

From the Director, Lutgarde Vandeput  
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Dear Members,

The past year has seen important ups and equally significant downs. The Institute secured a major success in attracting external funding for its activities concentrating on cultural heritage management. We were awarded a British Academy Sustainable Development Programme award for the project ‘Living amid the ruins: archaeological sites as hubs of sustainable development for local communities in southwest Turkey’ (LAR). The grant was awarded in December 2016 and actual work started in 2017. In the spring, the Institute was granted a large grant from the Cultural Protection Fund for the project ‘Safeguarding archaeological assets of Turkey’ (SARAT). Unlike that for LAR, this award takes the form of a three-year grant that will continue till March 2020. Both projects are in full swing at the moment and reports on both are included in the following pages.

The wide disciplinary focus of the BIAA is reflected in the interests of the postdoctoral research fellows who have joined us here in Ankara over the past year. Ender Peker has been working on sustainable cities. Specifically, he has been exploring the challenges of climate responsive urban development in the context of the Black Sea. He will move on to an academic position at the Middle East Technical University, Ankara, during the present academic year. John McManus, a social anthropologist, is now embarking on the second year of his fellowship during which he will focus on his project ‘Shared goals: sport and integration amongst refugees in Turkey’. Both Ender and John report on their research in this edition of *Heritage Turkey*. Finally, Peter Cherry started his 24-month fellowship in September 2017. He holds a PhD in comparative literature and his research whilst at the BIAA will be concerned with Turkey in British literary and travel narratives (1914–1945).

The Institute’s archives have been buzzing with activity throughout 2017, with much work achieved on the digitisation of the photographic collection. Meanwhile, a totally renewed front-end search function for all the BIAA’s collections went live over the summer after many months of hard work undertaken by the Assistant Director, Leo Karakatsanis, and the Institute’s IT Manager, Hakan Çakmak. I recommend you try the new search facility, and I am confident you too will enjoy the ease with which you can now explore the BIAA’s extensive research collections.

This year, Claire McCafferty, the London Manager since 2009, decided to return to Australia with her husband Albert. Claire left the Institute at the end of April, but not without the necessary celebrations, as you can see in this photo. She is now settled in Queensland and started a new job in July. Luckily, technology makes it easy to keep in touch and I am glad to report that they have settled in to their new lives and are happy with their decision to move. We wish Claire good luck and success, but we do miss her!

Simon Bell has now taken on the post of London Manager. Simon worked at the British Library before he came to the Institute and has had to hit the ground running. He and Claire worked through the multi-stranded role in April and Simon has been manning the office since then; an office that he has already had to move within the British Academy’s premises! All London-based BIRI (British International Research Institutes) staff now share an open-plan office in the cellars of the Academy. The new office is certainly an improvement on the ‘pigeon-hole’ that we previously occupied.

On a sad note, over the past year or so we have had to say goodbye to two important Institute figures. Shortly after last year’s *Heritage Turkey* went to press, Anthony Bryer, generally known and addressed as ‘Bryer’, passed away. On 31 March 2017, the Institute co-organised a memorial event in Istanbul with the Research Center for Anatolian Civilizations, Koç University, entitled ‘From Trebizond to Limni: remembering the trails and traces of Bryer’. The event brought several distinguished speakers to Istanbul, highlighting different aspects of Bryer’s life. Whereas Bryer’s main legacy undoubtedly lies in the fact that he is one of the scholars – if not *the* scholar – who elevated Byzantine studies to the status of a recognised and flourishing academic field in the UK, he was also a long-term trustee of the Institute. Bryer’s academic career focused on Byzantium and especially the Pontus and Trebizond, where he knew every monument and published many of them. Late in his career, he joined Jim Crow and Stephen Hill in their BIAA-sponsored fieldwork in Thrace and Çiflik (Sinop).



His contributions to the Institute were initially mainly concentrated on active committee and council membership. He had his most direct impact, however, as Editor of the Institute's journal, *Anatolian Studies*, a post he held from 2001 to 2008. He took the role seriously, much to the benefit of the quality of the publication. From 2003 to 2008, Bryer was also President of the Institute and, as such, I had the great pleasure of meeting him. I also exchanged emails with him; these were always eccentric, at times hilarious and very often bewildering for a non-native speaker! He will be sorely missed for his humour and generosity, as much as for his academic output.

Our second loss took place on 19 March 2017, when David H. French passed away. He was the Institute's Director from 1968 to 1994 and one of its most defining figures in its almost 70 years of existence. On 30 September, we organised a memorial event for him, which took the form of a colloquium and highlighted David and his achievements. The colloquium, entitled 'In memory of David French: a life in Anatolian archeology', took place at the Erimtan Museum in Ankara. We asked friends and colleagues to contribute to the event by sending us memories and/or photographs recalling David, an appeal that resulted in a good response. For those of you who are interested, a booklet is available for download from the BIAA website. To ensure that David's memory lives on, the Institute's library has been renamed The BIAA David H. French Library and a plaque bearing this new name was unveiled by David's friend and colleague Ender Varinlioğlu at a reception on the evening of 30 September.

Throughout his time in Turkey, David led a variety of research and rescue excavations and was instrumental in developing excavation and find-treatment methodologies. For instance, Aşvan Kale, the project assigned to the BIAA within the Keban dam rescue archaeology programme, was of fundamental importance for the introduction of environmental sciences to excavations in Turkey. For the first time, flotation to retrieve seeds as well as other plant and animal remains was used on a large scale. David's field research in the 1950s and 1960s was ground-breaking in establishing standardised methodologies for survey and pottery classification. However, he was not active in the field in just Turkey; he also worked in Greece and completed a monograph on his work in Mycenae during the final years of his life.

In the early 1970s, David embarked on a new long-term project that was totally different from his previous interests: the study of the Roman milestones of present-day Turkey. Through his solitary surveys across the whole of Turkey, mostly accompanied by just a government representative, he brought the number of known milestones from about 450 up to over 1,200. Between 2012 and 2016, David managed to publish all the recorded milestones; these publications can be downloaded, free-of-charge, from the BIAA website. The final volume he completed, a few months before he passed away, is the first on the ancient roads themselves.

David thus leaves permanent legacies for the archaeology and epigraphy of Turkey, but another of his main achievements is certainly the changes he brought about at the Institute. As Director, he transformed the Institute from a place that offered 'accommodation for fieldwork researchers with a library attached' into a fully-fledged research centre. In particular, he built up the library with incredible care and patience over the years – we are still using his classification system – and established the reference collections. The environmental archaeology methodologies he introduced in the field required the creation of faunal and floral reference collections at the BIAA. The Institute's collection of ceramic sherds, recovered from across Turkey before 1973, is unique and was largely built up from David's surveys in the earlier years of his career.

We miss him and the regular visits he and Pam made to Ankara. Whereas Bryer's contribution to the BIAA mainly focused on the UK side of things, David's was firmly rooted in Turkey. Both were defining figures in their own, different ways and have left legacies of lasting importance to the Institute and to their respective fields of research.

Finally, 2017 witnessed the last excavation season at Çatalhöyük under the directorship of Ian Hodder. Ian has completed 25 seasons at the head of a large, interdisciplinary, international team that has added immensely to our knowledge of the Neolithic and ensured that Çatalhöyük is a principal reference site for all working on the period.

This last '2017' entry has brought my introductory letter to the actual projects and achievements on which this edition of *Heritage Turkey* reports. I hope that it will once again bring to life for you the variety and richness of BIAA-supported research. Enjoy!

Lutgarde Vandepuit