

The British Academy



THE NATIONAL ACADEMY FOR THE
HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

REVIEW

January – July 2000

The British Academy

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Foreword

The British Academy aims to publish a regular account of its activities by means of its new biannual *Review*. Cumulatively, it fulfils the function of providing a conspectus of the Academy's activities previously covered by the Annual Report.

This issue of the *Review* covers events and activities that took place during the first six months of the year, up to and including the AGM which took place in early July 2000. During this period, a wide ranging series of lectures and conferences has taken place. In most cases, full publication will follow in the *Proceedings of the British Academy*, and a selection of extracts from some of the lectures is included in this issue.

As well as administering a flourishing series of events and publications, international activity and research grants, the Academy prides itself on its prestigious programme of research appointments, ranging from Professorships, Research Readerships, and Senior Research Fellowships, to the three-year Postdoctoral Fellowships for outstanding younger scholars. The holders of research appointments play an important part in the academic life of the Academy, and it is hoped that regular accounts of their achievements will feature in this *Review*. Recent winners of the senior competitions are announced in the current issue. And, as well as a report on this year's PDF competition and annual Symposium, it is a pleasure to include articles from two of the Academy's PDFs, Dr Henry writing on a Renaissance artist, and Dr Kebbell on the accuracy of witnesses.

The Academy Research Projects have formed a central core to the Academy's activities for many years, and in this issue there are reports from two very different types of Project: the self-contained work on John Foxe's Book of Martyrs; and the patient, long-term endeavour to record all the medieval stained glass in Britain, which is part of an international collaborative project under the auspices of the Union Académique Internationale. This issue also contains a report on the Digital Image Archive of Medieval Music, a project supported by the Academy, which will feed into an existing Academy Research Project, Early English Church Music.

This is the third issue of the *Review*, and the Academy will be pleased to receive comments and suggestions on how the content might be developed in the future.

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About the British Academy

The British Academy, established by Royal Charter in 1902, is the national academy for the humanities and the social sciences. It is an independent learned society, the counterpart to the Royal Society which exists to serve the physical and biological sciences. The British Academy's aims, within the scholarly disciplines it promotes, are:

- to represent the interests of scholarship nationally and internationally
- to give recognition to excellence
- to promote and support advanced research
- to further international collaboration and exchanges
- to promote public understanding of research and scholarship
- to publish the results of research.

The Academy seeks to pursue these aims in a number of ways. It acts as a forum for the discussion of issues of interest and concern to scholars in the humanities and social sciences and provides advice to Government and other public bodies. And it promotes scholarship through the funding of research, the sponsorship of a number of research projects and of research institutes overseas, the organisation of lectures and conferences, the publication of various academic research series, and the award of medals and prizes.

The British Academy is a self-governing body of Fellows elected in recognition of their distinction

as scholars in some branch of the humanities and the social sciences.

The bulk of the Academy's income derives from a grant-in-aid that it receives from the Government, but it also has at its disposal private funds arising from gifts and legacies, from contributions made by the Fellows themselves, and from grants made by research foundations.

Officers and Council of the Academy

<i>President</i>	Sir Tony Wrigley
<i>Vice-Presidents</i>	Professor J.L. Nelson Professor K.I.B. Spärck Jones
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr J.S. Flemming
<i>Foreign Secretary</i>	Professor C.N.J. Mann
<i>Publications Secretary</i>	Professor F.G.B. Millar
<i>Chairman of the Committee on Academy Research Projects</i>	Professor R.R. Davies

Ordinary Members:

Professor J.D. Adès, Professor S. Bann, Dr P. Beal, Professor M.M. Bowie, Professor V.G. Bruce, Professor T.M. Devine, Professor J.F. Ermisch, Professor G.H. Jones, Professor J.D.M.H. Laver, Professor W.L. Miller, The Revd Professor J.S. Morrill, Professor J.L. Nelson, Professor I.G. Simmons, Professor K.I.B. Spärck Jones, (one vacancy)

Secretary Mr P.W.H. Brown

Sections and Chairmen

The Academy is organised into 18 disciplinary Sections. On election, each Fellow is assigned to membership of a Section and may, on invitation, serve on more than one Section. The Sections and their Chairmen for 2000–2001 are as follows:

	Section	Chairman
Humanities Group	H1 Classical Antiquity	Professor J. Diggle
	H2 Theology and Religious Studies	The Revd Professor E.W. Nicholson
	H3 African and Oriental Studies	Professor C. Shackle
	H4 Linguistics and Philology ¹	Professor J.D.M.H. Laver
	H5 Early Modern Languages and Literatures	Professor M.M. McGowan
	H6 Modern Languages, Literatures and Other Media	Professor A.G. Hill
	H7 Archaeology	Professor B.W. Cunliffe
	H8 Medieval Studies: History and Literature	Professor C.C. Dyer
	H9 Early Modern History to c. 1800	Professor T.C.W. Blanning
	H10 Modern History from c. 1800	Professor C.A. Bayly
	H11 History of Art and Music	Professor J.M. Rawson
	H12 Philosophy	Professor M.A. Boden

¹ The Linguistics and Philology Section also belongs to the Social Sciences Group.

Social Sciences Group

S1	Law	Dr S.M. Cretney
S2	Economics and Economic History	Professor K.F. Wallis
S3	Social Anthropology and Geography	Professor R.J.P. Kain
S4	Sociology, Demography and Social Statistics	Professor J.F. Ermish
S5	Political Studies: Political Theory, Government and International Relations	Professor A.H. Brown
S6	Psychology	Professor L.K. Tyler

Presidential Address

Delivered by Sir Tony Wrigley PBA to the 98th Annual General Meeting of the Academy, on 6 July 2000.



The successive addresses delivered to the Annual General Meeting each year by the President form an episodic running commentary on the affairs of the Academy. It is to be expected, therefore, that some of the topics to which reference is made in any one year will recur when the next address is delivered. Last year I spoke at some length about the then newly formed Arts and Humanities Research Board and ALSISS, the Association of Learned Societies in the Social Sciences. It is convenient to begin this year's address by referring to more recent developments in these two bodies.

Arts and Humanities Research Board

The AHRB has continued to make notable progress during the past year. Its existence has transformed the resources available to support research in the arts and humanities and has already gone far towards transforming the thinking of scholars in the humanities about the kinds of research projects which it is possible to undertake since the scale of individual research grants is now often comparable to those in the social sciences. As its confidence has risen, it has become increasingly irksome to the Board and to the Chief Executive that its present institutional form is so obviously a temporary expedient deriving from the unwillingness on the part of the government to pronounce on the recommendations of the Dearing report. The AHRB therefore intends to convert itself into a company limited by guarantee with effect from 1 April 2001. This will, among other benefits, enable the AHRB to write its own cheques and to issue employment contracts to its staff rather than having the Academy and HEFCE act as its agents for these purposes. In the year next following this transformation, it is probable that all staff will be relocated at a single site outside London. In consequence the substantial amount of office space within this building which is currently occupied by AHRB staff will become vacant, creating at once both difficulty and opportunity for the Academy. Relations between the Academy and the AHRB have continued to develop amicably and are gradually becoming institutionalised. The first meeting of a liaison committee of the two bodies designed to facilitate the exchange of information and to discuss matters of mutual interest will take place later this month.

Professor Paul Langford FBA has been both the Chairman and the Chief Executive of the AHRB since its inception. His term in both offices ends at the end of September this year on his becoming Rector of Lincoln College. His holding of both offices simultaneously was never intended to set a precedent and the two posts were separately advertised earlier this year. He will retire from office in the knowledge that his inspiring and decisive leadership has brought into being an institution which has

transformed the prospects for research in the humanities in a manner which has no previous analogue. To do this was an ambition of the Academy throughout the 1990s. It is most gratifying to see this ambition fulfilled. The gradual evolution of the AHRB towards the equivalent of full research council status is both to be expected and to be welcomed. The public profile of the Academy is also clarified by these recent developments, since the gradual conversion of the AHRB into a body increasingly similar in its functions to the ESRC, and entirely divorced from the Academy, helps to substantiate the claim that the Academy's resources are equally and indifferently available both to the humanities and to the social sciences and that it is fulfilling its role of standing in relation to the humanities and the social sciences as the Royal Society does in relation to the physical and biological sciences.

The two posts of Chairman and Chief Executive of the AHRB have now both been filled. Sir Brian Follett, shortly to retire as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Warwick, takes over from Paul Langford as Chairman. His name will be familiar to many Fellows since he was chairman of the British Academy-ESRC working party on the future of funding research in the humanities in the early 1990s and because of his expertise in relation to library provision (he was chairman of the Joint Funding Councils' Libraries Review Group which in 1993 produced the Follett Report). David Eastwood who is to become the new Chief Executive is a Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the University of Wales, Swansea, where he holds a chair of Modern History, having formerly been a Fellow and Senior Tutor of Pembroke College, Oxford.

ALSISS

ALSISS completed its metamorphosis from an association into an academy of learned societies in the social sciences in November of 1999. It began life with 66 founder Fellows, of whom only four are also FBAs. When discussing its prospective formation last year, I remarked that it was unclear whether the two bodies were capable of developing in a complementary manner or not. This remains unclear. There has been a meeting of the small liaison group which was set up jointly to exchange information and views, but the meeting did little to clarify this or other related issues. To date the most striking initiative of ALSISS has been the announcement of its intention to set up a commission with a very broad remit to review the future of the social sciences in Britain, under the chairmanship of Professor David Rhind. This is to be done in furtherance of ALSISS's intention of exploiting the resources of the social sciences with the aim of 'understanding today and shaping tomorrow'. Professor Rhind

was courteous in seeking an early meeting with me to brief me about his hopes and plans for the commission. The commission is expected to take evidence from many sources. Its ambitious scope implies that it will not report until towards the end of next year at the earliest.

Graduate Studies

Though some subjects remain matters of interest or concern over an extended period, each year brings forth new issues. To some of these I now turn. It is a truism that the future health of the humanities and social sciences in this country depends in large measure on the quality of each successive generation of graduate students embarking on research. Many Fellows have in recent months expressed alarm about the evidence that both in relation to the quantity and to the quality of new entrants the current situation is unsatisfactory and the prospective situation in a few years' time deeply alarming. There is much evidence both statistical and anecdotal to support this view. This issue was a particular concern of the late Colin Matthew who conveyed his alarm forcefully to Council, and it has been widely echoed by Sections, Committees, and individuals in the ensuing months. Undergraduates are completing their studies with a heavy and increasing load of debt. Many are, understandably, reluctant to add to their burdens by embarking on three to five years of graduate work which will leave them still more heavily indebted without necessarily greatly enhancing their career prospects. In such circumstances, it requires an unusual degree of dedication to tip the balance of argument in favour of beginning graduate study. The situation has been made additionally uncertain by the initiative taken recently by the EPSRC under which, rather than allotting a quota of studentships to a given department, the EPSRC will in future make available an equivalent sum, leaving it to the discretion of the department how greatly to increase the level of the individual maintenance grant. This is likely both to mean substantial variation in the level of the grant from one university to the next, and, at least in some universities, to a substantial reduction in the number of studentships. Since alarm at the extremely low level of maintenance grants is widespread, it is more than likely that the other Research Councils, including the ESRC, will follow the lead of the EPSRC, and that this in turn will make necessary difficult decisions by the AHRB. The fact that studentships are awarded *ad personam* by the AHRB rather than being given to departments adds a further dimension of difficulty.

Council has responded to this challenge by creating a committee under the chairmanship of Professor Bob Bennett to probe as wide a range of issues related to graduate study in the humanities and social sciences as proves necessary in order to produce an authoritative report. The committee, which has already held a first meeting, expects to assemble a substantial volume of statistical data with a bearing on these issues as well as undertaking widespread consultation. It cannot therefore hope to produce its report before the middle of next year. When it appears, however, the report is likely to prove of great importance

not only substantively but as exemplifying a new phase in the engagement of the Academy in public debate about issues on which the Academy is well placed to make an authoritative contribution to discussion.

Policy Studies

There has been an exceptional level of support in the Sections for the establishment in the Academy of a policy unit charged with producing a flow of reports comparable to those which the Royal Society produces. The Academy has not, of course, been entirely idle in the past in this regard. The excellent and informative report on *British Academy Support for Research in the Humanities and Social Sciences* is a good example of our ability to produce informed analysis, and, jointly with the Royal Society of Edinburgh, we shall before long publish a report on the implications of devolution for the humanities and social sciences in Scotland. The Academy has also responded in the past year to requests for authoritative comment on quite a wide range of issue, as for example on the proposed new European copyright law, on the illicit trade in cultural property, on aerial archaeology, and on the contentious environmental, scientific, and human issues surrounding the construction of the Ilisu dam in Turkey. It is agreed, however, that it is important that the Academy should become more proactive and consistent in these matters than in the past, and that a facility should be created within the Academy to provide the administrative and research support without which it is not possible to produce reports of real weight. More thought also needs to be given to such matters as devising a standard format for statements and reports and ensuring that each is produced at a length and in a form appropriate to the audience which it is intended to reach. Developing a capacity of this kind means finding additional resources, but there can be no doubt either that the effort will be worthwhile or that it enjoys widespread support among the Fellowship.

Fundraising

Mention of finding new resources, incidentally, leads me to refer to an issue which is likely to loom large in the next few years. On reasonable assumptions about the future course of funding, the prospects beyond next year look bleak. The clouds may yet lift, but the probability is that Council will be obliged to take decisions which will involve a reduction in real terms of the resources available to some areas of Academy activity. This prospect increases the importance of seeking ways of improving our financial position, ideally by securing a major increase in the endowment of the Academy. Only a little over 2 per cent of our income in the year to 31 March 2000 came from the private funds and much of that arose from trust funds whose use is circumscribed by the terms of the gift or bequest in question. At present the only substantial sum of general endowment at the disposal of the Academy is represented by the Academy Development Fund, which currently stands at about £1.7m. The income flow, or indeed the total return, on such a sum is trivial in relation to the needs of the Academy. The exigency of our

need, unfortunately, has little bearing on our chance of success in improving the situation, but I am encouraged by the fact that several Fellows have shown that they are conscious that this is a matter of the greatest importance to the future of the Academy. I am sure that every effort must be made to attract donations and benefactions and hope that clear progress can be made in the course of the next year, beginning by examining with care a range of possible strategies for fundraising.

External Relations

Enthusiasm for the establishment of a policy unit is one aspect of a sea change which is taking place in the way the Academy views its aims and also, perhaps, in the way in which others perceive us. Since the last AGM the Academy has appointed an officer, Jonathan Breckon, to oversee and improve our external relations, while at the same time the setting up of our still relatively new Public Understanding and Activities Committee, now under the chairmanship of Professor John Morrill, symbolises the importance which the Academy has come to attach to what is now generally termed 'outreach'. As with the policy unit initiative, the new emphasis does not imply that the Academy had previously been inactive in this regard, but experience shows conclusively that to raise the profile of any institution or activity it is necessary to take positive steps to make its aims and objectives understood, rather than relying upon others to find out for themselves. We are in the early stages only of this initiative but it carries high promise for the Academy. In this connection I should like to draw attention to the publication of the first two issues of the British Academy *Review*. This is to appear twice a year. The first issue demonstrated very effectively the range of our activities in supporting research projects, in providing research posts at all levels, in maintaining a remarkably complex web of relationships with academies and other institutions abroad, in facilitating conferences and symposia, in sponsoring lectures, in awarding prizes, in publication, and in underwriting the schools and institutes abroad. The second issue provided further ample illustration of the same points.

Web site

I should mention one further aspect of our outreach plans. Last year I referred to an ambition to develop the web site of the Academy in a way which would make it a port of first call for scholars for a very wide range of purposes. We have progressed less rapidly in furthering this ambition than I had hoped twelve months ago, but the lengthy consultations which have taken place should help to ensure that the final result fulfils the hopes earlier expressed. An appropriate brief for a consultant has now been drawn up and I anticipate that his report will be available before the end of the year. Depending on his recommendations, appointments will then be made both to cover design needs and to secure appropriate information flows. The importance of the world wide web as a means of communication and a source of information becomes more evident almost daily and the pressure of competition is equally clear. The increasing degree of

dependence upon web facilities within the Academy itself is notable. The Academy cannot afford to fail in this regard.

Centenary

Our centenary approaches fast. Many of the Academy's committees have been active for many months in preparing for it. There is a sense, indeed, in which the centenary has already begun since the first volumes resulting from Section initiatives in relation to the centenary have already appeared. No doubt the centenary will also spread beyond the year 2002 itself, but since so much will be concentrated in the centenary year itself, Council has recently appointed a very small committee to co-ordinate the many different initiatives which are in train and Council will expect to receive reports at regular intervals in the course of the new session to monitor progress. It is a pleasure, incidentally, to record our warm thanks to the Leverhulme Trust for their generosity in establishing a Centenary Prize in recognition of the approaching milestone in our history. On the occasion of its first award in 2002, two prizes will be given, in recognition of attaining the highest distinction in the humanities and social sciences respectively.

With an eye to the centenary, I intend to write shortly to every Fellow, asking for a complete list of his or her publications. I have in mind the value of compiling an intellectual inventory of the Fellowship. Publications in book form are not difficult to track down, but publications in article form or in the form of chapters in joint works present far more difficulty to anyone other than the author. I hope it might prove possible to secure funding to enable the publications of deceased Fellows to be covered similarly. Assuming such an inventory could be assembled, I believe it would be widely consulted. It would be made available, of course, on the Academy web site and could be constantly updated. As well as being a service to scholarship, it would also be an act of piety appropriate to the centenary. Eventually, if it proves possible to staff the library adequately, it may also be possible to secure copies of all publications of Fellows in whatever form to form the core of the library holdings. We have already, of course, made a start. Many Fellows have responded generously to my earlier appeal to donate copies of their books to the library. I trust that those who may have overlooked the matter to date will also respond.

Premises

It is timely, I think, now that we are well settled, to lay stress on the advantages to the Academy which have followed from our move to 10 Carlton House Terrace. We have far more space than previously, without which the expansion in the range of our activities would have been impossible. The main public rooms are handsome. Their walls, which were all bare at this time last year, are now hung with paintings in keeping with their character so that the building no longer looks as if we had only just moved in. Foreign delegations are frequently much impressed with what they see: our present accommodation greatly enhances our image. We lack a single room large enough to accommodate the

numbers who would like to attend some of our more popular meetings but otherwise we have every reason to be thankful for the decision to move. In future it may come to be regarded as a decisive moment in our history and an appropriate precursor to the celebration of our centenary.

Staff

Each year I make reference to my sense of personal obligation to the members of the staff of the Academy. I am certain that my feelings are mirrored very widely throughout the Fellowship. It is difficult to avoid being repetitious on this point, and I shall not attempt a full rehearsal of our collective debt to them on this occasion. I should like to stress, however, that brevity should not be confused with a lack of warmth. Their support is not only

necessary to the smooth administrative functioning of the Academy but every Fellow who has served on an Academy committee will be aware how much is owed to the assistant secretaries who serve the committees in so many different ways, in preparing material patiently and expertly, in providing excellent advice on points of difficulty, and not least in deftly steering committees away from pitfalls which might otherwise entrap them.

The new millennium has now begun (at least by the conventional reckoning). We shall have many occasions during our centenary year to reflect on the history of the Academy. Now may be a particularly apposite moment to focus on our future, and especially on the new opportunities available to us.

The Fellowship

Elections to Ordinary Fellowship

The Bye-laws restrict to thirty-five the number of Ordinary Fellows that may be elected in each year. Council has recommended that the maximum number permitted should be elected in each year and that the elections should be divided as equally as possible between scholars in the humanities and in the social sciences. This was the first year of elections following that decision and the thirty-five newly-elected Ordinary Fellows are listed below. There was a good representation of Scottish universities and two from the University of Wales. Eight of the new Fellows are women. Many of the newly-elected scholars were present at the Annual Dinner in July immediately following the Annual General Meeting which elected them.

Professor R.D. Ashton
University College London, *English*

Professor C.M. Britton
University of Aberdeen, *French*

Professor J. Broome
University of St Andrews, *Philosophy*

Professor D.S.T. Clark
University of Wales, Swansea, *History*

Dr S.A. Collini
University of Cambridge, *Intellectual and Cultural History*

Professor J.R. Crawford
University of Cambridge, *Law*

Professor D. Crystal
University of Wales, Bangor, *Linguistics*

Professor P.L. Davies
London School of Economics and Political Science, *Law*

Dr D. Gambetta
University of Oxford, *Sociology*

Professor A.M. Gamble
University of Sheffield, *Politics*

Professor C.S. Gamble
University of Southampton, *Archaeology*

Professor H.G. Genn
University College London, *Law*

Professor J. Gray
University of Cambridge, *Education*

Mr A.V. Griffiths
British Museum, *History of Art*

Dr P.R. Hardie
University of Cambridge, *Classics*

Professor H.E. Joshi
Institute of Education, University of London, *Demography*

Professor S.D. Keynes
University of Cambridge, *History*

Dr P.F. Kornicki
University of Cambridge, *Japanese Studies*

Professor A.J. Kuper
Brunel University, *Anthropology*

Professor R.C.C. Law
University of Stirling, *History*

Professor A. Leighton
University of Hull, *English*

Professor J.M. Malcomson
University of Oxford, *Economics*

Dr G. Marshall
Economic and Social Research Council, *Sociology*

Professor L. Mulvey
Birkbeck College, *Film Studies*

Professor L.A. Newson
King's College London, *Geography*

The Revd Professor O.M.T. O'Donovan
University of Oxford, *Theology*

Dr A. Offer
University of Oxford, *Economic History*

Professor R.J. Overy
King's College London, *History*

Professor P.M. Robinson
London School of Economics and Political Science, *Economics*

Professor P.E. Rock
London School of Economics and Political Science, *Sociology*

Dr W.F. Ryan
Warburg Institute, University of London, *Slavonic Studies*

Professor T.J. Samson
University of Bristol, *Musicology*

Dr J.D. Teasdale
MRC Cognition and Brain Sciences Unit, Cambridge, *Psychology*

Professor H.S. Wallace
University of Sussex, *Political Studies*

Professor A. Whiten
University of St Andrews, *Psychology*

The Bye-laws state that a person may be elected an Ordinary Fellow if he or she has attained distinction in any of the branches of study which it is the object of the Academy to promote.

