



**2021 Annual Report**  
**Professor Dame Sue Black, Baroness Black of Strome DBE FRSE**  
**President, Royal Anthropological Institute**

This is the final year that I shall have the privilege of being the president of the institute, and my first, most pleasurable and important duty is to thank the Trustees, Fellows and staff of the RAI, who have done so much to make this time pass enjoyably. It has been in many ways a remarkably eventful four years, yet with each passing moment I have been increasingly conscious of the institute's great strengths; its breadth of interests, the depth of its knowledge of the subject, and the extraordinary collegiality that marks the way that it goes about its business. It is largely due to these many qualities that the institute finally received in 2020, during the height of the pandemic lockdown, the great distinction of the award of a Royal Charter, the height of my period in office.

During the course of my time, I have also come to realise the enormous contribution that has been made to the institute by the occasional generous legacies that it has received from its Fellows: the Horniman Committee, which I also had the privilege of chairing, was founded after the Second World War to help fund research students, and has done so continuously now for many decades. Many of the students whom it has funded have gone on to become well-known names in the subject. The Urgent Anthropology Fund, set up by George Appel during his life-time has funded wonderful research in many parts of the world; the Esperanza Fund, created by Edmund Leach, contributed materially to the stabilisation of the institute during the difficult years of the 1970s, and still contributes to our activities in crucial ways. The Fagg Trust, set up in the name of a legacy from one of our most long-standing Fellows, has provided sustained support to our archive department. Yet again, a legacy that we received in the early 2000s enabled us to repay our mortgage on 50 Fitzroy Street, which was an essential factor in enabling us subsequently to open it up for events. Without these generous gifts, the institute would be very different, and much less able to serve the community.

Thus, I would like to mark my final report with a plea; if you are in a position to help the institute in this way, either in your will or as a living gift, please do consider doing so. We receive no government revenue, and – though one would hardly suspect this in the light of our extraordinarily buoyant programme of events, publications and other activities - in many respects the institute faces profoundly significant financial challenges going forward. Any amount, however large or small could make a difference as we attempt to maintain the institute in the coming years. You may be assured that any gift you may make will be treasured and husbanded well so that it will achieve the maximum good for the coming generations. I thank you for considering this matter carefully.

In looking back at 2021, we may reflect upon the fact that as the year began, we were still in lockdown. We were then permitted to open again, albeit in rather a careful way in the early part of the autumn. Then, as Covid19 cases rose again the institute closed once more, before finally reopening just after the end of the year. Throughout this difficult period, it is a tribute to our wonderful staff that we maintained our events and other activities uninterrupted. Indeed, there were notable highlights. In the spring we experimented with holding our Film Festival and related conference virtually. To this end, the films were shown via a virtual platform called Festivalscope. The related discussions took place in a series of Zoom discussions, including the richly-deserved ethnographic film life-time achievement award presented to Professor Andre Singer. Though novel, it was a great success. We are now planning our 2023 film festival and conference in such a way that will retain an element of hybridity.

As the lockdown lifted, we were able to hold, for the first time in the institute's history, two, scintillating Huxley lectures at the same time; the postponed lecture from 2020 by Professor Levinson entitled 'The interaction engine': the evolution of the infrastructure for language, and that for 2021 by Professor Shennan, 'Population and the dynamics of culture change'. We are most grateful to the British Museum for their kindness in permitting us to hold the event there.

Throughout this time, our flagship publications the *JRAI* and *AT* continued uninterrupted, including the 2021 *JRAI* Special Issue on the Anthropology of Data. We also launched the next of our book series, *The Nuaulu World of Plants*, by Professor Roy Ellen, which I am delighted to say subsequently won the 2022 Mary W. Klinger Book Award of the Society of Economic Botany.

Our seminar programme continued throughout, including our well-established Reviewer meets Reviewed. It was an unexpected benefit of holding this virtually that it has proved much easier to bring together authors and those who have reviewed their books. We also have greatly expanded our book launches, particularly notable of which was the

celebration of the book which has resulted from our major conference, entitled *The Anthropocene of Weather and Climate*, edited by Professor Paul Sillitoe. Our Anthropology Communicates series also continued well, with many fascinating insights.

In the future, we will maintain our virtual seminars, for it is a source of great pleasure to be able to be together with Fellows and colleagues from so many far-flung parts of the world. They will, however, be interspersed with seminars at the institute, so that we will be able to retain the face to face sociality that can be so fruitful.

In conclusion, it has been a unique experience to lead the Institute through the Covid period and I can only hope for a little more normality as my successor comes into post. I wish the new President every good fortune in the role, and have every confidence that the institute will rise to the challenges that face it with its usual 'can do' attitude.

