office facilities and rent in kind	20,000	-	20,000	20,000	
Other Donations					
Provision of storage facilities	368	-	368	7,011	
	925	-	925	925	
Total Income from Donations and Legacies	21,629	-	21,629	28,535	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016	
	£	£	£	£	
3. Income from Charitable Activities					
	10,614	-	10,614	11,660	
Subscriptions from members					
Publication sales and copyright fees	13,961	-	13,961	13,792	
Total Income from Charitable Activities	24,575	-	24,575	25,452	
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016	
	£	£	£	£	
4. Income from Investments					
	12	-	12	35	
Bank interest					
Investment portfolio income	56,136	226	56,362	51,642	
Total Income from Investments	56,148	226	56,374	51,677	
	Endowment Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
		£	£	£	£
5. Expenditure on Raising Funds					
		3,499	-	3,499	5,165
Development co-ordinator costs					
Investment manager fees	968	7,680	35	8,683	8,273
Total Expenditure on Raising Funds	968	11,179	35	12,182	13,438

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

### 6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£
<b>a. Grants Payable</b>				
<b>Grants Payable</b>				
Research, travel and conference grants	26,007	-	26,007	17,000
Project grants	7,615	-	7,615	8,000
Development/Outreach grants	4,750	-	4,750	3,787
Visiting Scholars Grants	-	3,135	3,135	9,679
<b>Total Grants Payable</b>	<b>38,372</b>	<b>3,135</b>	<b>41,507</b>	<b>38,466</b>
Returned grants	(2,000)	-	(2,000)	(350)
<b>Total Grants Payable</b>	<b>36,372</b>	<b>3,135</b>	<b>39,507</b>	<b>38,116</b>

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£

#### Grants Payable - Bisi made grants to 17 individuals in the year (15 individuals in 2016)

<b>Research, travel and conference grants</b>				
Aula Harii: Approaching Iraqi History: Challenges and Prospects	2,000	-	2,000	-
Monica Palmero Fernandez: Sixth Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology	1,500	-	1,500	-
Dr Claudia Glatz (Glasgow University): Grand Challenges and Blue Skies in the Study of the Ancient Near East: British Association of Near Eastern Archaeology	2,000	-	2,000	-
Professor Roger Matthews: Excavations at Neolithic Bestansur, Iraqi Kurdistan	3,000	-	3,000	2,000
Eleanor Robson: Digitisation Project	3,150	-	3,150	-
Jane Moon: Ur Region Archaeology Project: Tell Khaiber Excavations	3,485	-	3,485	-
Dr Claudia Glatz: The Ritual Production of Local and Imperial Identities in the Zagros-Mesopotamian Interface	3,400	-	3,400	-
Nicholas Postgate: Salvaging Contents of Abu Salabikh Dig House	2,000	-	2,000	-
Dr Robert Killick (Manchester University): Ground survey, investigation and documentation of Charax Spasinou	2,000	-	2,000	-
Rolf Killius: Songs of longing and love - recording, research and documentation project on traditional rural music in Iraq-Kurdistan	2,000	-	2,000	-
Douglas Baird: Eastern Fertile Crescent Prehistory Project	3,000	-	3,000	-
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