Elections to Corresponding Fellowship

Fourteen scholars were elected Corresponding Fellows of the British Academy. The new Fellows came from a broad representation of countries with the largest numbers coming from the USA, Italy, and Germany.

The Bye-laws state that a person may be elected a Corresponding Fellow if he or she has attained high international standing in any of the branches of study which it is the object of the Academy to promote, and is not habitually resident in the UK.

Professor L. Balsamo	Italy, <i>Bibliography</i>
Professor S.H. Beer	USA, <i>Political Science</i>
Professor O.S. D'A. Hart	USA, <i>Economics</i>
Professor G. Hartman	USA, <i>English Literature</i>
Professor C.F.W. Higham	New Zealand, <i>Archaeology</i>
Professor Dr E. Hornung	Switzerland, <i>Egyptology</i>
Professor F. Jackson	Australia, <i>Philosophy</i>
Professor Dr K.U. Mayer	Germany, <i>Sociology</i>
Professor J. Pelikan	USA, <i>Theology</i>
Professor Dr W. Reinhard	Germany, <i>History</i>
Professor L. Rizzi	Italy, <i>Linguistics</i>
Professor G. Tabacco	Italy, <i>History</i>
Professor S.J. Tambiah	USA, <i>Anthropology</i>
Professor Dr C. von Bar	Germany, <i>Law</i>

Elections to Honorary Fellowship

It is three years since an election has been made to the Honorary Fellowship. This year three elections were made, the maximum number of elections in any one year permitted by the Bye-laws. The total number of Honorary Fellows at any one time may not exceed twenty. The three new Honorary Fellows were elected from widely varying aspects of public life but all have made significant contributions to the field of interests which the British Academy promotes.

Mr N. MacGregor
The Baroness Warnock
The Rt Hon Lord Woolf

Deaths

The Annual General Meeting stood in silence in honour of the following Fellows of the Academy whose deaths had been recorded during the course of the year.

Ordinary Fellows

Professor W. Brass
Professor C.R. Boxer
Professor J.T. Coppock
Dr G.E.M. de Sainte Croix
Professor E.B. Fryde
Sir John Hale
Professor F.J.H. Haskell
Professor H. Jenkins
Professor J. Lough
Professor H.C.G. Matthew
Sir Leon Radzinowicz
Professor L.D. Reynolds
Professor R.H. Robins
Dr V. Wright

Corresponding Fellows

Professor W.J. Bate
Professor G. Billanovich
Dr L.E. Boyle
Professor T. Cheng
Professor F. Goguel
Professor M. Guarducci
Professor H.G. Güterbock
Professor Y.V. Keldish
Professor M. Lejeune
Professor D. Likhachev
Professor S. Mariotti
Professor O. Olderogge
Professor O.H.K. Spate
Professor R.A. Stein
Professor A. Tunc
Professor C. Vann Woodward
Professor P. Wheatley

Medals and Prizes

The winners of the 2000 Medals and Prizes were announced at the AGM, but in a break from tradition, the presentations were made in a separate ceremony on 14 July 2000.

BURKITT MEDAL

Professor Francis Crawford Burkitt, Fellow of the Academy, decided in 1923 to strike a number of bronze medals for presentation to scholars in recognition of outstanding service to Biblical Studies. After his death in 1935 the awards became known as Burkitt Medals.

Professor Hans-Dieter Betz

Hans-Dieter Betz was born in Lemgo, between Hameln and Bielefeld. He attended Bethel Theologische Hochschule and subsequently the Gutenberg University in Mainz, where he took his doctorate and Habilitation. He moved to the United States where he has had a distinguished career, from 1963 to 1978 Professor at Claremont Graduate School, and from 1978 at Chicago University. In 1997 he was President of the Society of Biblical Literature (SBL) and in the current year (1999–2000) he is President-elect of Studiorum Novi Testamenti Societas.

His SBL Presidential address was entitled 'Antiquity and Christianity'. This was an appropriate theme for he studies the New Testament with an unusually fine equipment in the history and literature of antiquity. He has written two books on Plutarch and the New Testament, another on Lucian and the New Testament. He has translated the magical papyri. His commentary on Galatians began a new development in the application of ancient rhetorical principles to the study of the New Testament. He has written on Paul and the Socratic tradition, and on 2 Corinthians, 8 and 9 as two administrative letters. Much of his work has reflected his knowledge of the Hellenistic background of the New Testament but he has also written on the Synoptic Gospels, and especially on the Sermon on the Mount. His presidential honours form a good occasion for the award of the Burkitt Medal.

DEREK ALLEN PRIZE

Established in 1976 in memory of the late Derek Allen, formerly Fellow, Secretary and Treasurer of the Academy, for work in one of the three fields in which Mr Allen had a particular interest: numismatics, Celtic studies and musicology. This year is the turn of Celtic studies.

Professor Derick Thomson FBA

Professor Derick Smith Thomson has been the doyen of Scottish Gaelic scholarship for most of the second half of the twentieth century. A native of Stornoway, he was educated at the Universities of Aberdeen and Cambridge and the University of Wales at Bangor, and held lectureships at Edinburgh and Aberdeen, before being appointed to the Chair of Celtic in Glasgow in 1963, where he remained for almost thirty years. His publications are many and varied, and include such seminal works as *The Gaelic Sources of Macpherson's Ossian*, *An Introduction to Gaelic Poetry*, *The Companion to Gaelic Literature* (edited by him) and *Gaelic Poetry in the Eighteenth Century*; his contributions to Welsh studies are also noteworthy. No less important has been Professor Thomson's work for the promotion of Scottish Gaelic literature, not only – to take one



(L–R) Back row: Mr M. Cressey (representing Professor Betz), Professor G. Lepschy FBA, Professor D. Thomson FBA. Front row: Dr J. Wilkes, Sir Tony Wrigley PBA, Ms M. Warner

example – as founder, editor and publisher of the quarterly *Gairm* since 1953, but also as the author of seven remarkably fine collections of poetry. His mastery of traditional Scottish music is similarly profound. He was elected Fellow of the Academy in 1992 and gave last year's Rhys Lecture on 'Scottish Gaelic Traditional Songs from the Sixteenth to the Eighteenth Century', in the course of which he memorably broke into song: few Rhys lecturers would have had the courage – or the voice – to attempt such a feat!

ROSE MARY CRAWSHAY PRIZES

In 1888 Mrs Rose Mary Crawshay established the Byron, Shelley, Keats In Memoriam Prize fund. After her death, administration of the fund was transferred to the Academy. Two prizes are now normally awarded each year to women who have published recently an historical or critical work of sufficient value on any subject concerned with English literature.

- **Marina Warner** for *No Go the Bogeyman: scaring, lulling and making mock* (Chatto & Windus Random House, 1998)

Marina Warner is a writer who has carved out a special niche for herself with a succession of imaginative and ground-breaking studies which offer at once literary, art historical, and social insights. As in the book for which she has won the prize, her work displays the longevity and capacity for transformation of myths, fairy tales and stories in a variety of media and cultural circumstances. She has a gift for capturing the essence of the tale and its resonance in the human psyche, and for retelling it in terms recognizable and illuminating in our own time. *No Go the Bogeyman* looks into the dark fears of the human race and its recurrent attempts to stave off, overcome or placate a variety of threatening powers. Her main previous publications are *Alone of All Her*

Sex: the myth and the cult of the Virgin Mary (1976); *Managing Monsters: six myths of our time* (the Reith Lectures 1994); *From the Beast to the Blonde: on fairy tales and their tellers* (1994); and several novels, tales, and children's books.

She has held a variety of visiting posts, including a Visiting Fellowship at Trinity College, Cambridge (1998). She gave the Tanner Lectures at Yale in 1999, and has recently been invited to give the Clarendon Lectures in Oxford and the Slade Lectures in Cambridge.

- **Joanne Wilkes** for *Lord Byron and Mme de Staël: Born for Opposition* (Ashgate, 1999)

Joanne Wilkes's book *Lord Byron and Mme de Staël: Born for Opposition* adds very substantially to our knowledge of Byron's detailed acquaintance with the works of Mme de Staël, his numerous citations of her work, and his considerable sense of their shared political concerns. The parallels between them, as writers, political and cultural figures, and cosmopolitan travellers in the Europe of their day are impressively documented and sympathetically presented. In the enormous spate of books on Byron in recent years this one stands out as serious, fully and responsibly informed, and illuminative both of his political and literary allegiances and of the poetic detail of his writings.

Dr Wilkes was born in Sydney in 1956, and took her BA at the University of Sydney, gaining first-class honours in English and French. In 1984 she received her DPhil in English from Oxford; her thesis was on the historical fiction of Scott, Thackeray and George Eliot. After three years as Tutor at Monash University in Melbourne, she took up a lectureship in English at the University of Auckland in 1987, where she is now Senior Lecturer.

Dr Wilkes has published two previous books: Jane Austen's *Persuasion* (Sydney University Press, 1991); and an edition of a proto-feminist novel of 1848, Geraldine Jewsbury's *The Half Sisters* (Oxford University Press World's Classics, 1994, revised edition 1998). This novel, like several English nineteenth-century novels, was much indebted to the book of Madame de Staël's best-known to English readers, her second novel, *Corinne*. She is currently working on an anthology of nineteenth-century literary criticism by women.



SERENA MEDAL

The Serena Medal was endowed by Mr Arthur Serena in 1919 to commemorate Great Britain's alliance with Italy in the First World War. It is awarded annually 'for eminent services towards the furtherance of the study of Italian history, literature, art or economics'.

Professor Giulio Lepschy FBA

Giulio Lepschy is internationally known for his publications in the field of structural linguistics (particularly in the theory of transformational grammar) and also in the recent history of general linguistics, but he was born in Italy and for many years held a personal chair in the Italian department at Reading. This explains perhaps why he has taken so much of his material from his native tongue and has published the many applied studies of the Italian language for which he is honoured this afternoon. His range is prodigious, synchronically and diachronically, from phonetics to semantics, from morphology to syntax. He has thrown light on the evolution of the standard literary language and on the state of play in the dialects. He has changed our understanding of the use of the perfect and past-historic tenses by examining them in the light of the 'aspects' of the verb more familiar in the Slavonic languages. He has shown great interest in social linguistics, recording with humour and great humanity the many innovations in post-war Italian which have happened in response to internal immigration, feminism, Americanisation, high tech. and the like. Together with his wife, Professor Laura Lepschy, he has condensed all this knowledge in a book written for undergraduates, *The Italian Language Today*, which has made itself indispensable in departments of Italian throughout the English-speaking world. Last not least, he has been very active in promoting research in all these many fields among the rising generation. *Onorate l'altissimo studioso.*

External Relations

Jonathan Breckon describes his role as the Academy's External Relations Officer

At this year's Annual Dinner, I was introduced to a very distinguished Fellow who inquired about my role at the Academy. His response to my careful job-description was 'Ah ha, one of those'. I wish I could so easily categorise my work. It is a diverse and constantly evolving position, encompassing anything from liaison with learned societies to press relations, event organisation to amateur photography. To try and capture this diversity, one of the first things I did was change my job title to something suitably vague: External Relations Officer. The advantage of this description is that it has resonance both within and outside UK higher education. Compared to my original title of 'Public Understanding and Information Officer', it is also much easier to repeat on the telephone.

The purpose of my job is ambitious: to increase public awareness and understanding of the value of the humanities and social sciences and their contribution to the intellectual and cultural life of the nation. The question might well be asked: what does this mean in practice?

It has become clear that it entails developing a programme of new events and activities which expand on the successful scholarly symposia that the Academy already organises. But it also means targeting new audiences, such as A-level teachers, journalists, politicians and policy-makers, younger scholars, and a general public with a keen interest in the humanities and social sciences. This programme does not reach out to a monolithic and homogeneous 'public' but to a diverse constituency, an audience receptive to the profound understanding of the world offered by scholarship in the humanities and social sciences.

A key part of this programme will involve looking at ways the Academy can help, and advance the cause of, other learned societies and related academic organisations, for example through collaborative lectures or conferences. Joint activities have been planned with the Political Studies Association, the British Sociological Association, the Council for College and University English and the Economics and Business Education Association. Collaboration with other bodies, particularly learned societies, is essential for the effectiveness of the Academy's 'outreach' activities.

Building links with other bodies is an essential part of my job and I have set up a variety of structures to encourage communication. The Academy is increasingly making its presence known at major academic conferences: for example, a presentation was

given at the Political Studies Association's annual conference, and the Academy's exhibition stand was present throughout, attended by staff and Academy Postdoctoral Fellows. The preparation of guest articles for the newsletters of learned societies is now a regular activity. We have also set up an email bulletin informing around 2,000 subscribers of Academy events, press releases and deadlines for research support (details of how to subscribe to the bulletin may be found on the web site at www.britac.ac.uk). The Academy now has up-to-date databases of UK learned societies (at the last count, there were 176 learned societies in the humanities and social sciences), MPs, Lords, civil servants and journalists, whose interests fall within the scope of the Academy. The only UK list of all extant learned society web sites in the humanities and social sciences is soon to be posted on the Academy's web site.

The more ambitious projects involved in the programme, such as a proposal for a high-profile national book prize, will take time to come to fruition. But in the next edition of this *Review* I hope to be able to take stock of all these new activities.

Jonathan Breckon pictured with the Academy's display stand at a recent event



Graduate Review Studies

Earlier this year, the Council of the Academy decided to instigate an enquiry into graduate studies in the UK.

The last decade has witnessed an unprecedented growth in the numbers of those entering higher education, which have almost doubled. It has also been a period of considerable change, including the creation of the 'new universities', and the introduction of means tested fees for students and the abolition of the maintenance grant.

There is a growing body of anecdotal and statistical evidence to support the view that the overall numbers of home-based postgraduate students are falling, and that many of the most able people, in some subjects especially, are turning away from graduate studies. Indeed, in certain disciplines and institutions, what used to be a predominantly British cohort of students has been replaced by a predominantly overseas one. Earlier this year, the Council of the Academy decided to establish a Committee of enquiry into graduate studies in the UK, in response to concerns that they were in decline.

The Graduate Studies Review Committee has been asked to examine and report on the current state of postgraduate studies in the humanities and social sciences. Accordingly, the Review Committee will gather statistical data on the composition of the postgraduate student popu-

lation, analysing in particular the proportion of home-based students and the sources of their funding. Members will consider the present financial arrangements and any particular factors that act as a disincentive to postgraduate study; make relevant international comparisons; and consider the implications for the health of the various academic disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and the recruitment of the next generation of staff in UK universities.

The Review Committee held its first meeting on 30 June 2000, where it determined the structure and format of the exercise. The Academy's Sections will be consulted in January 2001 on the general outline of the Review and its chief subject-specific findings. Section Standing Committees will be consulted in advance this autumn.

It is anticipated that the Committee will meet three times and it is intended that it will present its report by June 2001.

The Graduate Studies Review Committee is chaired by Professor R.J. Bennett, and the other members are Professor J.S. Bell, Professor J.K. Davies, Professor H. Goldstein, Professor M.E. Hobson, Professor T. Ingold, Baroness O'Neill, Professor P.A. Slack and Professor K.F. Wallis.

Lectures and Conferences

Lectures

The Academy's lecture programme continues to flourish. The spring saw some exciting collaborative events, the first being a lecture by Richard Holmes FBA, entitled *Coleridge Among the Scientists*. This lecture was held jointly with the Royal Society and the Royal Society of Literature and took place in the Royal Society on 17 February. Sir Aaron Klug, President of the Royal Society, was in the chair.

During the spring term, the final 'Westminster Seminars' on 'Democratic Reform in International Perspective' took place. This series was jointly supported by the British Academy and the University of Westminster Centre for the Study of Democracy. The papers from the whole series have now been published in *Parliamentary Affairs*, Volume 53, Number 4.

In March the *Visions of Apocalypse* lecture series, organised by the British Academy and the National Gallery in association with the British Museum, took place in the Sainsbury Wing Theatre of the National Gallery. Professor Henry Mayr-Harting FBA spoke first on *Apocalyptic Book-illustration in the Early Middle Ages*; Professor Joseph Koerner of Harvard University followed, with *This is the End: Apocalypse Medieval and Modern* and the final lecture in the series was given by Professor Ian Christie FBA on *Cinema and the Modern Apocalypse*. These lectures related to the exhibition 'The Apocalypse and the Shape of Things to Come' at the British Museum, and the National Gallery's millennium exhibition 'Seeing Salvation: The Image of Christ'.

Five Academy lectures, listed below, were delivered at Carlton House Terrace:

Aksum: An African Civilisation in its World Contexts

Dr David W. Phillipson

Albert Reckitt Archaeological Lecture

An extract from this lecture can be found on page 17.

Plato

M.F. Burnyeat FBA

Master-Mind Lecture

An extract from this lecture can be found on page 20.

Beginning in the Middle

Professor Peter Holland

Shakespeare Lecture

The Legend of the Great Game

Professor M.E. Yapp

Elie Kedourie Memorial Lecture

An extract from this lecture can be found on page 15.

Wallace Stevens: Hypotheses and Contradictions

Professor Helen Vendler

Warton Lecture in Poetry

An extract from this lecture can be found on page 22.

Conversazioni

Professor Margaret Boden FBA continues to bring together lively and stimulating speakers. *Devolution and the Future of the United Kingdom* was the subject of the spring term *conversazione*, with speakers Professor Vernon Bogdanor FBA and Professor David Marquand FBA. The summer term event, with speakers Professor David Parkin FBA and Dr Nick Allen (University of Oxford) was on *Language, Culture and Thought*.

Symposia

The Academy has a varied programme of conferences, colloquia and workshops. Seven meetings were held in the first part of the year. These are listed below.

Residentzstädten and 'Landowner Towns' in Germany and Britain in the Early Modern Period

The second in a series of collaborative ventures with the German Historical Institute, London, this colloquium brought together speakers from the UK and Germany, and took place in both Carlton

Academy lectures are published in the *Proceedings of the British Academy*.

House Terrace and the GHI. It was organised by Professor Peter Clark of the University of Leicester.

The Anglo-French fin-de-siècle

The colloquium is one of a series contributing to the research project on the reception of British aesthetic and cultural figures in Europe at the turn of the century, organised by Dr Elinor Shaffer FBA.

Interpreting Anglo-Saxon Coinage

The conference was organised by the committee of the Sylloge of Coins of the British Isles, an Academy Research Project, whose Chairman is Lord Stewartby FBA.

Henry Sidgwick

Dr Ross Harrison of King's College, Cambridge, arranged this colloquium to commemorate the centenary of Henry Sidgwick's death. Sidgwick played a role in the formation of the British Academy, and details of his 'Plan' can be found on page 59. The papers from this meeting will be published in 2001 as *Proceedings of the British Academy*, Volume 109.

The Speciation of Modern Homo Sapiens

This joint conference addressed directly the question of the speciation of modern Homo

sapiens. The subject raises profound questions about the nature of the species, our defining characteristic (it is suggested it is language), and the brain changes and their genetic basis that make us distinct. The British Academy and the Academy of Medical Sciences brought together experts from palaeontology, archaeology, linguistics, psychology, genetics and evolutionary theory to present evidence and theories at the cutting edge of our understanding of these issues. The first day of this international event took place at the British Academy; the second, during which speakers could develop their themes in a smaller group, was held at the Novartis Foundation, Portland Place. Professor Tim Crow of the University of Oxford was the meeting's organiser. The papers will be published in 2001 as *Proceedings of the British Academy*, Volume 106.

The Origin of Human Social Institutions

Lord Runciman FBA brought together several disciplines in this conference, which was jointly supported by the Novartis Foundation. The papers will be published in 2001 as *Proceedings of the British Academy*, Volume 110.

Interpreting the Ancient World

Two workshops were arranged by Professor T.P. Wiseman FBA with the aim of producing a British Academy 'Centenary' Monograph.

The Legend of the Great Game

A persistent theme in the writings of Elie Kedourie was his mistrust of large, seemingly attractive concepts or ideas, ideas which were lightly advanced and quietly incorporated into political or historical folklore without being subject to the close and critical scrutiny which he rightly believed to be an obligation of statesman and historian alike. One such concept is that of the 'Great Game'. In an edited extract from his Elie Kedourie Memorial Lecture delivered on 16 May 2000, Professor M.E. Yapp of the School of Oriental and African Studies, London, examines some aspects of this famous phrase.