### **Treasurer's Report**

During 2021, the RAI gradually started to return to normal working after the disruption caused by the Covid19 pandemic. As no staff were placed on furlough during this time, we have been able to maintain our usual roles, and we are now rebuilding our face to face programme. Nevertheless, our warning from previous years must remain, though now intensified by the uncertainty surrounding the wider economic situation. These include potentially extremely serious threats which may impact upon us markedly, such as rising inflation and the global implications of the war in Ukraine, which we can only partially counteract through our own efforts.

The threat to our journal income through the rise of the Open Access movement, noted in previous years, is beginning to become manifest. We are therefore budgeting for a gradual contraction of our income from Wiley of approximately 15% per year over the next five years, whilst at the same time discussing how we may be able to redress this. We are also actively exploring ways that we may be able to move to virtual film distribution, in order to replace the contracting income via our previous, physical DVD distribution.

The diversification of our investments so as to include property continues. At present, all the properties owned by the RAI are rented out, and provide a steady source of income. We have now completed the reallocation of the monies that were held with our stockbroker to two ethical investments platforms CCLA's COIF Charities Ethical Investment Fund, and Sarasin's Endowments Funds. At the time of writing our investments have contracted by about 10%.

Though the situation is challenging, the RAI continues to operate in budget surplus and has no debts.

Dr Fiona Bowie, Honorary Treasurer

### **Royal Charter**

We reported last year that the Institute was deeply gratified to receive the gracious award of a Royal Charter in 2020. The Charter was sealed on 16th October 2020 from which date the new Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland came into being, with Companies House Reference RC000916. The charity commission entered the new entity onto the Register of Charities on 16th August 2021 with registered charity number 1195523. The transition formally took effect on 31 December 2021. From 1 January 2022 all activities previously operated by the charitable company have been managed by the Royal Charter Body. The charitable company, whose accounts are presented here, has not traded since the transfer date and will be wound down over the next 12 months. The accounting period was extended to 30th April 2022 to allow enough time for the transfers of assets and liabilities in connection with the transition to be completed.

### **Library Donors during 2021 were;**

Ajay Pratap, Roy Ellen, Jerry Eades, Marcus Banks (estate), Mark Clayton, Pat Caplan, Hazel Andrews, Les Roberts, Hastings Donnan, Elizabeth Tonkin

Fellows of the RAI who are members of the institute's committees may be found on this link <https://www.therai.org.uk/committees>.



**ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022  
followed by the Curl Lecture**

The 2022 AGM will take place on Tuesday 18 October 2022 at 3.00 pm in the Brockway Room, Conway Hall, 25 Red Lion Square, London WC1R 4RL and on Zoom.  
It will be followed by the 2023 Curl Lecture

All are welcome. Only RAI Fellows may vote at the AGM. Formal notification of the AGM has also been published in *Anthropology Today* and on the RAI website.

**Programme**

3.00 pm: AGM  
5.30 pm (approximately)  
2023 Curl Lecture by Dr Maxime Brami, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz

**AGM AGENDA**

1. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of 27 September 2021
2. Annual Report of the Council for 2021
3. Appointment of Auditors (Current auditors: Friend-James, Chartered Accountants)
4. Election of Officers and Council for the year 2022-2023 (see overleaf for House List)
5. Announcement of elections of the Huxley Memorial Lecturer and Curl Lecturer for 2023
6. Rivers Memorial Medal for 2022
7. Lucy Mair Marsh Medal for 2022
8. Marsh Award for 2022
9. Public Anthropology Award for 2022
10. President's Lifetime Achievement Award for 2022
11. Any other business

## HOUSE LIST

(for election of Officers and Council under agenda item 4)

Names proposed by Council (new nominations marked with \*)

All nominations are subject to the election of candidates as RAI Fellows for the year(s) in which they hold office. Former Presidents are *ex officio* Vice Presidents and not listed below.