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

Richard Dumbrell: 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 (£427.25 paid of £2,000 committed)	(1,528)	-	(1,528)	2,000
<b>Total Research, Travel and Conference Grants</b>	<b>26,007</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,007</b>	<b>17,000</b>
<b>Pilot Project grants</b>				
Andrew Petersen: Basrah Pilot	7,615	-	7,615	-
Dr Ellen McAdam: Archaeological Archives Project	-	-	-	8,000
<b>Total Project grants</b>	<b>7,615</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,615</b>	<b>8,000</b>
<b>Outreach Grants</b>				
Serpentine Trust: Zaha Hadid Exhibition at the Serpentine Gallery	1,000	-	1,000	-
Amar Ahmed: Iraqi Choral Group	500	-	500	-
Ahmed Mukhtar: We are all Babylonians arts and cultural events at the Poets Arts House, Baghdad	500	-	500	-
Kelcy Davenport: From Basrah to Cambridge and Back - The Art and Geology of Al-Hammar Marshes	600	-	600	-
Daniel Gorman: Shubback Literature Festival Event at the British Library, London	1,000	-	1,000	-
Lyn Edmonds: The First World War: the Iraqi Perspective schools project with Lancashire Country Council	1,000	-	1,000	-
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	-	-	-	460
Fawzia Alwaji: Iraqi Cultural Days at the Rivercourt Church Hammersmith	-	-	-	500
Laura Hawkins: The Oxford Postgraduate Conference in Assyriology 2016 at Oxford University	-	-	-	550
Dr Jehan Baban: A Tribute Event for the late Dame Zaha Hadid at UCL	-	-	-	585
Paul MacAlindin: UPBEAT - a memoir of the National Youth Orchestra of Iraq	-	-	-	500
Else Perruchini: Student Poster Prize	100	-	100	-
Ula Khalel: Student Poster Prize	50	-	50	-
<b>Total Outreach Grants</b>	<b>4,750</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,750</b>	<b>3,787</b>
<b>Grants payable - Restricted funds</b>				
<b>Visiting Scholars Grants</b>				
In addition to the 2016/17 grants detailed above, BISI funded 1 Iraqi Visiting Scholarships (1 during 2015/16)				
Omar Jassam	-	3,135	3,135	-
Salwa Tawfeeq	-	-	-	1,839
Abather Saadoon	-	-	-	7,840
	-	<b>3,135</b>	<b>3,135</b>	<b>9,679</b>

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	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2017	Total 2016
	£	£	£	£
<b>b. Other Charitable Activity Costs</b>				
<b>Programme related costs</b>				
Visiting Scholars expenditure and appeal events (excluding visiting scholar grants)	-	2,772	2,772	1,935
London activities and lecture expenditure	1,784	1,654	3,438	5,934
Other conferences – Bisi Basrah Conference	11,387	-	11,387	-
PR, newsletter and website expenses	6,588	-	6,588	10,967
<b>Total Programme related costs</b>	<b>19,759</b>	<b>4,426</b>	<b>24,185</b>	<b>18,836</b>
<b>Other direct costs</b>				
Printing annual report	878	-	878	929
Publication and journal costs	11,383	-	11,383	14,145
<b>Total Other direct costs</b>	<b>12,261</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>12,261</b>	<b>15,074</b>
<b>Support costs allocated to activities</b>				
London office administration salary & financial controller costs	35,972	-	35,972	34,163
Pension costs	4,025	-	4,025	3,272
Office expenditure	2,299	-	2,299	1,717
Rent and service charges	20,000	-	20,000	20,000
Bank and credit card charges	611	-	611	642
Examination fee	2,607	-	2,607	2,172
Payroll costs	333	-	333	289
Council and committee meetings	2,773	-	2,773	2,356
Council and other travel expenses	451	-	451	227
Depreciation	468	-	468	468
<b>Total Support costs allocated to activities</b>	<b>69,539</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>69,539</b>	<b>65,306</b>
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>101,559</b>	<b>4,426</b>	<b>105,985</b>	<b>99,216</b>

**7. Tangible Fixed Assets**

	Computer Equipment
Cost	£
brought forward at 1 July 2016	5,577
<b>Depreciation</b>	
brought forward at 1 July 2016	5,108
Charge for year	468
<b>carried forward at 30 June 2017</b>	<b>5,576</b>
<b>Net Book Value at 30 June 2017</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Net Book Value at 30 June 2016</b>	<b>469</b>

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### 8. Heritage Assets

	Designated fund £
<b>Movements in the year</b>	
brought forwards at 1 July 2016	1,326,000
<b>carried forward at 30 June 2017</b>	<b>1,326,000</b>

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.