The best known use of the term 'great game' is that by Rudyard Kipling in *Kim*. It is often said that *Kim* is a novel about the conflict of Russian and British agents in Central Asia. This is not so. The episode of the clash with the Russian and French agent (at the time of writing it was the Franco-Russian alliance which was regarded as the principal international threat to Britain) is a relatively minor, slightly absurd incident in a book which is, first and foremost, a plotless, picaresque novel about India and, secondly, a study of the rival attractions of the life of adventure and the life of reflection. In the novel Kipling uses the term 'the great game' (more often simply 'the game') frequently, and it is worth exploring carefully what he meant by the phrase. First, it should be noted (as, indeed, early critics observed) that the term is used to signify secret intelligence work within and outside India. Lurgan Sahib reflects on 'the Great Game that never ceases day and night throughout India'. E.23 investigates a conspiracy between an Indian princely house and an unnamed dignitary presumed to be the Ottoman Caliph. Second, apart from the use by Lurgan Sahib (which is unvoiced) the term is used in *Kim* almost exclusively by Indians or in Indian situations. It is used most frequently by the Pathan horse dealer, Mahbub Ali, by E.23, an Indian from the North West province, by the Bengali babu, Hurree Chunder Mookerjee, and by Kim himself, but only when he is dealing with Indians and speaking to them, presumably, in Hindustani. On one occasion we are told specifically, when Kim reflects on the great game, that he is thinking in Hindustani; and on another occasion that Kim thought in the vernacular: 'How can a man follow the Way or the Great Game when he is always so pestered by woman?' It may be presumed that Kipling, who had little opinion of games, intended his readers to understand that the associations of the Great Game would be different in an Indian language from those it attracted in English. For Kipling, I would suggest, the Game is an abstract concept, one which ranks with other loaded and capitalised concepts such as the Law, the Road,

the Wheel, the River, the Search and, of course, the Way, with which the Game is frequently juxtaposed. Above all, the great game stands for life and action. In the words of the most perceptive critic of Kipling, Bonamy Dobree, 'man is playing a Great Game of "to be or not to be" in the face of an indifferent universe.'

The use of the term 'great game' in what is now its most familiar meaning of Anglo-Russian rivalry in Central Asia is fairly recent and became common only after the second world war. It was not wholly unknown before that period, but it was rare. It is used, for example, by Maud Diver – who took it from J.W. Kaye, author of *Lives of Indian Officers* (1867) and a *History of the War in Afghanistan* (1857) – in certain novels published between 1908 and 1913, but it is not used with this meaning by John Buchan, whose character, Sandy Arbuthnot, would seem to be the *beau idéal* of what most readers would think of as a Great Gamesman, and who employed gaming metaphor more frequently than any other image. The attempt by various writers to trace the phrase back in its current meaning through Kipling to Kaye has given it a spurious pedigree and suggested that the concept is much older than in fact it is.

Well, you may think, this is all very well and even mildly interesting, but what does it matter? If the reality of Anglo-Russian rivalry in Central Asia, of the action and counteraction of secret agents existed, of what consequence is it that the convenient term by which we know the phenomenon best did not exist, at least with that meaning, until recently? My reply is that the patterns of our historical comprehension are shaped by the terms in which we think of events, that Anglo-Russian rivalry did not exist to the extent which has been suggested and which the use of the term has fostered, and the consequence of presenting a picture of continuous Anglo-Russian rivalry in Central Asia from the early nineteenth century has been to distort our understanding of the defence of British India, of the relation between British and British Indian

Members of the Kedourie family decided in 1993 to establish a Fund in memory of the distinguished modern historian and political philosopher, Elie Kedourie, elected a Fellow in 1975. The Fund's principal purpose was to establish an annual lecture in modern history, preference being given to subjects in Middle Eastern and modern European history, reflecting Professor Kedourie's own interests.

foreign and defence policy, and even of the nature of British rule in India.

Two models of the Great Game are derived from J.W. Kaye. One, which is linked to Anglo-Russian rivalry in Central Asia, he bequeathed to us inadvertently. The second model, which was concerned with internal control in India, was that which always represented the reality in British India. The most important element in the debate about the defence of India, although it was disguised by the character of the debate, was not the external enemy but the internal threat. What caused the shortage of troops and what multiplied the need for reinforcements were the needs of the garrison of British India. In its innocence, the British government had supposed that a defensive posture in India would require fewer troops than an offensive disposition, but it was to discover that, as the danger from the internal enemy increased as the enemy approached, the reverse was the case.

Strategic discussion has a tendency to gentrification. Foreign armies are more interesting than domestic enemies and soldiers more interesting than policemen. How few books are written about what one may call imperial plumbing and yet there were more policemen than soldiers in British India and it was on policemen that the Raj ultimately rested. In the first place, the police kept control of ordinary crime: the prestige of the Raj

was its greatest defence against the internal enemy and that prestige depended especially on its ability to maintain law and order. Secondly, the police developed, in the later nineteenth century and early twentieth century, a remarkable ability to deal with industrial, communal and political crime, with terrorism and subversion. These important developments in the capabilities of the police have been concealed by the focus on the meaningless, contemporary strategic debate. And when the Raj was run down it was the Indian Police which was the last to be Indianised, after the ICS and the Indian Army, the two services commonly regarded as the main pillars of the Raj.

In being too concerned with the process of, and the motives for the acquisition of empire, with the international and strategic aspects of empire, with the matter of the withdrawal from imperial authority, and with the effects of British rule on the recipients of empire, we have somehow neglected the key element in how empires ran, namely the police. In seeking an image of the great game, we should look not at Kim, but at the policeman, Strickland, who features in *Kim* and who is the true master of what Kipling understood to be the game of policing the Raj. And I would propose as the archetypal figure of the British Indian empire, Ronald Merrick, the sinister policeman who dominates Paul Scott's *Raj Quartet*.

Policeman Ronald Merrick (played by Tim Piggott-Smith) interrogates Hari Kumar (Art Malik) in the Jewel in the Crown, Granada TV's dramatisation of Paul Scott's Raj Quartet.



Aksum: An African Civilisation

Between 1993 and 1998, on behalf of the British Institute in Eastern Africa, Dr David W. Phillipson directed a five-year programme of field study at Aksum, the ancient Ethiopian capital. In an edited extract from his Albert Reckitt Archaeological Lecture, delivered at the Academy on 22 February 2000, he describes some aspects of one of the most remarkable civilisations of the ancient world.

To many Ethiopians and Eritreans, Aksum's principal fame rests on its religious importance, centred on the Cathedral of Maryam TSION, Saint Mary of Zion; it is the place where Christianity was first adopted on Ethiopian soil in the mid-fourth century. Aksum is also renowned as the centre of an ancient civilisation, remains of its grand monuments contrasting with modern buildings in what is now, in per-capita income terms, one of the poorest countries in the world.

Aksum was the principal metropolis of a major polity which arose during the early centuries AD in the highlands of northern Ethiopia and southern Eritrea. The development of socio-political complexity in this region may be traced directly to the first half of the last millennium BC, although its economy was ultimately based on cultivation and herding practices which had developed in this region long previously. Substantial farming settlements arose in the Aksum area, the example that has so far been most intensively investigated being at Kidane Mehret, a short distance to the north of Aksum. Here, between the eighth and the fifth centuries BC, was a stone-built complex of angular rooms and courtyards, the farming economy being remarkably similar to that employed by the rural population of the area in recent times. Cattle were the principal livestock species; cultivated crops included wheat, barley and, probably, the local cereal teff.

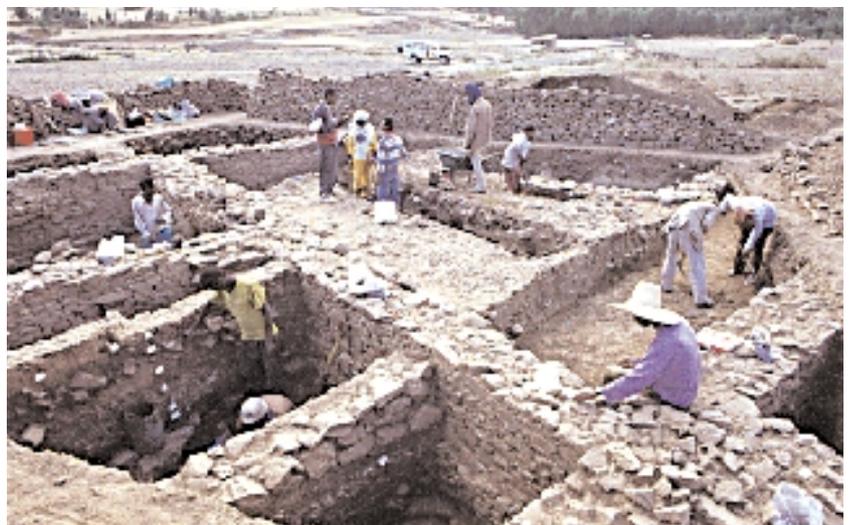
By the third century, Aksum was capital of a powerful centralised kingdom, controller of abundant resources, ruler of extensive territories, trading extensively and, by c. AD 270, issuing its own coinage which circulated both locally and internationally. There is good archaeological evidence for a substantial population enjoying a high level of material prosperity. From at least the second century AD, burials were accompanied by grave goods of varying richness, some of great abundance, which indicates unequal access to resources. This inequality seems to have extended through at least some parts of the Aksumite countryside. Within a short distance of Aksum were sites whose inhabitants seem mainly to have been engaged in the production of food, apparently thereby maintaining a reasonable degree

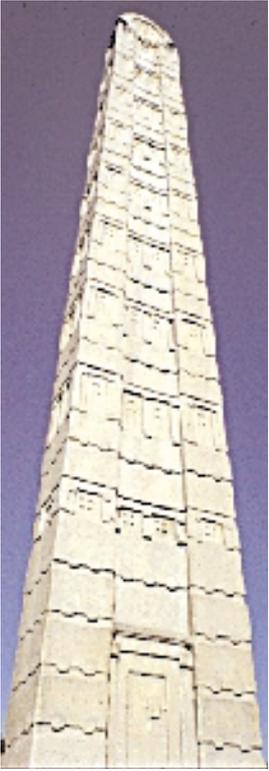
of material prosperity, as did people involved with craftwork and manufacturing.

Although until recently archaeologists and historians have placed almost exclusive emphasis on international aspects of the Aksumite economy, there can in fact be little doubt that this economy was locally based, on the productivity of the land and indigenous agriculture. Our research has indicated that, while sheep and goats were herded, cattle was the dominant domestic species being used both for food and for traction. Donkeys and chickens were also available. Inscriptions indicate that the herds were augmented by capture and tribute in the course of military campaigns. The range of cultivated crops was remarkably similar to that exploited in the region during more recent times, including wheats, barley, teff, finger millet and sorghum as well as chick peas, noog and linseed. Cereals thus predominated, including varieties originating in the Near East as well as local domesticates. Oil was obtained from linseed and from the locally domesticated noog. Grape-pips and both seeds and textile fragments of cotton have also been recovered; in neither case can one be certain whether the plants were grown locally or their produce imported from elsewhere. Grape vines were, however, known to the ancient Aksumites, being represented in contemporary artworks; and rock-cut tanks in the vicinity may have been used for making wine.

The Reckitt Archaeological Trust, which was established by the late Mr Albert L. Reckitt for the furtherance of archaeological research, was transferred to the British Academy in 1950. Amongst other things, a series of biennial lectures was established in memory of the founder. In 1999 the Academy introduced a scheme of travelling fellowships to be financed from the trust fund, and details of the first winners can be found on page 43.

Excavations at the Late Aksumite settlement of Kidane Mehret, on the outskirts of Aksum





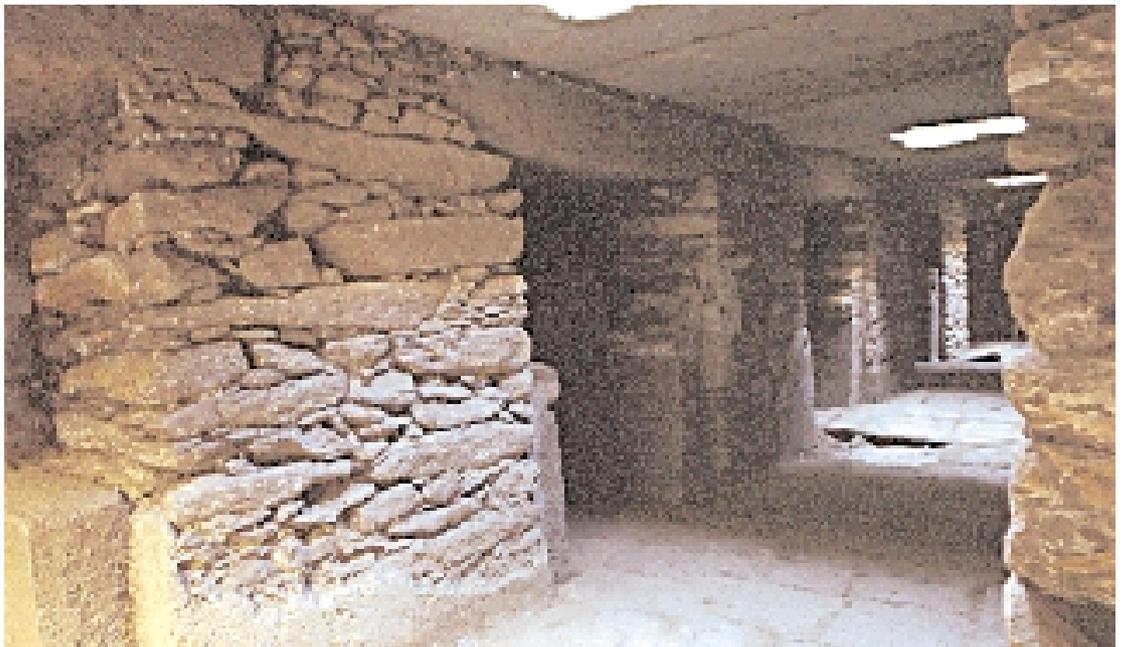
The still-erect Stela 3, now dated to the late third century or beginning of the fourth

The first-century text known as the Periplus of the Erythraean Sea records that ivory was a major Aksumite export; and a fourth-century tomb has yielded quantities of finely turned and carved ivory in the form of boxes, decorative panels and furniture-components that are interpreted as having formed parts of an elaborate chair or throne. At workshops on the outskirts of Aksum highly standardised flaked stone tools were used in enormous numbers to process raw materials such as ivory, timber and hides.

The most famous monuments which have survived from ancient Aksum are the huge monolithic stelae, carved in representations of multi-storeyed buildings; one, which still stands, is 23 metres high and weighs approximately 150 tonnes. Another, which probably fell and broke while being erected, would have been 30 metres high and over 500 tonnes in weight: it may be the largest single monolith which people anywhere have ever attempted to erect. These stelae were quarried about 4 kilometres away from the site where they were erected: their extraction, carving, transport and erection would have required enormous investment of labour. Our project undertook a study of the ancient quarries at Gobedra Hill, west of Aksum, and was able to ascertain the route by which stone may have been transported from there into Aksum.

The largest stela was intended to mark a pair of tombs, at least one being a complex underground structure of great magnificence. It appears to have been built in a pit, then covered with a thick layer of stone rubble behind a retaining terrace-wall. It covered an area 18 by 17 metres, comprising a

Inside the tomb associated with the largest stela



central passage entered through a monolithic portal at either end and with five sidechambers on either side. Inside each portal and at the entrance to each sidechamber had originally been a brick arch springing from massive rectangular slabs of dressed syenite. The walls of the Mausoleum were built of small undressed stones set in mud, the roof was of roughly dressed syenite slabs with three square apertures leading to vertical shafts, and the floor was of small sandstone slabs. All the walls and brickwork had originally been covered with a coarse gritty render, apparently unpainted, which would have given the impression that the entire structure was composed of syenite.

*

The history of British archaeology overseas is long and notable. Today, opportunities for British students of archaeology to gain practical experience of work overseas are sadly depleted. What we should offer now is not merely the conduct of research but the training of the local people in whose hands the conduct of future investigations rightly rests. I believe that the Aksum project provides a good example of how British archaeology, with modest financial input, can yield lasting benefits not only to our understanding of a major overseas archaeological phenomenon but also to international collaboration and to a developing country's future ability to develop its own archaeological base. This collaboration has not been a gesture of one-sided generosity: our Ethiopian colleagues have contributed at least as much to the project's archaeological achievements as they have gained

in expertise and experience. I believe that the project's most lasting contribution may prove to be its collaboration with and training of Ethiopian personnel. This will be a contribution not only to

the personal advancement of the individuals concerned but also to the furtherance of knowledge about one of the great civilisations of the ancient world.



Ivory statuette from a fourth-century tomb

Dr Phillipson describes the origins and design of the research programme

In 1989 a two-day conference on Aksum was organised by the Institute of Ethiopian Studies in Addis Ababa University. Among the papers presented was one in which I pointed out that most of the research so far conducted at Aksum was concerned with the élite segments of its population, with monumental architecture and luxury imports in particular. Virtually nothing was known about the subsistence base of Aksumite civilisation, about the lives or burials of common people, or about whatever it was that Aksum exported in exchange for its luxury imports.

In May 1991 a new government was installed in Addis Ababa and it became clear that archaeological activity at Aksum would shortly become possible once again. This was confirmed in the following year when I visited Aksum in the company of Dr John Sutton, who was then Director of the British Institute in Eastern Africa. This visit permitted the preparation of a Research Design and costings for a project requiring five annual field seasons.

The research design built on the issues summarised in my 1989 paper but recognised that new research should focus on as many aspects of ancient Aksum as possible in order to start obtaining a more rounded picture of its civilisation. The principles and policies on which fieldwork was based may be summarised as follows:

- Since we were excavating in an urban situation, in an area which is of great interest to many Ethiopians and overseas visitors, it was essential that the work did not disrupt access and did not permanently disfigure the area. All open excavations were backfilled at the end of each season; protective coverings for underground monuments were designed and constructed so as to cause minimal visual impact.

- Although the local infrastructure does not yet exist to develop newly discovered monuments for public access, steps were taken which will facilitate such developments as and when it becomes practicable.

- Complete openness was maintained as work progressed. Local people, visiting dignitaries and parties of schoolchildren were welcomed. Tourists were encouraged to photograph the excavations. Every evening a meeting of the professional team was held at which individual members described their work and discoveries. At the end of each season public lectures were given in Aksum (with running translation into Tigrinya), in the Tigray capital Mekelle, and in Addis Adaba. It was thus clear that people and media in our host country knew of our discoveries before these could be announced overseas – a courtesy which was widely appreciated. After one of my public lectures in Aksum, a very old man said ‘white archaeologists have been coming here as long as I can remember, but you are the first who has told us what you are doing’.

- Publication was to be prompt, in media readily available and affordable in Ethiopia as well as in those aimed at the international academic community. Preliminary reports on each of the first three seasons have appeared in British journals with offprints widely distributed. A substantial account of the first four seasons has been published in Addis Ababa University's *Journal of Ethiopian Studies*. The detailed report on the Project's work, in two volumes, is now going to press, less than thirty months after the end of the last field season.

- Training, primarily of Ethiopian personnel, was to be provided at several levels. To this end, local trainees were employed to a total of 25 person-seasons in support roles, and 29 person-seasons in professional capacities. In addition, it was possible to arrange for two Ethiopian archaeologists involved with the work to study and obtain postgraduate degrees at the University of Cambridge.

Dr Phillipson is Director of the University of Cambridge Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology and Reader in African Prehistory. He received five Research Grants from the British Academy between 1993 and 1998 to support the fieldwork at Aksum. He is currently President of the British Institute in Eastern Africa.

Plato

The Master-Mind Lecture was delivered at the British Academy on 13 April 2000, by M.F. Burnyeat FBA, Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. In the extract below, he illustrates Plato's power to speak across the millennia.

In 1916 Miss Henriette Herz provided for a lecture to be devoted to 'some Master-Mind considered individually with reference to his life and work especially in order to appraise the essential elements of his Genius: the subject to be chosen from the great Philosophers, Artists, Poets, Musicians.' The lecture is biennial.

It is sometimes said that there are no eternal questions in philosophy. The truth is that there are some, and there will continue to be, so long as the philosophical tradition keeps them alive. It depends on whether we continue to find them relevant. To illustrate, I turn to James Mill and to the question why, in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, he found Plato so relevant. John Stuart Mill reports 'There is no author to whom my father thought himself more indebted for his mental culture, than Plato, or whom he more frequently recommended to young students.'

Why? Let the father tell us in his own words: 'In most of the Dialogues of Plato, the object is to refute the tenets and expose the ignorance of some of those sophists who travelled about Greece, under pretence of teaching eloquence and philosophy, and who, in general, filled the minds of the youth with a spirit of mere logomachy, and with the worst impressions of right and wrong, with regard both to public and to private life. The ingenuity, the acuteness, the address, the eloquence with which this delicate and important task is performed, render the perusal of these dialogues among the most improving exercises which can engage a juvenile mind. Hardly any thing, in the way of example at least, can be conceived more calculated to sharpen the faculties; to render acute in discerning, and ingenious in exposing fallacies; to engender a love of mental exercise; and to elevate with the ambition of mental excellence. In some of the dialogues, as in those with Alcibiades, the object is to expose some of the false impressions which are most apt to prevail in the minds of men, and to lead to the most dangerous consequences. In these, the skill with which the misapprehension is analyzed; the variety of ridiculous lights into which it is thrown; and the power of argument as well as of satire which is employed to expose it, operate as the strongest sanative. In those of a different description, where inquiry, in the rigid sense of the word, is more the object, as in the books concerning Polity and Laws, the business is to give specimens of investigation, to let in rays of light, to analyze particular points, and, by throwing out queries or hypotheses, to encourage speculation, rather than

lay down and establish any system of opinions. Accordingly, Cicero expressly tells us, "In Platonis libris nihil affirmatur; et in utramque partem multa disseruntur; de omnibus quaeritur, nihil certe dicitur."

The critical spirit of Socratic questioning is what James Mills responds to. It is significant that he chooses Cicero as his vade mecum for reading Plato. His quotation is from Cicero's *Academica*, which is the distillation of some 200 years of Academic scepticism about the epistemological theories of the Stoics and other dogmatic philosophers. Given Mill's Ciceronian perspective, the later Platonists can be swept aside – they are 'the charlatans of antient philosophy' – and Plato rejoins the sceptical tradition. To translate the Latin, 'In the writings of Plato, nothing is affirmed and many arguments are given on either side of a question; everything is open to inquiry, nothing is declared for certain.'