**President:** Professor Deborah Swallow\*

**Hon Vice Presidents:** Professor John Gowlett  
Dr Louise Humphrey  
Professor Melissa Parker

**Hon Secretary:** Professor Raymond Apthorpe

**Hon Librarian:** Prof Michael Scott

**Hon Treasurer:** Dr Fiona Bowie

### Ordinary members of Council

Dr Hazel Andrews\*  
Professor Ann R. David  
Professor Richard Fardon  
Dr Emma Gilberthorpe  
Professor Rachael Goberman-Hill\*  
Dr Nichola Khan  
Professor Paul Lane  
Professor Ann MacLarnon  
Professor Garry Marvin\*  
Dr H el ene Neveu Kringelbach  
Nicholas Padfield QC  
Dr Celia Plender\*  
Professor Jamie Tehrani\*  
Keith Thorpe, OBE  
Professor Simon Underdown  
Professor Maya Unnithan  
Dr Richard Vokes  
Dr Shireen Walton

Article 18 of the Charter of Incorporation states:

*In addition to those names on this Council list, any Fellow may propose any Fellow to be placed on a General List to replace those who are vacating their position through retirement from Council, provided that they lodge such proposed names at the RAI offices one calendar week before the annual general meeting takes place.*

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 APRIL 2022

	Unrestricted Funds £	Designated Funds £	Restricted Funds £	16 months to 30 April 2022 Total £	12 months to 31 Dec 2020 Total £
<b>INCOME</b>					
Donations and grants	12,782	-	56,774	69,556	30,287
Investment income	126,033	197	16,619	142,849	143,296
Miscellaneous fees	6,088	-	-	6,088	6,014
<i>Income from charitable activities:</i>					
Fellowship and Membership	108,858	-	-	108,858	98,012
Publications	668,718	-	-	668,718	731,862
RAI Collection	111,142	-	-	111,142	66,803
Education Programme	59,079	-	-	59,079	46,127
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>1,092,700</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>73,393</b>	<b>1,166,290</b>	<b>1,122,401</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>					
<i>Expenditure on charitable activities:</i>					
Policy and Profile	118,902	-	40,315	159,217	127,714
Fellowship and Membership	67,450	-	-	67,450	66,587
Publications	346,936	-	-	346,936	363,269
RAI Collection	166,606	-	9,784	176,390	157,976
Library	57,251	-	-	57,251	57,189
Education Programme	106,999	-	5,000	111,999	130,595
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>864,144</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>55,099</b>	<b>919,243</b>	<b>903,330</b>
<b>Net income for the year</b>	228,556	197	18,294	247,047	219,071
Gain on investments	213,428	891	75,329	289,648	64,599
Transfers between funds	(54,079)	54,079	-	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>387,905</b>	<b>55,167</b>	<b>93,623</b>	<b>536,695</b>	<b>283,670</b>
<b>Fund balances at 1 January 2021</b>	<b>1,311,486</b>	<b>1,850,014</b>	<b>1,280,676</b>	<b>4,442,176</b>	4,158,506
	1,699,391	1,905,181	1,374,299	4,978,871	4,442,176
Donation on transfer of Assets & Liabilities	(1,699,391)	(1,905,181)	(1,374,299)	(4,978,871)	-
<b>Fund balances at 30 April 2022</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>4,442,176</b>

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 APRIL 2022

	<u>30 April 2022</u>	<u>31 Dec 2020</u>
	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Tangible fixed assets	-	676,850
Freehold investment property	-	1,067,500
Listed investments	-	2,043,835
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,788,185</u>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	-	164,471
Cash at bank and in hand	-	745,651
	<u>-</u>	<u>910,122</u>
<b>Creditors-amounts falling due within one year</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>(256,131)</u>
<b>Net current assets</b>	-	653,991
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,442,176</u>
<b>Income funds</b>		
Restricted funds	-	1,280,676
Unrestricted funds		
Designated funds	-	1,850,014
Other charitable funds	-	1,311,486
	<u>-</u>	<u>4,442,176</u>

These summarised accounts are extracted from the full unqualified audited accounts approved by the trustees on 01 July 2022. For further information, the full statutory accounts, which have been filed with the Registrar of Companies and the Charity Commission, should be consulted. These can be obtained from RAI offices at 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT.

### **Auditors' statement on the summary accounts to the trustees of the Royal Anthropological Institute**

We have examined the summary accounts set out on pages 5 to 6 inclusive.

### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditors**

These summary accounts presented on pages 5 to 6 are the responsibility of the trustees. It is our responsibility to report our opinion on their consistency with the full accounts, on which we reported on 11 July 2022. Our report on the full accounts of the Institute includes information on the responsibilities of the trustees and the auditors relating to the preparation and the audit of those accounts and on the basis of our unqualified opinion on those accounts.

### **Basis of opinion**

We have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to ascertain whether the summary accounts are consistent with the full accounts from which they have been prepared.

### **Opinion**

In our opinion the summary accounts on pages 5 to 6 are consistent with the full accounts of the Royal Anthropological Institute for the period ended 30 April 2022.

Friend-James Limited  
Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditor,  
4th Floor, Park Gate  
161-163 Preston Road,  
Brighton  
BN1 6AF

Dated: 11 July 2022