### 9. Investments

	Cost £	2017 Market Value £	Cost £	2016 Market Value £
<b>Endowment Fund</b>				
Listed Investments	126,960	138,566	129,550	130,157
	126,960	138,566	129,550	130,157
<b>Restricted Funds</b>				
Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	2,390	2,609	2,439	2,451
Mallowan Fund	2,180	2,379	2,224	2,234
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<b>4,570</b>	<b>4,988</b>	<b>4,663</b>	<b>4,685</b>
<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>				
	1,015,044	1,099,657	1,028,110	1,032,923
	1,146,574	1,243,211	1,162,323	1,167,765
<b>Total Investments</b>				
	Cost £	2017 Market Value £	Cost £	2016 Market Value £
Total endowment Fund	126,960	138,566	129,550	130,157
Total Restricted Funds	4,570	4,988	4,663	4,685
Total Unrestricted Funds	1,015,044	1,099,657	1,028,110	1,032,923
	1,146,574	1,243,211	1,162,323	1,167,765



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	Total 2017	Total 2016
	£	£
Brought forward at 1 July 2016	1,167,765	1,176,946
Investment additions	397,826	143,739
Investment disposal proceeds	(406,508)	(152,012)
Investment realised gains	5,903	(23,526)
Investments change in valuation	78,225	22,619
<b>Carried forward at 30 June 2017</b>	<b>1,243,211</b>	<b>1,167,765</b>

	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>10. Debtors</b>		
Prepayments	974	-
Publication Income due	857	943
Tax Recoverable	1,376	942
<b>Total Debtors</b>	<b>3,207</b>	<b>1,885</b>

	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>11. Cash at bank and in hand</b>		
Current accounts and cash	131,559	176,967
Deposit Accounts	2,592	2,591
<b>Total Cash</b>	<b>134,151</b>	<b>179,558</b>

	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>12. Creditors</b>		
Accruals	2,100	3,332
Payroll Liabilities	-	24
Accounts Payable	8,811	5,065
VAT Payable	812	941
Grants Payable	9,400	10,985
<b>Total Creditors</b>	<b>21,123</b>	<b>20,347</b>

	2017	2016
	£	£
<b>13. Employees</b>		
Salaries	22,363	19,633
Pension Contributions	4,025	3,272
<b>Total Employees</b>	<b>26,388</b>	<b>22,905</b>

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The Institute employed 1 full-time employee during the year (2016:1 part-time)

One employee received remuneration between £20,001-£30,000, (2016:1 between £10,001 and £20,000)

Key management personnel compensation for 2016 was £26,388 (2016 - £22,905)

### 14. Pensions

The total cost charged to the profit and loss account is £4,025 (2016: £3,272) 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. The valuation as at 31 March 2017 is underway.

Since the institution 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:

	2017	2016
<b>Assumptions</b>		
Discount rate (%)	2.57	3.6
Pension increases, CPI (%)	2.41	2.2
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
	£	£
<b>Life expectancies</b>		
Males currently aged 65 (years)	24.4	24.3
Females currently aged 65 (years)	26.6	26.5
Males currently aged 45 (years)	26.5	26.4
Females currently aged 45 (years)	29.0	28.8
	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>
<b>Funding level</b>		
Scheme assets (£bn)	60.0	49.8
Total scheme liabilities (£bn)	77.5	58.3
FRS 102 total scheme deficit (£bn)	17.5	8.5
FRS 102 total funding level (%)	77	85

### 15. Related Party Transactions

During the year, 2 Trustees were paid a total of £451 (2016 : £227) in travel expenses. No trustees received remuneration in the year.

Dr Eleanor Robson, a trustee for part of the financial year to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017, was given a research grant of £3,150 during the year.

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	Appeal and Fund for Iraq	Mallowan Fund	Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	November Lecture Fund	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>16. Restricted Income Funds</b>					
Investment Income	-	108	118	-	226
Raising Funds	-	(17)	(18)	-	(35)
Charitable activities	(5,907)	(50)	(75)	(1,529)	(7,561)
<b>Net outgoing resources before valuations and investment assets and disposals</b>	<b>(5,907)</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>(1,529)</b>	<b>(7,370)</b>
Gains/(losses) on revaluations and disposal of investment assets	-	161	176	-	337
Transfer between Funds	3,471	-	-	(3,471)	-
<b>Net movement in Funds</b>	<b>(2,436)</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>(5,000)</b>	<b>(7,033)</b>
Fund balance brought forward	18,835	2,769	3,560	5,000	30,164
Fund balance carried forward	16,399	2,971	3,761	-	23,131

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 there of 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 2007 The British Museum transferred the Bell Fund from the British Museum to the British School of Archaeology and 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.