Again, I want to suggest that Plato would approve. Mill, like Plotinus, and Cicero too, found Plato good to think with, a stimulus to independent thought about the issues that concerned him in his own day and age. Earlier I claimed it as a virtue in Plato that he can inspire such diverse interpretations. But perhaps they are not quite as diverse as I have made them appear. Perhaps there is a common factor to the systematising approach of Numenius and Plotinus, on the one hand, and the sceptical stance of Cicero and Mill on the other. The two parties share a common enemy: opinion, *δόξα*.

There are two reasons a philosopher might have for arguing, *παρὰ δόξαν* against the prevailing assumptions of their age. They might seek to replace opinion by something better than opinion, be it knowledge, enlightenment, or mystical union with the One; such are the Platonists of later antiquity. Or they might seek to replace the prevailing opinions by better opinions. Cicero fits that description, I suppose, and it is certainly apt for the nineteenth-century Plato-loving reformers, James Mill and John Stuart Mill, together with their mutual friend, George Grote, the greatest Plato scholar of modern times. All



University College London
c. 1890. Photograph by
courtesy of UCL, College
collection

three were leading members of a group called the Philosophical Radicals, who campaigned tirelessly (and with some success) to make Britain a more rational, more democratic, and more secular society than it was when they were growing up.

It is clear from Grote's magnificent three-volume work, *Plato and the Other Companions of Sokrates* (1865), that he identifies strongly with Socrates in his role as the critic and questioner of prevailing norms and assumptions. His phrase for what Socrates was up against (a phrase borrowed from Pindar) is 'King Nomos', and one of its most vivid depictions he finds in the Great Speech of Protagoras in Plato's dialogue of that name. Protagoras claims that, despite Socrates' doubts about whether virtue is teachable, it is taught – and he describes a process by which morality is transmitted by everyone to everyone through a constant, often scarcely noticed, process of correcting and bringing into line, with no room

left for independent, critical reflection. John Stuart Mill in *On Liberty* spoke similarly of the 'despotism of custom'. Grove saw a parallel with James Mill's account of the transmission of established morality in his *Fragment on Mackintosh* (1835). James Mill, at least 30 years before Grote's *Plato*, saw the parallel with Protagoras and applied the point to his own day. 'The misfortune of the English universities is their being a part of the ecclesiastical establishment. With a fixed creed and fixed forms, the object of an ecclesiastical establishment is – to keep the human mind where it is. The object of a system of education should be to advance the human mind.'

These were not empty words. In 1826 Grote and the Mills helped to found the University of London, now University College London, the first English university to dispense with religious instruction and open its doors to those who were not members of the Church of England.

Myles Burnyeat is a contributor to *Mathematics and Necessity*, to be published in the *Proceedings of the British Academy*, Volume 103, at the end of 2000. His contribution is entitled 'Plato on Why Mathematics is Good for the Soul'. The volume arises from a symposium held at the Academy in March 1998.

Wallace Stevens: Hypotheses and Contradictions

The following extract is taken from the Warton Lecture in English Poetry, delivered by **Professor Helen Vendler** of Harvard University, on 17 May 2000.

Mrs Frida Mond requested that an annual lecture be given as a tribute to Thomas Warton, 'the first historian of English poetry, whose work not only led the way to the scientific study of English Literature, but also stimulated creative genius, and played no small part in the Romantic Revival'. The series was inaugurated in 1910.

Wallace Stevens' poems were written during the fifty years between his matriculation at Harvard and his death at seventy-five. His long life was relatively without incident: he was born, in Pennsylvania, of Pennsylvania Dutch – that is to say German – extraction in 1879; his father, Garrett Stevens, was a lawyer who wanted his sons to be lawyers and all three of them eventually obeyed him. Garrett Stevens was willing to send his brilliant son Wallace to Harvard, but would support him there for only three years, since one could enter law school after three years at the university. On his departure without a degree from Harvard, Stevens, disregarding his father's wishes, did not immediately enter law school, but became a newspaper reporter in New York. Discouraged by both the work and the salary, Stevens capitulated and went to New York University Law School, after which he had various disappointing short-term positions as a lawyer in New York. In 1916 he found a job as a surety lawyer with the Hartford Accident and Indemnity Insurance Company of Connecticut, where he remained until he died in 1955.

In the first years of Stevens' employment at the Hartford his work was arduous, requiring frequent train travel across the United States to investigate insurance claims, and in those years Stevens wrote little poetry. Eventually, as he rose in the company, his life became less harried, and when he was 44, Knopf published his first book, *Harmonium*. Other volumes followed steadily, and in 1954, some months before Stevens' death from cancer, his *Collected Poems* won the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. Since his death, his fame has grown steadily, but he remains, in the eyes of us all, a difficult poet, the one who wrote, in a collection of pensées to which he gave the Erasmusian title *Adagia*, that a poem 'must resist the intelligence almost successfully.'

At Harvard, Stevens had abandoned the Protestantism of his parents for the skeptical Lucretian naturalism of his acquaintance George Santayana. This philosophic materialism was buttressed by Stevens' intimate knowledge of the natural world: he was a great walker, often covering thirty miles in a single day in his youth. Spring warmed him into life; winter chilled him into despair. He became the most exquisite poet of seasonal change since Keats, by whom he was permanently influenced. Many of Stevens' early poems became intelligible to readers through their relation to Romantic verse: 'Sunday Morning', for instance, ends in homage to Keats's 'To Autumn'. Instead of Keats's agricultural and domestic landscape, populated by lambs, robins and swallows, Stevens' American scene offers mountains and an uncultivated wilderness, populated by deer, quail and pigeons. Keats's goddess of the season has vanished, and human beings exist in isolation:



Wallace Stevens as a student at Harvard, about 1900. This photograph is reproduced by permission of The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

*Deer walk upon our mountains, and the quail
Whistle about us their spontaneous cries;
Sweet berries ripen in the wilderness;
And, in the isolation of the sky,
At evening, casual flocks of pigeons make
Ambiguous undulations as they sink
Downward to darkness, on extended wings.*

[70]

As a young reader, I could move easily into such a poem; it was only a step from Keats to the Keatsian elements in Stevens. I had far more trouble in understanding why Stevens would write certain other poems, among them the one that opened *Harmonium* (and which is still the first piece one sees in the *Collected Poems*). I realised that this strategically placed poem, 'Earthy Anecdote', must be some sort of manifesto, but of what was it the proclamation? Like most conceptual art, this 1918 poem offers no elaboration of its stubbornly repeated plot – that of a daily contest between deer (fiercely charging straight ahead) and a mountain lion (named by its folk-appellation, 'firecat') that obtrudes itself into the path of the bucks:

'Earthy Anecdote'

*Every time the bucks went clattering
Over Oklahoma
A firecat bristled in the way.*

*Wherever they went,
They went clattering,
Until they swerved
In a swift, circular line
To the right,
Because of the firecat.*

*Or until they swerved
In a swift, circular line
To the left,
Because of the firecat.*

*The bucks clattered.
The firecat went leaping,
To the right, to the left,
And
Bristled in the way.
Later, the firecat closed his bright eyes
And slept.*

[3]

The firecat's only purpose in his waking hours is to make the bucks swerve. The game goes on all day, conceived and prolonged by the bright eyes of the firecat, coming to an end only when he sleeps. Had the firecat not 'bristled in the way' the bucks would have unswervingly clattered over the plain of Oklahoma in an unimpeded straight line. At least one way of reading this little parable is to see it as an enacting of the mind's response when it encounters new hypotheses and contradictions of these hypotheses. Once our faculties are set on an inertial straight path, they will not deviate unless blocked: and one can see the bucks as a form of uncreative life forced into creativity by the bright-eyed obstacle of intelligence. In Stevens, the obstacle that forces the swerve is dialectically self-created: *ifs* and *ors* and *buts*, with their bright-eyed queries, force the mind into alternative paths. I believe that this apparently trivial little poem revealed to Stevens, as he wrote it, how much his art depended on obstructions and the consequent swerves they provoked, and that he therefore gave it pride of place both in his first volume and his final collection of his poems.

Extracts from Collected Poems by Wallace Stevens are reproduced by kind permission of the publishers, Faber and Faber Limited.

The John Foxe Project

Professor David Loades, *Director of the Project*, explains the origin and significance of *John Foxe's Book of Martyrs*, a work of central interest to the English Reformation under Elizabeth I.

John Foxe (1517–1587) was an English martyrologist and divine. He was converted to protestantism in about 1540, while a fellow at Magdalen College, Oxford, and devoted the rest of his adult life to the promotion of the English reformation. From 1548 to 1553 he was employed by Mary, Duchess of Richmond, to tutor the children of her late brother, Henry, Earl of Surrey, who had died on the scaffold in January 1547. Among his pupils was Thomas Howard, later the fourth Duke of Norfolk, who was to be his patron and friend. In 1554, like many protestant clergy and gentry, he fled into exile to avoid the attentions of Mary Tudor's church, and while there conceived the idea of writing an ecclesiastical history to justify the protestant reformation which was taking place around him. Recognising the persuasive power of martyrology, he set out to prove that the Roman Catholic church had been a false church since about the eleventh century, using as his main evidence the persecution inflicted upon opponents of the papacy, which he traced back to the Waldensians. He published his first, brief Latin martyrology soon after arriving in Strasbourg in 1554, concentrating on the English Lollards.

The persecution which began in England in January 1555, however, altered his whole perspective. The men and women who were suffering and dying were often his friends, and his somewhat academic interest in martyrdom became an immediate and intensely angry engagement. The behaviour of the Marian Church confirmed and greatly strengthened his conviction that the Pope was Antichrist, and all those who served him were the devil's agents. The Marian persecution was not different in nature from that which had been conducted by Henry VIII, and by catholic governments all over Europe, but it was unusual in its intensity and ferocity, killing about 300 people in three and a half years. Exceptionally, even among protestants, Foxe did not believe that the death penalty was appropriate for religious dissent, however radical; and this added to the obsessive rage with which he regarded Mary's leading bishops, particularly Gardiner and Bonner. During his exile he began to collect information about the events in England, but seems not to have decided what to do with it, when Mary's death changed the whole landscape. In 1559 he published a slightly expanded version of his 1554 martyrology, but Mary's victims only feature in a fairly brief appendix.

On his return to England he was quickly persuaded that what Elizabeth's fragile settlement needed was the support of some major anti-catholic polemic. By both temperament and training

Foxe was ideally suited to this task. He abandoned his plans for a European martyrology in Latin, and began to assemble a huge book in English, designed to convince his fellow countrymen that the recently dispossessed catholic church had been a diabolical conspiracy, designed to destroy the very nature of English religion and identity. He was supported particularly by Edmund Grindal, the new bishop of London, and by Sir William Cecil, Elizabeth's Principal Secretary. His old pupil the Duke of Norfolk gave him an annuity and a place to work, and a somewhat amorphous group of wealthy Londoners (including the printer, John Day) funded the publication of the *Actes and Monuments of Matters Most Speciall and Memorable*, which first appeared in 1563, printed by Day. Foxe only wrote a comparatively small part of the *Acts and Monuments*, which was assembled from a huge variety of sources; chronicles, registers, personal memoirs, letters and eyewitness accounts. Often documents were transcribed whole, or partly paraphrased. The impact was enormous, arousing intense emotions of approval and resentment, and Foxe quickly recognised that the revision of this book was likely to be the main part of his life's work.

Over the next twenty years he produced three further editions. In 1570 he took the story back from the eleventh century to the early church, in order to emphasise the congruence between the reformation martyrs and those of the late Imperial persecutions. He also revised and expanded his account of the events of the previous reign, responding both to criticism and to the appearance of additional information. It was this version which was ordered to be set up in cathedral churches for all to read. In 1576 there was a further revision, and an attempt to reduce the very high price by using cheaper paper. By this time there was already a demand for an abridged edition, but Foxe resisted such a suggestion, producing a further revision of the whole work in 1583. He died in 1587, still planning further modifications.

Although the *Acts and Monuments* remained the same book through these subsequent changes, they were far more than cosmetic. Not only did they reflect the author's reaction to praise and criticism, they also reflected a changing agenda as the fortunes of the English reformation fluctuated in Elizabeth's hands. The euphoria of 1563 was replaced with tense anxiety by 1570, and with a confident, but not entirely satisfied, sense of achievement by 1583. Throughout Elizabeth's reign, and for some time after, Foxe's work was the most forceful and the most complete statement of English protestant identity. Its importance in establishing that identity, particularly between 1563 and 1588, was immense. Although comparatively few people read it in its entirety (and even fewer could afford to buy it) the vivid imagery

of its words and its woodcut illustrations entered into the consciousness, particularly of those clergy and gentry who were the leaders and shapers of taste and opinion.

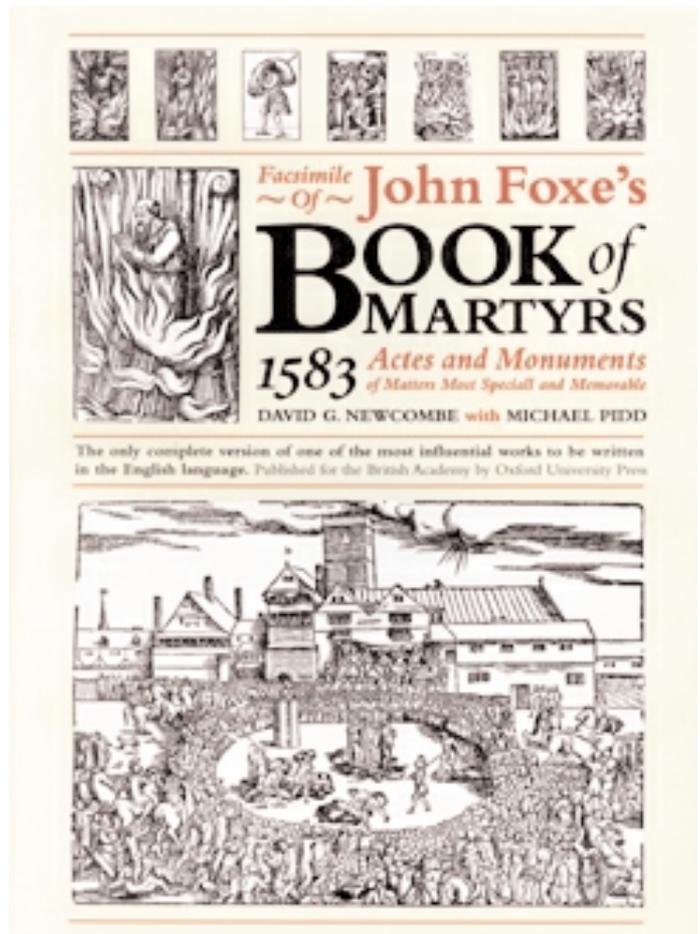
Unfortunately, it was a legacy of this powerful polemicism which led to the great revival of interest in Foxe in the nineteenth century, when many of the reformation battles were being refought. Several editions were produced between 1830 and 1880, all intended to serve the agenda of the evangelical party in the contemporary church. This was explicitly true of the major edition by S.R. Cattley and George Townsend (1837–42), which is the version now most widely available. Cattley and Townsend based their text on that of 1583, of which it is a reasonably accurate reproduction. However, they paid erratic (and not always acknowledged) attention to the earlier editions, making it impossible to trace the evolution of the text; and they ‘corrected’ Foxe’s errors, even when these were germane to his argument, making it hard to be certain whether the reader is dealing with Foxe’s own words, or with those of his nineteenth century editors. The Cattley/Townsend edition is thus virtually useless for serious scholarly purposes. At the same time none of the surviving original copies of the sixteenth century editions is full and perfect. All those traced and inspected have defects – pages missing or severely damaged, illustrations removed, and so on. This is equally true of the copies used for microfilming, to which also has to be added the vagaries of photographic reproduction – missing running heads, obscured gutters, damaged marginalia. For all these reasons, in 1993 the British Academy accepted a proposal to produce a new and complete edition of the *Acts and Monuments*, based on all four of the original texts for which Foxe had been personally responsible.

This project has evolved as the work has progressed. It was quickly decided that an electronic format would be the most appropriate, enabling the four texts to be viewed simultaneously. It was then also decided that each text should be transcribed into a modern typeface, leaving all its other features intact. The first conference in support of the project was held in Cambridge in 1995 to focus international interest and to recruit suitable experts to assist in the work. This was followed by a second conference in Oxford in 1997, and the proceedings of both of these conferences have been published. A third, and much larger conference was held at the State University of Ohio in Columbus in 1999, and a fourth will take place at Boston, Lincolnshire (Foxe’s birthplace) in July 2001. The project was originally based at the University of Wales, Bangor, but moved in 1996 to the Institute of Humanities Research in the University of Sheffield. In 1998 it was decided to produce the complete edition in stages; first books 10–12 (the Marian persecution), then books 1–4 (early church and middle ages), and finally books 5–9 (Henry VIII and Edward VI). Plans for a printed version were abandoned at that point but tentatively revived in 1999 when the funding base was transferred to the Arts and Humanities Research Board.

It is intended that the final electronic edition will consist of four transcribed texts, tagged and fully searchable; a complete collation

and commentary (including the marginalia); an index of personal identifications; and an apparatus of additional notes, mainly topographical and contextual. As a first step, a facsimile of the 1583 text, with limited search and index, has already been completed; it is being published on CD-ROM and will be available from Oxford University Press at the start of 2001.

CD-ROM, to be published early 2001.



Corpus of Medieval Stained Glass

Stained glass is a major form of medieval art, and provides the most immediately attractive aspect of many monuments. The Corpus Vitrearum Medii Aevi project is publishing a series of comprehensive, fully illustrated catalogues of medieval window glass. Professor C.M. Kauffmann FBA, the Chairman of the Academy's CVMA Committee traces the progress of the British project from its earliest days.

CVMA is an international project under the auspices of the Union Académique Internationale.

In October 1954, when the British Academy was approached by Hans Hahnloser, Professor of Art History at Berne, about the foundation of an international body to catalogue all the medieval stained glass that had survived the war, Mortimer Wheeler (Secretary of the Academy) wrote briefly to Christopher Woodforde, chaplain at New College and a stained glass specialist: 'We are anxious to find out whether the scheme is (a) respectable, and (b) reasonably practicable.' Woodforde's reply was unequivocal: 'Of course, one's first and lasting reaction to a plan which requires the publication of 70 or more volumes on a subject of such restricted interest as medieval stained glass is that it will sooner or later break down through lack of money or interest.' He concluded: 'In short, I believe that the project is respectable, but hardly practicable.'

Forty-six years later, it is good to be able to confront Woodforde's ghost with the news that the British Committee of the CVMA has just hosted an international conference at Bristol on the theme of *Stained Glass: secular patronage and piety in the later Middle Ages*, attended by a hundred delegates from a dozen countries and, further, that five catalogues have been published in the last seven years. Fortunately, at the time, Woodforde's pessimism was countered by the enthusiasm of Roger Mynors and Francis Wormald. Mynors wrote to G.N. Clarke, President of the Academy, in November 1955: 'The UK ought to participate and I can see no body besides the Academy who can organise it ...'

The Academy's Fellows in Art History gave the project full support and the British Committee of the CVMA was established under the Academy's auspices in June 1956 with Wormald in the chair. Thanks to Walter Oakeshott's advocacy, the Pilgrim Trust offered a grant towards the preparation of a pilot scheme in the form of a volume of the Corpus covering the counties of Buckinghamshire, Berkshire and Oxfordshire. However, the principal author, Christopher Woodforde, was translated to the Deanery of Wells in 1959 and consequently left the stained glass scene.

In a report of 1962, Francis Wormald was forced to admit that 'This scheme languished chiefly for the reason that there was nobody suitable and available to carry out the work.' He went on to explain that unlike most continental countries, the great mass of medieval glass in England is found in a fragmentary state in parish churches while large collections in a single building are relatively rare. 'The process of collecting the material is therefore bound to be long and must quite certainly be regarded as a whole time job if it is to be done within a reasonable time.'

Wormald's appeal bore fruit when the Pilgrim Trust funded Peter Newton for two years to work on the pilot volume, but Newton's subsequent commitments meant that the resultant catalogue was limited to the county of Oxfordshire and only appeared in 1979. Nevertheless his teaching post at York meant that, for the first time, the subject was taught at university level by an experienced specialist.

Meanwhile the Academy was providing funds to build up a photographic archive and in 1966 an agreement was established with the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England) where the archive was to be housed and preserved. The archive has proved to be of central importance for research on stained glass, but published catalogues were slow in coming. There were no funds to pay authors and yet it became clear – as Wormald had indicated in 1962 – that the exacting guidelines laid down by the International Committee, including restoration diagrams and other scholarly apparatus were more realistically geared to full-time contributors. To break this impasse, the British Committee decided in 1990 to introduce a new publication of changed format, the *Summary Catalogue*. Somewhat in line with new CVMA publications in France and the US, these Summary Catalogues aim to provide a basic publication at a high level of scholarship and fully illustrated but without the very detailed treatment envisaged for the original CVMA volumes. The rate of publication since 1993 has vindicated this approach, while full volumes, including restoration diagrams, will be retained where authors believe they are essential.

This discussion of restoration diagrams may sound arcane, but it cannot be avoided in the stained glass field. A visitor admiring the glass in a church or cathedral may be totally unaware that hardly a single window is where it was and, within it, nothing is as it seems. The fragility of the material and the frequent campaigns of rebuilding, not to mention the depredations of iconoclasts and the unchecked enthusiasm of restorers, has meant that the subject presents many of the problems more usually encountered by archaeologists. Glass moved from damaged windows in an aisle or clerestory may be reassembled in a more or less jumbled form in the east window or lady chapel. Very often, indeed, the result resembles an unfinished jigsaw puzzle or a water colour by Paul Klee, as the example from the lady chapel at Wells can serve to demonstrate (Figure 1). To unravel their history inevitably entails time consuming work in archives and with antiquarian authors, as well as on site.

It is estimated that at least a quarter of the 8,000 surviving medieval parish churches in this country contain stained glass and without catalogues of one sort or another the bulk of this vast material will remain totally unknown. Broader questions relating to stained glass, such as changes in the social class of patrons and in workshop practice, links with architecture and with the liturgy, not to mention more usual concerns with religious iconography, hagiography and heraldry, cannot be discussed in an informed way until the basic material is adequately described.

There remains the much debated question of electronic publication versus the printed catalogue. Our current programme of digitising the photographic archive has demonstrated the advantages of wider accessibility, but without the time-consuming work of the cataloguer, this will remain undigested material. The amount of work involved in piecing together the history and meaning of these windows is the same whether publication is electronic or in book form. The most positive recent development is the growth of the subject in universities. The key appointment was that of Richard Marks to a chair of stained glass studies in York, while David O'Connor in Manchester and Paul Crossley and Tim Ayers in London have also shown how fruitful it can be to integrate stained glass into the mainstream of medieval studies.

Figure 1: Fragments of medieval stained glass, c.1300–1305, Lady Chapel, Wells Cathedral, Somerset.

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The first five Summary Catalogues have recorded the glass of Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire, have studied North European roundels in Britain, and have continued the publication of the immense amount of glass in York Minster. Further information is available at www.britac.ac.uk/pubs/cat/cvma.html

The St William Window, York Minster

The medieval stained glass of York Minster constitutes the largest single collection in England. The wide range of iconographical content and artistic excellence gives it outstanding importance in the study of the medieval world. The next stage in Tom French's majestic treatment of York Minster's glass, covering the vast and brilliantly coloured St William Window, was published at the beginning of 2000 (see page 29).

York has only one saint – William Fitzherbert (archbishop 1143–54). His tomb in the nave and later shrines in the choir were conspicuous elements in the medieval Minster. His most important surviving monument, however, is the 78-foot high stained glass window in the choir, painted c.1414 and funded by the Yorkshire Ros barony. This illustrates, in ninety-five large panels, the ups and downs of his career, his death (allegedly by poisoning), and posthumous miracles – mostly occurring at his tomb or shrine.

One panel of this window is recorded in the following entry and illustration from the new catalogue.

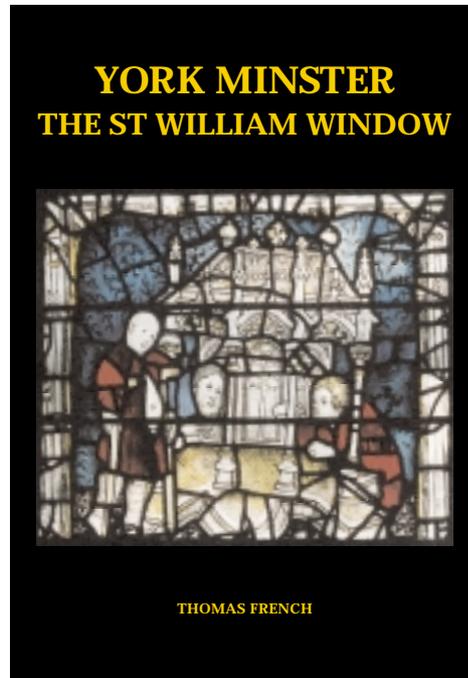
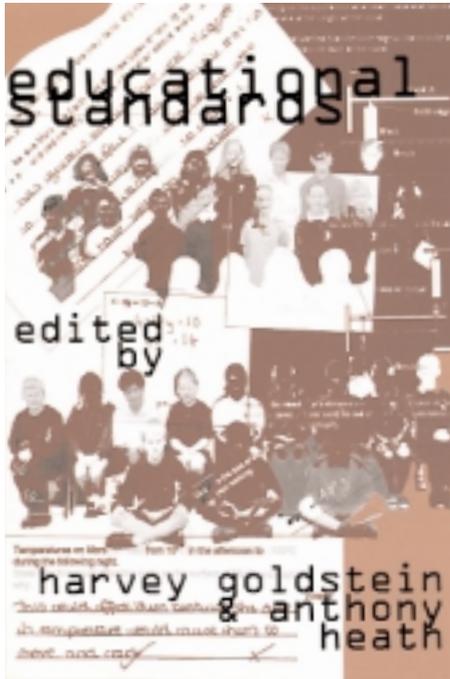
16a Cripples Collect Healing Oil

The richly decorated tomb, two bays long, is set at an angle. Under the cinquefoil head of each bay and at the end project yellow spouts, from which gush holy oil. On the left, a man suffering from (?)dropsy supports himself with a stick. His left hand is positioned within the arcading of the tomb to catch the oil pouring from a spout. He has alopecia, and his robe is unfastened, showing his distended stomach and a line of circular marks from chest to waist. Under his robe he wears a low-slung belt with a purse. His swollen legs are bandaged and swathed with cords. Below his left hand a partially blind man inserts his head through the arcading. He clutches the plinth of the tomb and anoints his half-closed left eye with oil. In front, next to him, a bald-headed blind man with deformed legs leans forward, channelling the oil from the next spout onto his upturned face. On the right are two men. One, with stunted legs, clings to the end buttress and collects the oil from the end spout into a wooden bowl. The other puts a hand behind the buttress, trying to reach the oil. Blue background. Most of the garments are modern.



Publications

All the British Academy publications listed here are distributed by Oxford University Press.



The period January–July 2000 saw the publication by the Academy of seven new titles. The latest Proceedings volume addresses a much-debated subject in educational policy. And a healthy crop of volumes arising from Academy Research Projects provides primary source material for the study both of ancient and medieval art and archaeology, and of oriental and African history.

Proceedings of the British Academy

Educational Standards, edited by Harvey Goldstein FBA & Anthony Heath FBA. *Proceedings of the British Academy* 102.

Hardback ISBN 0-19-726211-2,
paperback ISBN 0-19-726214-7

Educational standards have figured prominently in recent debates over educational policy all over the world. This is the first time that such a distinguished collection of scholars have come together in the UK to discuss different perspectives on this issue.

Two abiding themes emerge from these contributions to the debate. The first is that the very notion of a standard has to be viewed in its historical and social context. Different countries have widely varying views of what

constitutes a standard and how necessary such a concept is for the adequate functioning of their educational systems.

And secondly, it is difficult, if not impossible, to arrive at an objective definition of educational standards. Policies based upon comparisons of examinations, tests or other devices should therefore be seen for what they really are – human judgements which, however conscientiously pursued, are ultimately subjective and influenced by culture, personality and general perceptions of the external world.

An extract from one of the essays can be found on page 32.

Academy Research Project volumes

York Minster: The St William Window, by Thomas French. *Corpus Vitrearum Medii Aevi, Great Britain, Summary Catalogue* 5. ISBN 0-19-726202-3

Sumptuously illustrated, including twenty-five pages of colour capturing the full palette of the original glass, this catalogue provides an extraordinary visual record of late medieval devotion to the saints, in a window of outstanding beauty. It complements Tom French's study of York Minster: *The Great East Window*.

A specimen entry can be found on the facing page.

The William Stancomb Collection of Coins of the Black Sea Region. *Sylloge Nummorum Graecorum XI.* ISBN 0-19-726213-9

The area around the Black Sea has in recent years become an increasing focus of attention for archaeologists and ancient historians. Coinage represents one of the principal and most accessible forms of evidence for the ancient cultures of the region, and this volume is a major contribution to the revival of interest in this material. The catalogue illustrates and describes 1092 coins, and includes many rare or unpublished coins of the Greek period. For the Roman period, it will become the standard reference work for the Black Sea region.

Summary Guide to Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum, Second Edition, compiled by Thomas H. Carpenter and updated by Thomas Mannack at the Beazley Archive. ISBN 0-19-726203-1

During the last seventy-five years, the international *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum* project has created an enormous database of ancient Greek pottery held in public and private collections. In 1984, a handy *Summary Guide* was published to help students find their way through the 239 fascicules, with their differing editorial systems. This essential reference tool is brought up to date in this new edition, which adds the details of a further 60 fascicules. Four indexes list fascicules by country, by city (detailing plates with Attic black and red figure), by shapes (in Attic), and by other wares. The section on south Italian vases has been rearranged.

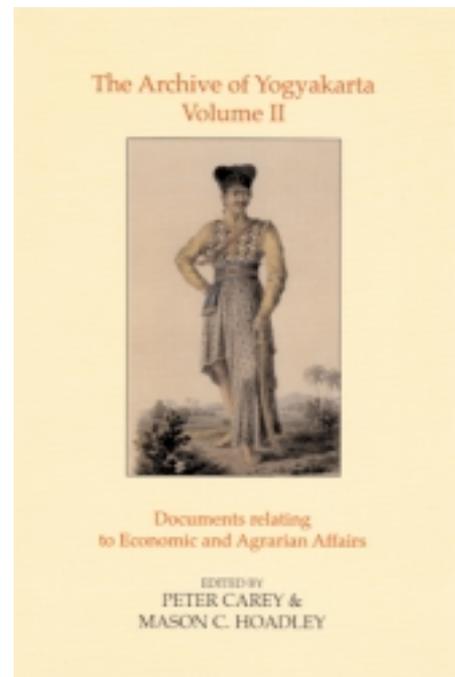
English Episcopal Acta 19: Salisbury 1217–1228, edited by B.R. Kemp. ISBN 0-19-726199-X

This volume of *EEA* completes the publication of the acta of the bishops of Salisbury up to 1228. All the acta

in this volume come from the episcopate of Richard Poore. He was a remarkable figure in the church of his day – he began the building of the new cathedral at Salisbury and he was closely involved with the reform movement initiated by the Fourth Lateran Council. His zeal for reform and the sharp discernment of his mind shine through the language of his official acts. This edition complements Volume 18, which contains the acta from the period 1078–1217, and includes an extensive introduction to both volumes. The amount of detail and range of interest contained in these two books – covering church affairs, monasteries, lands and people of all kinds, from kings to peasants – make the collection an invaluable aid for all historians of the medieval English church.

Memoirs of Giambattista Scala: Consul of his Italian Majesty in Lagos in Guinea (1862), translated by Brenda Packman, edited by Robert Smith. *Fontes Historiae Africanae, New Series – Sources of African History, 2.* ISBN 0-19-726204-X

This is the first English edition of an important source about a transitional period in Nigerian and colonial history. This is the first English edition of the *Memoirs* of Giambattista Scala who, from 1852 to 1859, was a pioneer in the legitimate trade which was replacing the Atlantic slave trade. From his vantage point in Lagos, Scala witnessed and recorded the dying years of the slave traffic and the growth of an export trade from West Africa to Europe, notably in palm products. From 1855 he also served as Sardinian Consul, and observed the growth of British influence within Lagos and the surrounding parts of southern Yorubaland. Originally published in 1862, these *Memoirs* provide an intelligent account both of life among the Yoruba and of the small, mixed community of Europeans, traders and missionaries now settling in Lagos.



The Archive of Yogyakarta, Volume II: Documents relating to Economic and Agrarian Affairs, edited by Peter Carey & Mason C. Hoadley. *Oriental Documents XI*.

ISBN 0-19-726185-X

The Archive of Yogyakarta is almost unique among Asian document collections, and one cannot over-estimate its significance for scholarly research into the history of Java. It forms a single corpus of records produced by the Sultan of Yogyakartas government between 1786 and 1812, dealing with the allocation of the realms scarce resources of men and materials. There are royal appointments, registers of the realms physical resources, retrenchment orders, lists of military contingents, and court correspondence – but these are vastly overshadowed by an incomparable set of local accountancy records, ranging from yearly balance sheets, through receipts of tolls, taxation lists, and debt letters, to allowances for the royal family and imposts for ceremonial feasts. Complementing Volume I (1980), which published selected documents of political importance, Volume II considers the Archive as a whole and what it reveals about the government and the economy of Yogyakarta. Transliterations of the Javanese originals are accompanied by English synopses and notes. This volume provides a unique opportunity for reconstructing a South-East Asian states financial system from its own documentation.

Postdoctoral Fellowship Monographs

The Academy operates a scheme for the selective publication of monographs arising from its Postdoctoral Fellowships (see page 42). It provides individual British Academy Postdoctoral Fellows with a prestigious publishing opportunity that is seen as a mark of excellence, and also acts as a showcase for the Postdoctoral Fellowship scheme itself. An annual competition is held for the awarding of monograph publishing contracts.

In May 2000, the Publications Committee held the fifth competition, and awarded contracts for the following three titles:

Dr M-A. Constantine & Dr G. Porter

Fragments in Oral Narrative

Drs Constantine and Porter intend to take a fresh look at the phenomenon of fragmented ballad texts in the oral tradition. They will examine the processes through which song texts may become reduced. For example, shared knowledge of the background narrative might contribute to the creation of songs in elliptical form by making explanation unnecessary. In such instances, the ballad singer can rely on the audience to complete the work by virtue of the shared recognition of the nuances and suggestions evoked. Contrarily, ignorance of the

detail of a particular story might serve to reduce the song to one pared-down incident that strikes the imagination, turning it from the specific to the general, from the epic to the lyric. The authors aim to demonstrate how models of interpretation drawn from a number of influential critical discourses (reader-theory, postmodernist cultural studies, studies in oral cultures etc.) can offer powerful alternative readings of what traditional scholarship has characterised as the fragmentary character of some oral literature.

Dr Y. Haskell

Pruning the Tree of Knowledge: Labour and Learning in Jesuit Latin Didactic Poetry, 1650–1773

Dr Haskell will examine the nature of didactic poetry written by Jesuits, a field that has been barely studied till now. Literally hundreds of poems, written in Latin, on subjects as diverse as tea and tobacco, meteorology and magnetism, raising chickens and children, and the art of fencing, have never been submitted to modern scholarly scrutiny. Didactic poems deserve attention not only for their literary qualities but because their subject is the real world. The poems reveal much about social mores, about attitudes to old and new knowledge and about the popular diffusion and reception of science. The study will shed light on a unwritten chapter in early modern Jesuit culture, and Dr Haskell's richly contextualised analysis of the poems will contribute to our understanding of the history of literature, education and science.

Dr K. Hodgson

Voicing the Soviet Experience: The Poetry of Ol'ga Berggol'ts

Dr Hodgson is preparing the first full-length treatment of the life and work of Ol'ga Berggol'ts, an important Russian poet of the twentieth century. Berggol'ts is a figure whose biography and critical reception sheds light on Soviet literary history and cultural politics. Dr Hodgson's study aims to re-evaluate the long-standing consensus that writers active in the Soviet Union from roughly the early '30s to the early 1980s who were able to be published are, by definition, of little value or interest. The complex nature of relationships between the writer and the state in the Stalin era makes it difficult to separate writers into conformist and dissident camps, and the case of Berggol'ts will be used to illustrate ways in which the borders between the two were permeable and shifting. The present work will examine a number of aspects of Berggol'ts's writing: lyric poetry, narrative verse, verse drama and autobiographical prose, and will draw on unpublished sources such as diaries and notebooks in order to recover a sense of the range and scope of her work. Through her examination of Berggol'ts's work, Dr Hodgson will consider the pressures imposed upon Soviet writers who attempted to work within the system with as little compromise as possible.

The progress of these three volumes to publication will be reported in subsequent issues of the *Review*.

Educational Standards

In October 1998 the British Academy invited a number of distinguished academics and researchers to present papers at a one-day symposium designed to bring together a number of perspectives on the issue of educational standards. None of the contributors claimed to offer a straightforward solution to the problems of definition – what is a standard – and measurement. Rather, they attempted to provide an analysis of the problems and to give a context to the debates, both historically and cross-nationally. The resulting publication, Educational Standards, is the first serious attempt to bring together such a distinguished collection of contributions on the topic.

*In the extract below, **Dr Mike Cresswell**, Head of Research and Statistics at the Associated Examining Board, considers the problem of using public examination results as monitors of changes in educational standards over time.*

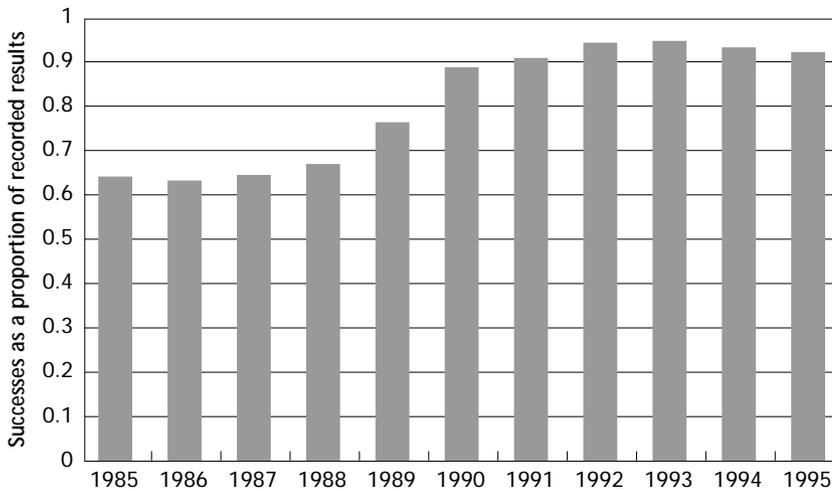


Figure 1. Success rate variations between 1985 and 1995.

Figure 1 shows how success rates changed between 1985 and 1995 in a particular assessment. However, before I say whether Figure 1 relates to one or more GCSE or GCE examinations, the reader is invited to pause and consider the question: does the graph indicate a rise in the standards of attainment of the candidates between 1988 and 1992 or a reduction in the assessment demands? Particularly adventurous readers might like to consider whether both effects took place and, if so, what their relative contributions to the overall pattern were.

In fact, Figure 1 shows the proportion of people reaching the summit of Mount Everest, expressed as a proportion of those who reached the summit or died on the mountain. Since Mount Everest has not shrunk significantly in recent years, the interpretation of Figure 1 presumably has to be that people have got better at climbing it. Does this mean that climbing Mount Everest has

become less demanding? In one sense, the answer is probably yes. For example, better equipment and more thorough preparation based upon the experience of earlier expeditions is likely to have contributed to the improved success rate. Here, then, is a further question to reflect upon: do such improvements represent an improvement in mountaineering standards or not?

Figure 2 shows the national percentage of girls in the Year 11 cohort who were awarded a Grade C or better in GCSE/O-level/CSE English between 1985 and 1995. Hopefully, it is now clear why interpretation of this graph in terms of either falling examination standards or rising attainment is problematic. In the Mount Everest example, appeal to the common human experience that mountains do not normally change height on short time scales enabled us to rule out one interpretation of the data but in the case of examination outcomes there is no such common experience. Thus the two sides in the annual argument which greets the publication of public examination results about whether educational standards are rising or examination standards are falling are defined by their preconceptions about the relative likelihood of improving educational standards on the one hand or changing examination standards on the other. Since the examination data cannot, by themselves, provide evidence one way or the other, they contribute nothing to the debate except a focus for argument. Either interpretation can be defended but neither can be proven without recourse to other information which is both sparse and, itself, controversial. It follows that serious attempts to monitor educational standards quantitatively must use information other than the statistics of public examination results.

Further questions arise in the light of Figure 3 which shows the national percentage of boys in the Year 11 cohort who were awarded a Grade C or better in GCSE/O-level/CSE English between 1985 and 1995. Comparison of Figures 2 and 3 shows that the improvement in boys reported results was substantially less than that for girls over the time period shown. This raises several interesting questions such as:

Are GCSE English examinations increasingly biased in favour of girls or are educational standards for girls improving at a faster rate than those for boys or are there social phenomena leading to a growing gap between the performance of boys and girls or is there some other explanation?

If the overall pass rate for boys and girls combined had been kept constant from 1985 to 1995, the boys results would have declined. Does this mean that boys were really getting worse at English while the girls got better?

The examination results themselves can shed no light on the answers to these questions, but it seems worth noting that those who want to interpret the data purely in terms of falling examination standards must be able to explain how these standards have fallen more for girls than for boys, even though they have taken identical examinations. In any case, there are many explanations for changes in examination candidates results relating to demographic, social and administrative variables, which mean that the interpretation of examination statistics per se in terms of the quality of education delivered by the school system would still be impossible.

For publication details of *Educational Standards* please see page 29.

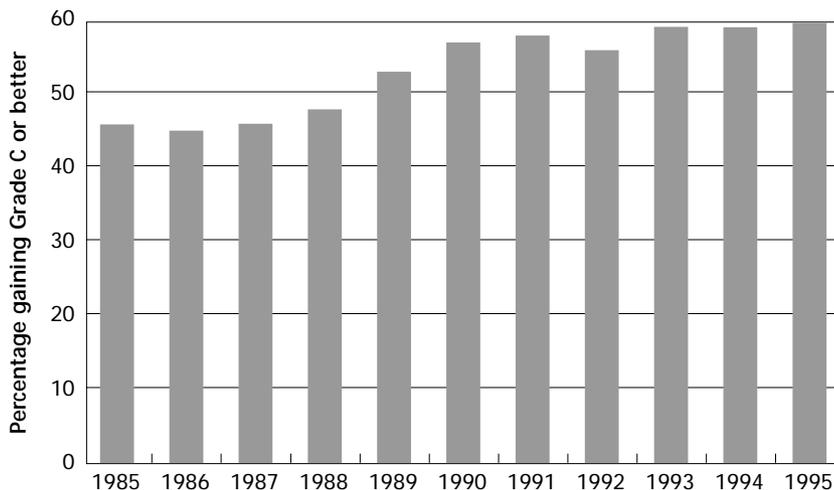


Figure 2. Year 11 girls pass rates in GCSE/O-level/CSE English 1985–1995. Data from GCSE Results Analysis: an analysis of the 1985 GCSE results and trends over time. Published in London by the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority in 1996. (Note that the apparent drop in 1992 coincides with the use of a different original data source for 1992 onwards.)