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 Pritchard and members of the family who agreed that the bequest could be utilised to support the costs of the Annual General Lecture.

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## 17. Comparative Prior Year Statement of Financial Activities

	2016 Endowment Fund	2016 Designated Fund	2016 Unrestricted Fund	2016 Restricted Fund	2016 Mallowan Fund	2016 Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	2016 November Lecture Fund	2016 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>								
<b>Income and Endowments from:</b>								
Donations and Legacies	-	-	23,535	-	-	-	5,000	28,535
Charitable Activities	-	-	25,452	-	-	-	-	25,452
Investment	-	-	51,470	-	99	108	-	51,677
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100,457</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>108</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>105,664</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>								
Raising funds	(922)	-	(12,483)	-	(16)	(17)	-	(13,438)
Charitable Activities	-	-	(125,593)	(11,614)	(50)	(75)	-	(137,332)
<b>Total</b>	<b>(922)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(138,073)</b>	<b>(11,614)</b>	<b>(66)</b>	<b>(92)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(150,770)</b>
Net gains on investments	(101)	-	(803)	-	(2)	(2)	-	(908)
<b>Net income/expenditure</b>	<b>(1,023)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(38,422)</b>	<b>(11,614)</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>(46,014)</b>
<b>Net movement in Funds</b>	<b>(1,023)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(38,422)</b>	<b>(11,614)</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5,000</b>	<b>(46,014)</b>
	2016 Endowment Fund	2016 Designated Fund	2016 Unrestricted Fund	2016 Restricted Fund	2016 Mallowan Fund	2016 Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	2016 November Lecture Fund	2016 Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Reconciliation of Funds</b>								
Total Funds brought forward	137,727	1,326,000	1,230,325	30,449	2,738	3,546	-	2,730,785
Total funds carried forward	136,704	1,326,000	1,191,903	18,835	2,769	3,560	5,000	2,684,771

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	Endowment Fund	Designated Fund	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Mallowan Fund	Bonham Carter Lecture Fund	2017
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<b>18. Analysis of Total Funds</b>							
Investments	138,566	-	1,099,657	-	2,379	2,609	1,243,211
Heritage Assets	-	1,326,000	-	-	-	-	1,326,000
Tangible Fixed Assets	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Stock	-	-	28,356	-	-	-	28,356
Debtors	-	-	3,207	-	-	-	3,207
Cash and deposits at bank	-	-	134,151	-	-	-	134,151
Creditors	-	-	(21,123)	-	-	-	(21,123)
Inter fund transfers	6,547	-	(24,690)	16,399	591	1,153	-
<b>Balance of Funds at 30th June 2017</b>	<b>145,113</b>	<b>1,326,000</b>	<b>1,219,559</b>	<b>16,399</b>	<b>2,970</b>	<b>3,762</b>	<b>2,713,803</b>

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19. Unrestricted Funds

	Unrestricted	Designated Fund	Total
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
brought forward at 1 July 2016	1,191,903	1,326,000	2,517,903
Realised and unrealised gains and losses	74,414	-	74,414
Net outgoing resources	(46,758)	-	(46,758)
carried forward at 30 June 2017	1,219,559	1,326,000	2,545,559

20. Financial Instruments

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

Financial Assets	Measurement method	£
Cash	Cash held	134,151
Trade and other debtors	Settlement amount after any trade discounts (provided normal credit terms apply)	1,831
Total Financial Assets		135,982
Financial liabilities	Measurement method	
Trade and other creditors	Settlement amount after any trade discounts (provided normal credit terms apply)	20,311

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