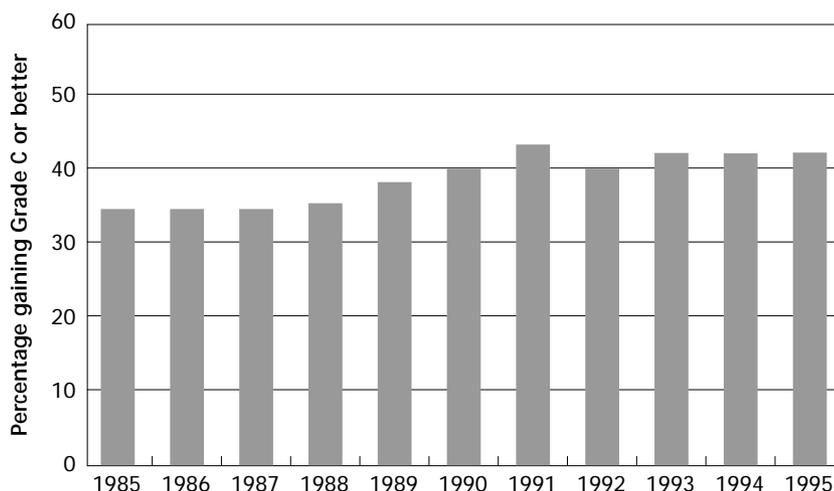


Figure 3. Year 11 boys pass rates in GCSE/O-level/CSE English 1985–1995. Data again taken from GCSE Results Analysis: an analysis of the 1985 GCSE results and trends over time. (Note that, as in Figure 2, the apparent drop in 1992 coincides with the use of a different original data source for 1992 onwards.)

International Relations

Full details of awards can be found on the Academy's web site via www.britac.ac.uk.

The Academy's international relations include exchange programmes with a variety of partner bodies in many parts of the world, and membership of international organisations, such as the European Science Foundation and the Union Académique Internationale. In pursuing its international policies, the Academy is concerned not only to support individual scholarship, but also to encourage British and foreign scholars to work together on collaborative

projects, and it does this through a range of grant schemes, details of which may be obtained from the Academy's web site, or the Guide to Awards.

The international relations programme has traditionally been dominated by a series of exchange agreements with a variety of countries, and the maintenance of these programmes occupies a considerable proportion of the time of the three members of staff in the International Relations Department. Elsewhere in this *Review*, Francine Danaher and Jenny Vinson describe visits, to Poland and China respectively, to discuss the operation of exchange agreements and familiarise themselves with current developments in the countries (see page 36). The Overseas Policy Committee, which controls the Academy's international relations, now follows a policy of signing agreements with a limited life-span, of perhaps three or four years, so that the progress and development of relations can be reviewed regularly. At present agreements with Bulgaria, Hungary and Georgia are due for renewal, while, in June, the Academy was delighted to host a delegation from the Russian Academy of Sciences to sign a long-awaited new Agreement. In addition, the Academy received a delegation from the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and discussed the question of developing joint projects in areas of mutual concern. The Academy has also been negotiating with the Academia Sinica in Taiwan to revise and develop the current exchange programme. It has also opened discussions with the National Science Council in Taiwan on a programme to support joint projects between British and Taiwanese scholars, and it is hoped that this will get under way during 2001. The Foreign Secretary took advantage of a visit to Taiwan in April 2000 to visit both institutions.

The Foreign Secretary and the Secretary attended the General Assembly of ALLEA (All European Academies) in Prague in March 2000. The

Sir Tony Wrigley (back) and Mr P.W.H. Brown (right) look on as HE the Russian Ambassador signs the Academy's visitors' book.



(L-R) Mr P.W.H. Brown, HE the Russian Ambassador, Professor C.N.J. Mann, Dr L. Drobizheva, Professor N.A. Simoniya, and Professor J.D.Y. Peel celebrate the signing of the Agreement between the British Academy and the Russian Academy of Sciences.



President of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Professor Lu Yongxiang, with the Foreign Secretary.

gathering brought together representatives of thirty-five of the forty-three member Academies. ALLEA was founded in 1994 with the aim of strengthening the co-operative ties between academies. It also aims to provide national, international and supranational political organisations with advice on science policy. It has Standing Committees for intellectual property, science and ethics, as well as Task Forces focusing on the history of science, research careers, demographics, privacy and research policy.

The new grant schemes developed by the Academy are arousing interest in the academic community, and during the last six months the Overseas Policy Committee has made a total of twenty-seven awards for joint activities, networks and international symposia as well as twenty-two exchange awards. The Academy's own funding has been augmented by a series of collaborative ventures with other funding partners, notably the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique in France, the Association of Commonwealth Universities, and the Soros-funded Research Support Scheme.

The Academy has become increasingly conscious that it should seek to speak for the humanities and the social sciences in relation to European Union research policy, and has been developing its views and policies in this area. Following a small workshop in February, when members of the UK Research Office in Brussels gave a valuable

briefing on European Commission structures and thinking, the Academy appointed a consultant, Mr William Solesbury, to assist the Academy in developing its strategies. Mr Solesbury's report will be presented to the Overseas Policy Committee in November, following a workshop in September 2000 to listen to the views of interested members of the academic community. The current debates on the European Research Area reveal increasing possibilities for both the humanities and social sciences, and in the forthcoming discussions on the structure of the Sixth Framework Programme there is some reason to hope that the emphasis on natural science and technology may be broadened.

In early July the Academy hosted a discussion meeting on *The Humanities and the Social Sciences: Re-shaping the Discussion between the Universities and the State*. Speakers included Professor John Laver FBA and Professor Partha Dasgupta FBA, speaking respectively about the humanities and the social sciences in Britain, with Professor Mary E. Daly (Royal Irish Academy), Professor John D'Arms (American Council of Learned Societies), Professor Louise Forsyth (Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada), Professor Malcolm Gillies (Australian Academy of the Humanities), Professor Roy MacLeod (Academy of the Social Sciences in Australia) and Dr Brian Opie (Humanities Society of New Zealand). The national similarities and differences in experience provided the basis for a stimulating and varied debate.

Jenny Vinson, *International Relations Assistant, reports on a visit to China*

In April 1999 the Academy hosted the visit of a high-level delegation led by the President of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, Professor Li Tieying. Among the members of the delegation were staff from the Foreign Affairs Bureau of CASS, who invited me to Beijing to meet colleagues in their office and learn about their operations. Naturally, I was more than happy to take them up on their offer. I had spent a year in Beijing as a student in 1993–94 and had not been back since.

I spent a week in Beijing, which had changed almost beyond recognition since I was last there, hosted by CASS. Much of the time was spent visiting some of CASS's thirty-one research institutes which are dotted around the city, talking to scholars there about funding opportunities under Academy schemes. At the Foreign Affairs Bureau I learnt about their administration of the Exchange Agreement between the British Academy/ESRC and CASS, and their relations with other European countries. We also discussed updating the Exchange Agreement, which has not been done for a number of years, to include provision for joint research projects and the organisation of workshops and seminars. Recent projects supported under the Exchange Agreement include *Nationalism, Memory and the Second World War in Chinese Political Culture, 1931–1999* (Dr Rana Mitter, Department of History, University of Warwick) and *Housing Policy and Finance in the UK* (Professor Yang Shengming, Professor Wen Guifang, Professor Li Jian and Ms Wang Lina, Institute of Finance and Trade Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences).

From Beijing I went on to Shanghai, where I spent two days hosted by the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences. Following a tour of the Academy and a meeting with the members of the International Office, there was a hectic two days schedule, accompanied by my counterpart at SASS. Our Exchange Agreement with SASS has been rarely used in recent years, so we decided to work together in the future to publicise the benefits of visiting Shanghai to British scholars.

My visit to China gave me the valuable opportunity to strengthen relationships with colleagues there, with whom I am in contact on an almost daily basis. Despite the efficiency of email and fax, it made an enormous difference to meet people face to face to discuss problems and explore further possibilities for collaboration. I am extremely grateful to the Foreign Affairs Department at CASS and the International Office at SASS for all the arrangements they made on my behalf, and for going out of their way to make my visit so interesting and pleasurable. As it was so beneficial, it has been decided that this exchange of International Office staff will

be repeated on a regular basis and we are now looking forward to the return visit of Ms Zhang Lihua from the Foreign Affairs Department of CASS, who will be coming to Britain in September 2000.

Francine Danaher, *International Relations Assistant, reports on a visit to Poland*

Earlier this year, I flew to Warsaw for a five day visit to the Polish Academy of Sciences with which the British Academy operates an Exchange Agreement. My counterpart at the Polish Academy, Renata Kuskowska, accompanied me for the duration of my visit. The main purpose of the visit was to discuss arrangements for the administration of visits in connection with the new joint projects element of the Agreement. The first batch of joint projects had been approved by the Overseas Policy Committee in December 1998. The subjects ranged from *Time and Body: Retrieving Phenomenology* (Dr Pavel Dybel of the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology, and Dr Joanna Hodge of the Department of Politics & Philosophy, Manchester Metropolitan University) to *European Standards for the Evaluation of Raw Materials in Projects and Investments* (Dr Joanna Kulczycka of the Mineral and Energy Economy Research Centre and Professor Dennis Buchanan of the Royal School of Mines, Imperial College)

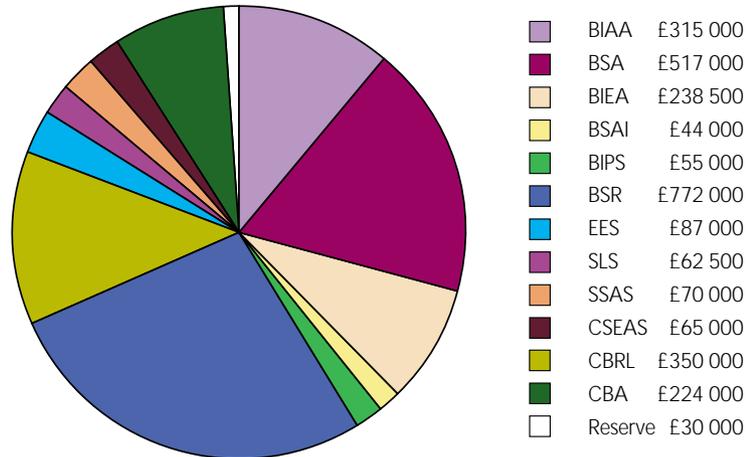
In Warsaw, I had a series of useful meetings with senior academics, and had the opportunity to visit a number of the Institutes and Centres of the Polish Academy. On my second day in Warsaw I faced a panel of fifteen from the Institute of Philosophy and Sociology. A good number of them had been to Britain under the terms of the Exchange Agreement so there were friendly faces, and they provided me with some valuable feedback. It was evident that Polish scholars very much appreciate the opportunity to visit Britain to consult archives and libraries, and have access to material that is not available in their own country.

Renata and I also spent some time in Cracow, meeting Professor Adam Bielanski, former President of the Cracow Branch of the Polish Academy, and various other members of the Secretariat. This was more of a courtesy visit since only one humanities institution, the Institute of Polish Language, is based in Cracow.

This visit proved to be useful in two main ways. First, some adjustments were made to the administration of the joint projects element of the Agreement, in the light of feedback from both scholars and administrators. We hope this scheme will prove to be a valuable element of the Polish Agreement in years to come. Secondly, and perhaps more importantly, it helped to create a closer working relationship with my counterpart at the Polish Academy which can do nothing but benefit our future co-operation.

Overseas Institutes and Sponsored Societies

In February 2000 BASIS (the Board for Academy-Sponsored Institutes and Societies) allocated grants totalling £2,820,000 to Institutes and Societies for the financial year 2000–2001. A chart showing the grant-in-aid to individual institutions is shown right. As usual, the allocations followed careful scrutiny of the bids submitted by institutions in autumn 1999, which included a costed programme of activities for the coming year. BASIS also awarded a number of supplementary grants at the end of the previous financial year, which have enabled institutions to purchase urgently needed items of office and project equipment, and in some cases new vehicles.



The work of BASIS

BASIS has continued to investigate a number of issues raised during the course of the past year. These include best practice in relation to health and safety on archaeological fieldwork projects, registration and insurance of vehicles, publications policy and management of financial reserves. In addition, BASIS has gathered information about the various types of 'scholarship' schemes operated by different institutions, with a view to establishing a new centrally-administered scheme for awards to be taken up under the auspices of any of the sponsored Institutes or Societies. It has continued to encourage institutions to broaden their subject remit beyond the fields traditionally associated with their work, by providing basic facilities and services for scholars in all subjects.

Links with UK institutions

In recent years institutes have also been encouraged by BASIS to seek greater integration with the academic community in the UK, and a number of them have now established formal links with UK institutions. These include a partnership arrangement between the Society for South Asian Studies and the University of Durham in support of a Research Fellow. The Society has also recently initiated two postdoctoral fellowships to be held at UK institutions. A new lectureship in the Archaeology of Eastern Africa has also recently been created at UCL, which will be jointly funded by the British Institute in Eastern Africa; the holder,

Dr Andrew Reid, is expected to devote half his time to research under the auspices of the Institute. Meanwhile in June, the second annual course for final-year undergraduates from UCL was run by the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara. The course this year focused on Early Anatolia (Palaeolithic to Early Bronze Age). The Institute's Director, Dr Roger Matthews, will take up a post at UCL on leaving Ankara at the end of 2001.

Conferences and workshops

Institutes and Societies have continued to pursue an active programme of conferences and workshops, both in the UK and overseas. Recent events have included a Jerusalem-based conference on *The Transmission and Assimilation of Culture in the Near-East*, hosted by the Council for British Research in the Levant. The CBRL was also involved in hosting the *Wadi Faynan 2000* conference, which took place in Amman in April and was aimed at strengthening links between archaeologists working in southern Jordan. Also in April, another in a series of workshops presenting the work of former award-holders of the British Institute of Persian Studies took place at the University of Durham, and in June BIPS hosted a conference at SOAS in London on *The Left in Iran: Historical and Comparative Perspectives*. In Rome, the British School presented the latest results of its Tiber Valley Project at a workshop in February, which was well attended by both British and Italian scholars.

The following research bodies are supported by the Academy: the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara, the British School at Athens, the British Institute in Eastern Africa, the British School of Archaeology in Iraq, the British Institute of Persian Studies, the British School at Rome, the Egypt Exploration Society, the Society for Libyan studies, the Society for South Asian Studies, the Committee for South East Asian Studies, the Council for British Research in the Levant, and the Council for British Archaeology

Lectures

Lectures hosted by Institutes and Societies in the first half of the year have included the following: 'Assyria in Syria: the Middle Assyrian dunnu at Tell Sabi Abyad' by Mr Peter Akkermans (British School of Archaeology in Iraq); 'Carsten Niebuhr and Ancient Iran' by Professor Josef Wiesehöfer (BIPS); 'The Underworld of Maya and Merit: the restoration of their Memphite tomb' by Professor G. Martin (Egypt Exploration Society). In March, a lecture on Ottoman Jerusalem was given by Professor R. Hillenbrand (CBRL), and the British School at Rome's annual 'Subscribers' lecture was presented by Jacopo Benci (Assistant Director, Fine Arts) on 'Responding to Rome: the work of the BSR artists'. Meanwhile in Tehran, Dr John Curtis gave a lecture in April at the British Institute of Persian Studies on 'The Origins of Achaemenid Art', which was very well attended by local scholars, indicating a welcome change of atmosphere in Iran.

Other activities

A number of well-established fieldwork projects have continued in the first half of 2000. These include excavations at Fezzan in Libya, the site of the ancient Garamantian civilisation, carried out under the auspices of the Society for Libyan Studies. Work continues by the British School of Archaeology in Iraq at the site of Tell Brak in Syria. Further fieldwork was also carried out by the British Institute in Eastern Africa, in conjunction with the University of Dar es Salaam, in the Lake Haubi area of central Tanzania; this included research into environmental history, Iron Age settlement and soil erosion. Meanwhile, new archaeological fieldwork projects initiated recently

Professor David Mattingly is currently directing the research on the Garamantes, for which he has recently been awarded a British Academy Research Readership.

An account of BIEA's major fieldwork project at Aksum can be found on page 17.

by Institutes and Societies have included an excavation at the prehistoric site of Rayy in Iran, supported by BIPS and undertaken jointly by the universities of Bradford and Tehran. The CBRL has also sponsored a new project at Jaba, a medieval to Ottoman village north of Jerusalem, which has begun with the mapping of the entire village.

The wide range of research supported by the Committee for South-East Asian Studies is demonstrated by some of the research grants it awarded earlier this year: projects included 'Excavations at Tra Kieu (Vietnam)', 'Chinese opera in Singapore', 'Boats of the South China seas' and 'Inter-regional economic and social links in Nusa Tenggara Timur, Indonesia'. The Committee also plans to fund a new register of research on South-East Asia in the UK.

Meanwhile, in the UK, the Council for British Archaeology has continued to support activities in its four key areas of research, conservation, education and communication. A major ongoing project sponsored by the CBA since 1995 is the Defence of Britain Database and Archive, whose aims are to compile a database of twentieth-century military structures and sites, and to raise public awareness of these monuments. The project has recently received financial support from the Heritage Lottery Fund. Work is currently taking place recording anti-invasion defences of the UK during World War II. The CBA also supports the work of the British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography (based at the British Academy), which regularly publishes a guide to current publications relating to archaeology, environmental history and material culture in the UK and the Republic of Ireland.

Centenary Celebrations at Knossos

In March 2000 celebrations were held at Knossos to mark the centenary of the first excavations at the site by Sir Arthur Evans, one of the Founding Fellows of the British Academy. Wreaths were laid by the Mayor of Knossos and by the British Ambassador at the bust of Sir Arthur Evans in the West Court of the Palace. The commemorative ceremony took place at 11 o'clock on 23 March, exactly one hundred years since Evans commenced his excavations. The British School at Athens' Knossos Curator read extracts from the day books for 23 March 1900, and a reception followed which was attended by over 120

guests. That evening the opening of the exhibition 'From Minos Kalokairinos to Arthur Evans' took place at Herakleion Museum. The events attracted much press and television coverage and were very well received.

Meanwhile in London, the British School at Athens, in conjunction with the Institute of Classical Studies, the British Museum and the Society for the Promotion of Hellenic Studies, hosted a 'Knossos Centenary Day' in March to celebrate the anniversary. The colloquium included lectures and a series of poster exhibitions commemorating Sir Arthur Evans' work at Knossos and his associations with the institutions sponsoring the event.



Above: The BSA's Knossos Curator, Dr Eleni Hatzaki, reads extracts from the day books for 23 March 1900. To the left (wearing glasses) is the School's Director, Mr David Blackman, and on the right the British Ambassador Mr David Madden.

Right: Wreaths laid at the foot of the bust of Sir Arthur Evans at Knossos on 23 March 2000, one hundred years to the day since Evans' commenced his excavations at the site.



Research Posts

RESEARCH READERSHIPS AND SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

The British Academy held its annual competition for Research Readerships and Senior Research Fellowships. The awards will be taken up in the autumn of 2000. This year, the overall number of applicants for these awards remained very high: 167 scholars (the same number as last year) entered the competition. There were 127 applications for the two-year Research Readerships, and this intense competition was recognised by the Academy's decision to make fourteen awards this year, two more than were taken up after the last competition. There was, however, a significant drop in the numbers of applications for the Senior Research Fellowships, which are generously funded by the Leverhulme Trust. Seventy-eight applications were originally received, and the Academy has decided to offer just the seven awards covered by the Leverhulme Trust's grant this year, and not to extend the numbers as was done last year with supplementary public funding.

British Academy Research Readerships 2000–2002

Dr S. Bobzien

CUF Lecturer and Fellow in Philosophy, Queen's College, Oxford
The Development of Propositional Logic in Antiquity

Dr Susanne Bobzien proposes to write a book on the development of propositional logic in antiquity, re-evaluating the known evidence and drawing on fragments and texts which have as yet been neither translated nor exploited for the history of propositional logic. The 'discovery' of propositional logic is one of the two great achievements in ancient logic. Surviving passages on ancient propositional logic date from the third century BC to the sixth century AD. This will be the first such study to be written, and builds on a considerable body of work previously carried out by Dr Bobzien.

Professor E.H. Cooper

Titular Professor in English, University College, Oxford
Romance 1150–1616

The purpose of Professor Helen Cooper's research is to produce a book on romance conventions from the first emergence of the genre in French and Anglo-Norman in the twelfth century down to the death of Shakespeare: a continuous story, since romances not only constituted the largest and most sophisticated body of secular fiction in the Middle Ages, but in black-letter prints were familiar to Elizabethans of all social levels. This embedded culture was reworked for the theatre, for Reformation propaganda, and for the 'writing of England'. The varying interpretations of the same texts over several centuries, and the combination of precise imitations of motif with differences of understanding and usage, offer a revealing and sensitive measure of historical and cultural change.

Dr H.S.A. Fox

Senior Lecturer in English Local History, University of Leicester
Rural Settlements in Medieval Devon, 500–1500: A Study in Social History

Dr Harold Fox proposes to use the Readership to address a large number of key issues relating to medieval settlement and society, producing

results which should be of interest and use to a wide range of medieval and landscape historians and also to the general public. These results will be embodied in a monograph which will address the two-way relationship between places and the people living in them. Society was arranged on the ground in a way which reflected social relations: thus a labourer's cottage near the farm door probably indicates dependent or 'tied' labour. There is also a reverse relationship because settlement pattern influenced social relations: thus a dispersed pattern of settlement may have contributed to weak lordship. Another key feature of this work will be its long time span.

Dr D. Gambetta FBA

University Reader in Sociology, All Souls College, Oxford
Signalling and Mimicking Individual and Group Identity

Dr Diego Gambetta intends to use the award of the Readership to complete a major book on the deceptive mimicry of identity signals (e.g. impersonating, pretending, passing off). This project represents a whole new development of Dr Gambetta's previous work on trust, and identifies a phenomenon that, while ubiquitous, is merely anecdotally acknowledged, and it provides a unified theoretical treatment of it. The overall aim consists of uncovering the ways in which identity signalling succeeds in conveying credible information about the unobservable qualities of agents despite the threat posed by mimics who aim to exploit the reputation without the qualities. Theoretically, it draws on a range of disciplines, such as game theory, biology and semiotics, to establish the conditions that make signals credible. Empirically, it provides a classification of mimicry types and the analysis of some selected cases of 'semiotic warfare' between mimics and their victims.

Professor C.S. Gamble FBA

Professor of Archaeology, University of Southampton
The Palaeolithic Foundations of Europe

The primary aim of Professor Clive Gamble's research will be the study of the intensification of hunter-gatherer societies in Palaeolithic Europe from 18,000 to 8,000 years ago. This crucial ten thousand years in human prehistory will be compared with that of the Near East where similar intensification led to agriculture and very different societies. A secondary aim is to bring prehistoric hunters and gatherers 'in from the cold' and into explanations of change in later prehistory. This will be achieved by undertaking new research in selected regions of Europe and the Near East in order to present a synthesis of the period. Attention will be paid to the process of social and economic intensification and the different trajectories of change. These issues will be addressed through the study of selected sites and compared at a regional scale.

Professor P.L. Harris FBA

Professor of Developmental Psychology, St John's College, Oxford
Testimony and Imagination

Research on cognitive development implies that young children are stubborn autodidacts: they resist the testimony of adults and rely on their own limited, first-hand observation. There are good reasons for thinking that this conception of cognitive development is inadequate. First, children adopt conclusions that they cannot establish first-hand (e.g. that the earth is round; that people think with their brain). Second, they have a powerful, disciplined imagination that helps them to elaborate upon and interpret claims that they learn about via testimony. Professor Harris

proposes to undertake a two-part research project to examine such learning: (1) a study of children's understanding in a domain where they must rely on adult testimony, namely the human life-cycle (including their own) of birth, growth and death; and (2) an evaluation of the epistemological status that children grant to testimony, as revealed in their spontaneous articulation of key conceptual distinctions.

Professor T.A. Jackson

Professor of Modern Irish History, The Queen's University of Belfast
Irish Unionism, 1800–2000

Professor Alvin Jackson proposes to use the Readership to complement his work on early Unionism with a study of the politics, culture and society of the movement in the Stormont years, marrying this new work to existing research with a view to creating a single, archive-based and wide-ranging history of the Irish Unionist movement from its origins to the present day. This work would fill a gap with a single, research-based volume devoted to the institutional, ideological and cultural history of Irish Unionism.

Professor D.S. King

Professor of Politics, St John's College, Oxford
The Idea of America in Britain

The purpose of Professor Desmond King's research project is to undertake and complete a major interpretative study of the influence of America in Britain through an examination of a set of case studies drawn from politics and public policy. The case studies are: political relations, as represented in presidential–prime ministerial links; economic relations, examined through the period of British economic dependence on the dollar; and public policies in the area of race relations and welfare.

Professor J. Local

Professor of Phonetics and Linguistics, University of York
Phonetics of Talk-in-Interaction: A Study of the Interactional Functioning of Phonetic Detail in Everyday Talk

Professor John Local intends to use the Readership to work on a book, 'Phonetics and Meaning in Talk-in-Interaction'. Linguists have a wealth of knowledge about the way speech sounds are produced and combined together to make words and longer utterances. They frequently work, however, on the basis of constructed data or speech produced in experimental settings. In consequence, there is only the most rudimentary information on the ways in which ordinary people use the phonetic resources of language in natural everyday talk. This proposal seeks to remedy this by investigating talk in natural conversation and elaborating an interactional approach to phonetics, bringing together techniques of conversation analysis and parametric phonetic analysis to offer insights into this complex area. The book will synthesise published and unpublished work, and incorporate new results from the detailed analysis of interactional data that will be carried out in the course of the award.

Professor K. Morgan

Professor of History, Brunel University
The Dynamics of the British Slave Trade in the Eighteenth Century

The award of the Readership will enable Professor Kenneth Morgan to complete the research and writing for a book on the British Slave Trade in the eighteenth century. This will be primarily concerned with the business history of the Guinea traffic on all legs of the triangular trade, dealing with the merchants and sea captains involved in the trade; the commercial activities carried out on the west African coast; the middle passage; the disposal of slaves in the Americas, and the profits accruing to Britain from the slave trade. This will be the first fully researched study of its kind to appear for many years. It will include new material, especially on the international competition for slaves in Africa, slave sales in North America and the Caribbean, and the rise of Liverpool as a leading slave port.

Dr M. Mundy

Senior Lecturer in Anthropology
Property, Family and Administration: An Historical Anthropology of Islamic Jurisprudence and the Modern Ottoman State

Dr Martha Mundy's project develops an innovative analysis of private property relations in the modern Ottoman state of the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The Ottoman Empire represents an important comparative case: while its reforms of administration and property law resemble those of other imperial powers, the state – at once Asiatic and European – acted within Islamic-Imperial legal traditions quite different from those that informed European colonial rule at this time. Property relations entail quite different moments or fields: legal doctrine, political administration, and 'rights' generated in production. This study thus combines textual interpretation of the genealogies of Ottoman legal doctrine, archival analysis of the political administration of law, and ethnographic reconstruction drawn from government records and oral history in villages of one province of the Empire. The analysis aims not to press these readings into a single mould but to explore their articulation as expressive of distinct moments of property.

Mrs C.M. Roueché

Reader in Classical and Byzantine Greek, King's College London
Corpus of Inscriptions from Aphrodisias in Caria

Mrs Charlotte Roueché proposes to use the Readership to prepare for publication a full corpus of the inscriptions of Aphrodisias in Caria, most of which have been recorded over the past 30 years by Joyce Reynolds, FBA and herself. Mrs Roueché intends to use new electronic means to exploit an unusually rich dossier more fully than has ever been done before – not only by using extensive illustration, but also by expressing the relationships of the texts to one another and to their physical location. In this project, Mrs Roueché will be able to draw on expertise and resources at King's College London and at the Institute for Classical Studies, London. The intention is to set a new standard for the publication of inscriptions from a particular site. Mrs Roueché will also work with Denis Feissel (Paris) to make a corpus of the large mass of Late Antique inscriptions from Ephesos, with the approval and collaboration of the Austrian excavators.

Dr A.R.G. Swift

CUF Lecturer and Tutorial Fellow in Politics, Balliol College, Oxford
The Intergenerational Transmission of Advantage: Sociological Mechanisms and their Normative Assessment

The award of the Readership will enable Dr Adam Swift to develop his previous interdisciplinary work on social stratification and distributive justice, bringing to fruition research aimed at clarifying the normative issues raised by the social processes that generate the reproduction of social inequality across generations. Attention will focus on three themes: (1) the different ways in which advantage is conceptualised by theorists of distributive justice and sociologists of class and stratification; (2) the morality of educational choice, with special reference to the justification of choices that contribute to inequalities that parents themselves regard as unfair; and (3) the various sociological mechanisms by which relative advantage (and disadvantage) is transmitted from parents to children, and the moral issues – to do with equality of opportunity and the proper scope of partiality – that they raise.

Professor H. Woudhuysen

Professor of English, University College London
Shakespeare and the Book

Professor Woudhuysen's research will examine bibliographical and theoretical thinking during the last fifty years about Shakespeare's works and the editing of their texts. Based on a fresh critical reading of the relevant books and articles, it will incorporate new research into manuscripts, printing and publishing during the period. This research

will fill a gap for a new work which examines the editing of Shakespeare's plays and poems in the light of developments in bibliography, the history of the book and literary theory during the half century which has elapsed since the last work to attempt such a survey: F.P. Wilson's *Shakespeare and the New Bibliography* first published in 1945.

British Academy/Leverhulme Trust Senior Research Fellowships 2000–2001

Professor R. Archer

Professor of Spanish, University of Durham

The Literature of Misogyny and Profeminism in Medieval Spain

Professor Robert Archer intends to use his Senior Research Fellowship to write a monograph on misogynistic and defence-of-women literature from the mid thirteenth to mid sixteenth centuries in Spain. This monograph will draw on material from various traditions of literary misogyny and 'defence' that have not previously been considered in a global context: the *exemplum* tradition, sermonistic prose, narrative, lyric, treatise; and will cover texts from the two main Hispanic literary languages of the period. This will be the final and most major of the publications arising from a large project establishing a database from a corpus of over a hundred, mostly literary, texts – largely substantial prose works, but also encompassing texts of varying length in verse – which draw on the misogynistic tradition and on the equally important parallel tradition of 'defence literature'. These texts are concerned wholly or partly with arguments against women generically or in their favour.

Dr J. Black

Senior Lecturer in Law, London School of Economics

The Nature of Regulation

The award of a Senior Research Fellowship will help Dr Julia Black to ensure significant progress on a major piece of research which seeks to develop a detailed conceptual analysis of contemporary regulation. The analysis will draw on the perspectives and theories of a number of different disciplines and on a wide range of empirical examples, and will take a critical look at the emerging discipline of regulatory studies. The research will examine four central and interlinked issues in contemporary regulation: the design of regulatory techniques; the institutional structures of regulation; responses to and effects of regulation; and the sources and nature of regulatory legitimacy. It will also take a reflexive approach to regulatory studies, and ask what are the parameters of regulation as a concept and as an activity; what role do normative values play in contemporary regulatory studies; what it would mean for regulatory studies to be truly inter-disciplinary, as opposed to *multi-disciplinary*; and finally what is the nature of the relationship between legal and regulatory studies.

Dr N. Britten

Senior Lecturer in Medical Sociology, Guy's, King's and St Thomas' School of Medicine, King's College London

The Sociology of Doctor–Patient Communication about Medicines

Since 1990, Dr Nicky Britten has been developing a programme of research about the sociological aspects of prescribing, medicine taking and pharmacy practice, focusing particularly on doctor–patient communication. The award of the Senior Research Fellowship will enable Dr Britten to complete the analysis of a large qualitative data set, and in particular will allow her to develop the sociological aspects of doctor–patient communication. This will contribute to the further integration of sociological theory and empirical investigation using this database of general practice consultations. Dr Britten's goal is the development of empirically and theoretically robust analyses of doctor–patient communication which contribute to the sociological literature and which also contribute to improvements in clinical practice, disseminated to a sociological audience in the first instance.

Professor O. Figes

Professor of History, Birkbeck College

Russian Culture and the Development of the Russian National Identity

The award of the Senior Research Fellowship will enable Professor Orlando Figes to complete a major and pioneering study of the Russian cultural identity since 1700. The 'search for Russia' will be its central theme. Professor Figes will explore the many different ways in which the idea and the (self-conscious) national style of 'Russia' has been invented and reinvented in literature and art, architecture, music, philosophy and theology, history, ethnography, geography and mythology. The research will also explore how the ideas of Russia developed in these fields defined that nation's cultural self-identity. This is an important moment for Russia – which must redefine itself as a nation state after the collapse of Communism – and the cultural traditions which this book will excavate will be an essential source of that identity.

Dr A. McDermott

Lecturer in English, University of Birmingham

A Scholarly and Critical Edition of Johnson's Dictionary

The well-established and successful project to produce a scholarly and critical edition of Johnson's Dictionary is approaching the end of its second phase and the award of the Senior Research Fellowship to Dr Anne McDermott will enable her to make a final push to see it through to publication. Dr McDermott will work on the examination of manuscript and archive material and on tracking down the more problematic sources for the illustrative quotations in Johnson's Dictionary. The results of this work will be used to provide full bibliographic information of the sources, both in the edition used by Johnson and in a modern edition.

Dr J. Soskice

Lecturer in Divinity, University of Cambridge

Naming God

Dr Janet Soskice intends to use the Senior Research Fellowship to write up her Stanton Lectures in the Philosophy of Religion, fourteen public lectures delivered over the last two years at Cambridge. They concern 'naming God'. The very idea of 'naming God' it is said contains within itself the form of its own impossibility. According to the consensus of classical monotheism, to understand the term 'God' (not a proper name) is to understand that God cannot be named without making God an object. This fundamental dilemma of religious language is both philosophical and mystical, and has been understood as such over many centuries by Jews, Christians and Muslims.

Mr N. Wood

Research Fellow, University of Westminster

Science and Civilisation in China: Ceramic Technology

The award of a Senior Research Fellowship to Mr Nigel Wood will enable him to have an uninterrupted spell to complete, integrate and help edit the ceramic technology volume of Science and Civilisation in China for CUP. The book is intended to describe the development of Chinese ceramic technology from the Neolithic period to the present day. It will also attempt to place China's ceramics within the context of world ceramic history, and examine their influence on the development of ceramics beyond China itself. Mr Wood's own contributions to the project will mainly address the practical and technological aspects of the subject.

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

The Fellowships give outstanding younger scholars, who have just completed their PhDs, further experience of research and teaching over a three-year period. Previous award-holders have an exceptional track record in obtaining permanent academic posts after completing their Fellowships.

Reduced opportunities for young researchers in the humanities and social sciences to enter academic life has meant that the competition continues to be popular: this year 337 applications were received for thirty awards. Many of the applications were of the highest quality and for the second year running, more women than men received the Fellowships. The full list of awards can be found on the Academy's web site at www.britac.ac.uk.

Postdoctoral Fellowship Symposium

The Sixth British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship Symposium was held at the Academy on Wednesday 26 January 2000. The series, which began in 1994, aims to offer a showcase for the outstanding young scholars who have been awarded Academy Postdoctoral Fellowships to talk about some aspect of the research for which they were given their award.

This year the audience of over sixty scholars was treated to a total of twenty-two talks. The speakers were all either in the third and final year of their awards, or else would have been at that stage if they had not resigned their awards early in order to take up permanent posts.

The talks are deliberately aimed at an intelligent general audience rather than at specialists in each individual field. The Academy's coverage of the whole spectrum of humanities and social sciences makes it possible to have a gathering which brings together speakers on a range of topics who would not ordinarily be present at the same subject specific conference or symposium. Many of those who attend this event comment on the success of being able to go to a

wide range of talks, many on subjects not obviously related to their own, and pick up on interesting cross-currents of thought.

In the 2000 Symposium, the talks ranged temporally from Early Mesopotamia through daily life in medieval England to present-day methods of measuring support for political parties, and geographically from Britain to Russia and Japan. Subjects covered included Literature, History, Music, Philosophy, Politics and Art History. Many of the speakers are continuing to forge ahead with their academic careers beyond the end of their Postdoctoral Fellowship and are making a mark with the published results of their research.

The Seventh Symposium has been scheduled for 3 April 2001.

Reckitt Travelling Fellowships in Archaeology

The Reckitt Travelling Fellowships were introduced in 1999 for archaeologists who have recently completed their PhDs. The aim of the scheme is to enable recent postdoctoral scholars to broaden their archaeological horizons and expertise through travel abroad – to sites, museums and collections – and visits to overseas institutions. The winners of the first competition were Dr F. Menotti and Dr M. Stamatopoulou.

The Academy has established a database of 'Friends of the PDF Symposium' who receive advance notice of each event and full details of the talks including abstracts. Anyone interested in receiving this information can contact Dr Ken Emond (by e-mail at kene@britac.ac.uk).

Sixth BA Postdoctoral Fellowship Symposium, Wednesday 26 January 2000

<i>Time</i>	<i>Lecture Hall</i>	<i>Council Room</i>	<i>Reading Room</i>
10.30 am		Dr Miranda Fricker Epistemic Injustice: How Social Power Can Disrupt Rational Authority	Dr Simon Coates Affliction and Power in the Early Anglo-Saxon Church
11.10 am	Dr Mark Kebbell How do Lawyer's Questions Influence Witnesses' Answers?	Dr Rosa Antognazza Universal Harmony as the Metaphysical Foundation of Leibniz's Encyclopedism	Dr Matthew Townend Skaldic Praise-Poetry at the Court of Cnut
11.50 am		Dr Christine Allison Manufacturing Kurdish History: Family History Narrative	Dr Chris Humphrey Medieval Times: Investigating The Temporal Change and Daily Life in England, 1300-1500
12.30 pm	Dr Chris Hughes Japan's and the East Asian Financial Crisis	Dr Eleanor Robson The Writing in the Wall: A Scribal School from Early Mesopotamia	Dr Sean Kelsey England's Unwritten Revolution
2.15 pm	Dr David Gibbons Defining Metaphor: Problems and Issues	Dr Paul Chaisty Constitution-Making and Parliamentary Power in Russia	Dr Stephen Alford The Kingship of Edward VI
2.55 pm	Dr Nicola Dibben Musical Materials and the Perception of Meaning	Dr John Bartle Measuring Partisanship in Britain	Dr David Hickman Religious Reform and the Commemoration of the Dead in Reformation England
4.00 pm	Dr David Skinner Musical Life in Late Medieval Arundel	Dr Peter D Smith Alfred Döblin's Liminal Discourse: The Scientific Narrator in Berlin Alexanderplatz (1929)	Dr Ben Morison A Dung-Covered Manuscript of Galen
4.40 pm	Dr Tom Henry Patterns of Invention: The Artist as Iconographer	Dr David Chirico Writing the True Gypsy: Questions of Authenticity in New Romani Literature	Dr Tom Harrison The Language of Prophecy

Discovering Signorelli

Dr Tom Henry, Lecturer in Italian Renaissance Painting at Oxford Brookes University, describes his work on a particular painting by Luca Signorelli, achieved during his term as British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow at the Courtauld Institute, from 1997 to 2000.

The corpus of works by Luca Signorelli (c.1450–1523) is still being defined, and anyone studying the artist must establish what he painted. As with other artists of the Italian Renaissance, there is a core of signed, documented or universally accepted works by Signorelli, and wide margins of attributed works that have been favoured by some scholars, and rejected by others. In the course of my British Academy Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Courtauld Institute of Art, I have completed a catalogue raisonné of the paintings of Luca Signorelli, and have added my views to those of previous scholars. Although it was plainly

Figure 1. Virgin and Child with Saint John the Baptist and an Elderly Male Saint, by Luca Signorelli. 1485–7. Oil on panel. 83 × 53.5 cm (Institut de France – Musée Jacquemart-André).



incumbent on me to reach my own conclusions about the disputed attributions (on the basis that one cannot proceed to advanced study of Signorelli without knowing what he actually painted), it would be foolish not to recognise that my views will never represent the last word on the subject, and will, over time, become another voice in a babble of disagreement or consensus.

Although the same fate can befall any attribution, the discovery of new works by an artist has several virtues. Virgin territory is uncluttered by dispute and (in some circumstances) a newly discovered picture can install itself among the core pictures and enrich our knowledge of an artist's overall production. This appears to be the case with a painting by Signorelli that I was able to trace during my Fellowship. The picture in question (Figure 1) has been in the Musée Jacquemart-André at the Abbaye Royale de Chaalis for over one hundred years. Despite the fact that it was acquired as a work by the artist and is exhibited as by Signorelli, it had never been referred to in any of the books or articles that have discussed the artist's work, and it had never been reproduced. I 'discovered' a photograph of the picture in the Witt Library at the Courtauld (where it was labelled as 'Signorelli?'), and was subsequently able to study it at Chaalis. Having seen the original, it seemed clear to me that the picture was an important early work, and I published it as such in *The Burlington Magazine* in August 1999.

The painting, which measures 83 × 53.5 cm, is in oil (or a mixture of oil and tempera) on a poplar support. The painted surface is generally well-preserved, although there are several scattered damages and discoloured retouchings. The picture represents the Virgin and Child with a youthful Saint John the Baptist and an elderly male saint. Although Christ and the Baptist were commonly held to have been born within months of each other, it is not especially unusual for Saint John to be shown as a youth and Jesus as a baby. At Chaalis the Baptist is the only figure who is standing (the other two adults are shown on one knee) and his adolescence is suggested by his height as well as his facial features. The identity of the elder saint in the Chaalis picture is uncertain. He is clean-shaven and

wears a red cloak with an orange border over a green shirt. He is writing with a quill pen on a paper balanced on his left knee. In some circumstances the act of writing might identify the figure as Saint Zacharias (the Baptist's father), but this seems unlikely here. He is also unlikely to be Saint Joseph (whom Signorelli normally represents in orange, or with a very decorative scarf), Saint Paul (who is almost always bearded and traditionally wears red and green) or Saint John the Evangelist (who is usually younger). In the absence of any other attribute he must remain unidentified.

The attribution of the painting to Signorelli can be supported on the basis of various comparisons. The child can be compared to the *Circumcision* in the National Gallery, London, and there are close similarities with *Virgin and Child with Saints John the Baptist and Jerome (?)* in the Pallavicini-

Rospigliosi collection in Rome. The slightly unsatisfactory aspects of the painting (its unconvincing spatial recession, as well as the vertiginous disequilibrium of the heads and the uncomfortable crowding of the figures) all point to a date early in Signorelli's career. Since it seems overwhelmingly likely that Signorelli spent some time in Florence in the 1480s, it may not be a coincidence that the format of the picture is both typically Florentine, and unusual in Signorelli. This picture at Chaalis, newly incorporated into Signorelli's corpus, should probably be dated c.1485–7 and represents another building block in our understanding of the artist's work.

Dr Henry currently holds an Academy research grant for the completion of his *Catalogue Raisonné of the works of Luca Signorelli*.

Witness Accuracy

“I put it to you that lawyers’ questions can have an adverse influence on witness accuracy”

Dr Mark Kebbell, currently a British Academy Postdoctoral Fellow in the School of Psychology at the University of Birmingham, describes his research on jurors’ perceptions of eyewitness evidence.

Imagine you have witnessed a robbery. A police officer interviews you about what you saw and six months later you are called to give evidence in court. You are likely to be concerned about giving evidence in front of a Judge and Jury. You might be worried about what you can remember and what the barrister will do. You might ask yourself ‘Will the barrister try to confuse me with his questions? Will I be able to answer his questions? Will I be a good witness?’ To shed light on these issues the British Academy funded a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship looking at the influence of lawyers’ questions on witnesses’ answers. The research has two complementary strands. The first is to document the types of questions that lawyers ask with a particular emphasis on cross-examination. The second is to test the influence of these questions on witness accuracy and credibility.

To document the kinds of questions lawyers ask we looked at sixteen serious cases (e.g., rape, robbery, assault) in which witness evidence was crucial. Each lawyer’s question and witness’s answer was coded. The results showed that witnesses were constrained into giving short answers. Eighty-three percent of questions in

cross-examination required simply a ‘yes’ or ‘no’ answer meaning that witnesses had little opportunity to provide their own account. Furthermore, many of the questions were potentially confusing to witnesses. Frequently, witnesses were asked questions involving negatives (e.g., ‘When he was kissing you, you were kissing him back, were you not?’), leading questions (e.g., ‘All right, because you are not in fact very good with times and dates are you?’), multiple questions (e.g., ‘Did you feel upset when you arrived at the discotheque? Well let me put this to you. You appeared your normal happy self when you got there and in no way distressed because nothing had happened.’), questions involving complex syntax (e.g., ‘This is certainly right, is it not, it was not that you proposed getting the police involved, or was it?’), and complex vocabulary (e.g., ‘Was John being gregarious?’). All of these questions could plausibly reduce witnesses accuracy because witnesses are unable to understand the question. Perhaps, it is possible they could have been able to answer accurately if the question was simply phrased.

However, studying lawyers’ questions in real cases is limited by the fact that we cannot be absolutely

sure what influence a question has on a witnesses' answer because we do not know what really happened in the alleged crime. We can only speculate. To overcome this problem, experimental models of lawyers' questioning were constructed. Mock witnesses viewed a videotaped crime and were individually questioned about the incident one week later. Half the participants were asked questions using the five categories of confusing questions mentioned above (negatives, leading, multiple questions, complex syntax, and complex vocabulary); the remaining half were asked for the same information using simply phrased equivalent questions. Witness confidence in the accuracy of answers was measured.

Confusing questions dramatically reduced witnesses' accuracy and they rarely asked for questions to be explained or repeated. Confusing questions also suppressed confidence-accuracy relationships compared with the condition where simplified alternatives were asked. That is to say there was less of a correspondence between how confident witnesses were and how accurate they were. Ironically, witnesses were *more* confident in the accuracy of their answers but *less* accurate with the confusing lawyers' questions. What appears to happen is that the witnesses react to attempts to discredit them with confusing questions by increasing their confidence regardless of their

accuracy. This experiment demonstrates the importance of ensuring that lawyers ask witnesses simple clear questions.

Taken as a whole this work has a number of implications for improving the accuracy and credibility of witness evidence in court. First, it allows us to inform witnesses about the type of examination and questioning to expect in court and how to deal with this. For instance, to give advice in how to cope with multiple questions and to inform prospective witnesses that it is acceptable to ask for a question to be clarified. This information is particularly relevant to those who are often called to give evidence (e.g., police officers, expert witnesses). Second, by identifying what is likely to happen in court it is possible to screen and predict who will be a good witness in court to allow informed decisions to be made about the likelihood of a prosecution being successful. Third, it allows us to make well founded suggestions concerning how vulnerable people (e.g., witnesses with learning difficulties or intimidated witnesses) are examined to ensure they give evidence as accurately and credibly as possible.

Dr Kebbell has also been awarded a British Academy research grant to fund the direct expenses of his continuing research into witness accuracy.

Review of Research Support

The Grants Committee spent much of its time in the early part of this year considering the responses to its consultation on the scope of research support, and preparing a full report.

As a result of the changes that have taken place following the establishment of the AHRB, the Academy's role can now be seen more distinctly as complementing the funding available nationally through the AHRB for the humanities, and the ESRC for the social sciences. Given the new arrangements (which came into full effect in April 1999), it was decided that it would be timely to seek the views of the academic community on how the Academy should organise its support so as to maximise the benefits to scholars.

Under the aegis of the Grants Committee, a detailed consultation paper was prepared, setting out the current scope and purposes of the small grants and conference schemes, and inviting comment on any modifications that should be made. A series of questions was devised, seeking views on what were the needs and wishes of the academic body.

During the autumn of 1999, 109 subject associations were consulted. Separately, a cohort of 240 previous award holders were surveyed. By the deadline of 31 January 2000, 54 subject associations had submitted replies, and 165 award holders, representing an overall response rate of more than 60%.

In March 2000, the Academy's Grants Committee considered the results. Its principal conclusions were that there was ample evidence to show that the small grants scheme was perceived as meeting a real need, and its scope and purposes were generally on the right lines. A few modifications were required, principal amongst which was the clear preference that research funds should be reserved for primary research, with publication-related costs coming second by some distance. The Academy has therefore decided to adjust its regulations so that publication costs can no longer be covered by research funds. There was little support for the suggestion that small grants might be used to finance short periods of teaching relief, given that other resources already existed to fund this element (AHRB, ESRC, and HEIs all have

responsibility for funding research leave), and that there were already severe pressures on scarce funds available for the direct costs of research. The Academy has concluded that this option should not be pursued.

Opinion had been sought through the consultation exercise on whether the level of small grants should be raised, and comments invited on whether there were particular types of activity that were not adequately accommodated under the present arrangements for research support nationally. The respondents were overwhelmingly in favour of maintaining the £5,000 ceiling for small grants, and emphatically endorsed the policy of distributing awards to as many individual scholars as possible. However, there was also a body of opinion that was strongly in favour of allowing support up to the £20,000 mark, particularly for pilot/field studies that were unlikely to attract funding elsewhere. Separately, representations from the archaeological community had been made directly to the Academy's Council putting the case for the urgent need for additional support for fieldwork projects, the fundamental research base of the discipline.

Accepting the case that there was a gap in the current provision of funding nationally, which needed to be remedied, the Academy decided to introduce a new scheme for Larger Research Grants, to support pilot projects, field studies, and, to a limited degree, extensions to existing research activity. The upper limit will be £20,000 and grants may be held for three years. The first competition will be held in 2000–01, and the Academy has allocated a budget of £500,000 for the first year. New money has been forthcoming from the DfEE for the purpose. The Academy will review the scheme after its first year, and consider whether additional funds can be devoted to this programme.

It was evident from the responses received that the Academy's support for individual research activity was seen as a vital contribution to the pattern of research activity nationwide. Typical comments that summarised the general opinion amongst those surveyed were that *'Small grants are important out of all proportion to their size in fostering original research'*; and *'The British Academy's small grants scheme is vital, and complementary to the larger and more collaborative ESRC/AHRB schemes'*.

Copies of the Report on the review of research support may be requested from the Academy (email e.ollard@britac.ac.uk), or it may be viewed on the Academy's web site at www.britac.ac.uk.

Statistics on Awards, 1996–2000

The following statistics, taken from the *Report*, relate to awards made by the British Academy, for small research grants (up to £5,000) during the four year period 1996–2000. The figures for each year relate to the financial year, which runs from 1 April to 31 March. Where success rates are quoted, they have been calculated as a percentage of awards made against applications received, within each category.

Awards by subject area

	1996–97	1997–98	1998–99	1999–2000	1996–2000		
Subject	Awards	Awards	Awards	Awards	Awards	% of awards	% success
African Studies	0	1	1	1	3	0.2	100.0
Ancient History	2	2	3	4	11	0.9	55.0
American Studies	0	1	5	3	9	0.7	81.8
Anthropology	9	11	9	20	49	3.8	76.6
Archaeology	21	13	23	74	131	10.2	65.8
Celtic	0	0	0	1	1	0.1	50.0
Classics	2	2	2	7	13	1.0	86.7
Comparative Literature	0	1	0	1	2	0.2	100.0
Communications	0	0	0	1	1	0.1	16.7
Cultural Studies	1	5	3	2	11	0.9	50.0
Dance	0	1	0	0	1	0.1	25.0
Demography	2	2	2	1	7	0.5	87.5
Drama	10	3	3	2	18	1.4	66.7
Economics	4	10	8	7	29	2.2	63.0
Early Modern History	12	16	18	23	69	5.3	67.6
English	16	23	34	37	110	8.5	69.2
Film Studies	2	6	5	3	16	1.2	55.2
French	11	7	21	25	64	5.0	68.1
Human Geography	12	9	7	16	44	3.4	62.0
German	6	9	12	7	34	2.6	79.1
History of Art	15	15	17	18	65	5.0	59.1
Hispanic Languages	3	4	7	6	20	1.6	74.1
History of Science	3	2	1	1	7	0.5	77.8
History of Ideas	2	1	2	1	6	0.5	60.0
Italian	2	3	1	9	15	1.2	71.4
Law	7	4	6	10	27	2.1	56.3
Linguistics	2	1	5	7	15	1.2	68.2
Medieval History	7	9	13	19	48	3.7	76.2
Modern History	35	31	45	73	180	14.0	63.6
Music	10	16	9	11	46	3.6	71.9
Oriental Studies	2	4	5	4	15	1.2	83.3
Other Languages	1	2	5	3	11	0.9	68.8
Philosophy	3	2	2	1	8	0.6	53.3
Politics	7	13	15	21	56	4.3	60.9
Psychology	2	1	4	16	23	1.8	82.1
Russian and Slavonic Language	6	2	1	5	14	1.1	66.7
Socio-legal Studies	1	2	1	3	7	0.5	63.6
Socio-linguistics	7	3	2	6	18	1.4	90.0
Sociology	5	3	12	17	37	2.9	58.7
Theology	16	5	13	15	49	3.8	77.8
Totals	246	245	318	481	1290		66.8

Profile of award holders

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1996-2000		
Gender	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>% of awards</i>	<i>% success</i>
Male	174	164	217	320	875	67.8	65.6
Female	72	81	101	161	415	32.2	69.5
Totals	246	245	318	481	1290		66.8
Age							
under 30	13	15	13	24	65	5.0	64.4
30-40	74	72	105	157	408	31.6	67.5
41-50	56	71	78	104	309	24.0	64.0
over 50	91	86	107	187	471	36.5	68.6
unknown	12	1	15	9	37	2.9	66.1
Totals	246	245	318	481	1290		66.8
Institution							
Oxford	12	13	13	37	75	5.8	81.5
Cambridge	10	17	3	24	54	4.2	80.6
London	33	26	47	63	169	13.1	71.9
<i>Sub-total triangle</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>56</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>124</i>	<i>298</i>		<i>75.6</i>
Old universities (exc triangle)	138	138	184	270	730	56.6	69.1
New universities	21	18	31	36	106	8.2	51.2
Colleges of HE	1	1	3	4	9	0.7	50.0
Museums/Galleries	1	2	1	1	5	0.4	83.3
Independent	30	30	36	46	142	11.0	56.8
Totals	246	245	318	481	1290		66.8
National base (universities)							
England	184	168	224	350	926	71.8	68.6
Scotland	22	24	38	51	135	10.5	69.6
Wales	9	15	10	25	59	4.6	64.1
Northern Ireland	1	6	11	8	26	2.0	60.5
Unaffiliated	30	32	35	47	114	11.2	56.9
Totals	246	245	318	481	1290		66.8

Awards by discipline

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	1996-2000		
Awards by number	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>% of awards</i>	<i>% success</i>
Humanities	192	191	259	362	1004	77.8	66.5
Social Science	54	54	59	119	286	22.2	67.8
Totals	246	245	318	481	1290		66.8
Awards by value	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>Awards</i>	<i>% of awards</i>	<i>% success</i>
Humanities	£417,155	£410,944	£621,330	£1,025,585	£2,475,014	73.8	63.0
Social Science	£136,210	£138,972	£172,299	£431,412	£878,893	26.2	61.0
Totals	£553,365	£549,916	£793,629	£1,456,997	£3,353,907		62.4

Research Grants

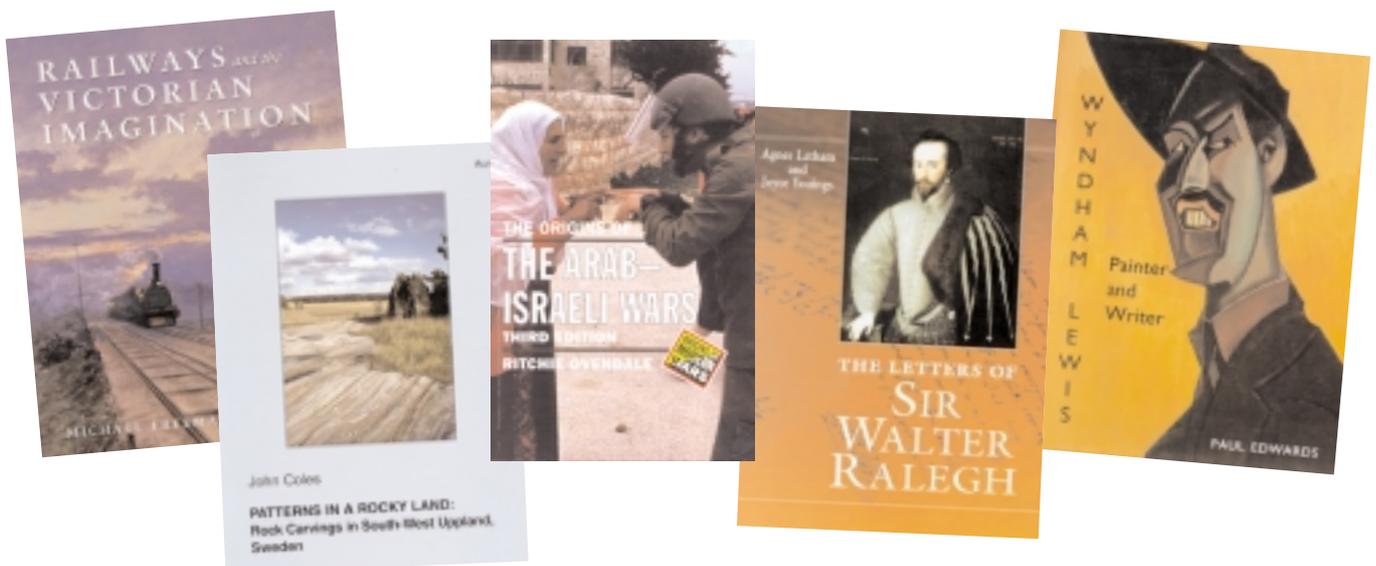
The vitality of research undertaken by individual scholars in the UK continues to be demonstrated by the very high quality, as well as numbers, of applications received by the Academy. During the period January to July 2000, the Grants Committee made 826 awards in the research and conference grants schemes. The subject matter of awards made in the period has ranged from 'Monsters, demons and Jews: medieval art and social rejection', through 'Life in rural south Albania from women's perspective' to 'The child's voice in legal proceedings'. British conferences supported by the Academy have included 'The culture of killing', 'Herodotus and his world' and 'The evolution of the intelligent mind'. And British scholars have been enabled to present papers at conferences overseas through some 340 awards to individuals and four block grants to other learned bodies. The full list of successful applications can be found on the Academy's web site via www.britac.ac.uk.

It is noteworthy that the increase in the sums allocated by the Academy to research and conference grants has enabled the Grants Committee to make more than twice the number of awards than in the comparable period two years

ago. In the most recent round of awards, the split amongst small research grants was 69% humanities, 31% social sciences. This shows a marginal trend in favour of the social sciences, which in the past have tended to average a lower share of awards (c. 25%), although maintaining a comparable success rate with the humanities when setting the number of awards made against the number of applications received in each category.

Often, a research grant from the Academy provides the impetus to get a project off the ground. An example of one such project can be found opposite, where Professor Wathey and Dr Bent describe their work on digitising medieval musical manuscripts, a project which received a pump-priming grant from the Academy in 1998.

It is a condition of award in both the research and conference grant schemes that publications resulting from the work funded should be presented to the Academy. A steady stream of books and articles resulting from previous grants has been received at the Academy. All publications are formally presented to Council, before being placed on the shelves of the Academy's Library. A selection of books that have been recently received is shown below.



Digital Image Archive of Medieval Music

*The Digital Image Archive of Medieval Music is a joint project between **Dr Margaret Bent FBA** of the University of Oxford, and **Professor Andrew Wathey** of Royal Holloway, University of London. Dr Julia Craig-McFeely, the Project Manager, is developing the archive, database, web site and documentation for the project and undertaking digital photography (where photographs are not supplied by the library or archive concerned) and the enhancement and virtual restoration of images obtained. The aims are to digitize, archive and enhance images of British manuscripts of medieval polyphonic music, a rich and neglected repertory that survives mainly in fragmentary and often barely-legible sources. Work on the first phase of the project began in 1998 with funding from the British Academy. The project directors here describe the work, and present examples of recent successes.*

Very few pre-Reformation British music manuscripts survive in even semi-complete form. Most are damaged and fragmentary, and have been preserved only because they were re-used as binding material or for other purposes. The music that they contained went out of fashion quite fast (a testimony to the vitality of the tradition – few manuscripts contained music more than 30 or 40 years old) and when obsolete many manuscripts were consigned to the bookbinder's waste-box (or, in one case, at New College, Oxford, were used as backing for ceiling paintings). Medieval vandalism was compounded by the more wilful destruction at the Reformation and again in later centuries when books were rebound and the early bindings containing the music fragments were simply discarded. This practice was common up to the mid/late nineteenth century; there is a notable difference in fragment survival rates between libraries that rebound extensively in the nineteenth century and those that did not.

Taken together the surviving fragments form a crucially important witness to the range and diversity of English music, its styles and notations. Discoveries are still being made as the contents of early bindings are more completely surveyed by modern scholars. In the last thirty years, the number of manuscripts, including fragments, known from pre-Reformation Britain has expanded by over a third, with new finds frequently forcing the re-ordering of a repertory or an individual composer's output. Some 350 fragments are now known (most are single leaves or bifolia, but some are substantial units of up to twenty-four pages), witnesses to an almost equivalent number of books. Important new fragmentary sources include leaves allowing the partial reconstruction of a dismembered royal choirbook and new works by the composer John Dunstaple, discovered by Dr Bent, and a manuscript roll of fourteenth-century motets at Berkeley Castle, discovered by Professor Wathey.

Others are emerging as the work of the project progresses. Fortunately, many of the fragments contain music that can be reconstructed by reference to other music manuscripts, either fragments, or major sources that have survived substantially complete, such as the Eton Choirbook (Eton College, MS 187) and the Old Hall Manuscript (British Library, Add. MS 57950). The surviving fragments are scattered over some eighty-five libraries, archives and other repositories in the UK, from St Andrews to Exeter. We plan, as circumstances permit, to cover those English sources that have wandered to libraries overseas, twenty-one in all, in Australia, Belgium, France, Estonia, Germany, Italy and the USA. One of the purposes of the project is to remove the natural inhibition to studying this material that has long been imposed by its geographic spread.

The aims of the DIAMM project are:

- to create a new permanent electronic archive of images of manuscripts of British medieval polyphony, to facilitate wider study of their contents and to assure their permanent preservation for the nation;
- to develop techniques of digital image enhancement (or 'virtual restoration') to make legible materials that cannot at present be read;
- to develop new and more exact types of manuscript study made possible by digital image technology.

The first phase of the project involved the collection of digital images and computer enhancement of fifteenth-century fragments with a view to publication in facsimile form. In its second phase the project has expanded to embrace all of the fragmentary and some of the less accessible complete manuscripts of British pre-reformation polyphony, and will at the same time exploit further more recent technological advances. The electronic archive will eventually

facilitate wide access to a musical repertory hitherto only accessible, and then imperfectly, to a small number of specialists.

High-resolution electronic photography has been used to acquire images directly from the originals, rather than from surrogates such as existing photographs or slides (which cannot match the resolution available from direct digital capture). Image processing, a non-invasive process applied to the digital photograph, is used to recover material not at present legible. The results obtained make clear that some works lost to the naked eye can be recovered, restoring not only lost readings – and even complete pieces (see below) – but also new evidence for composer attribution and contextual evidence permitting some manuscripts to be more authoritatively dated or located. Digital imaging has also revealed the scope for new and more exact forms of study: magnification permits the detailed analysis of scribal habits and notational forms; quantitative colour measures permit the more exact study and analysis of ink-colour and of individual scripts. These techniques promise important results even for manuscripts surviving in good condition, where black-and-white photography has conventionally sufficed for study purposes. Developments in the use of infra-red and ultra-violet photography in conjunction with digital imaging may eventually allow material to be read through layers of dirt and/or superposed writing, but even with normal lighting spectacular results have been produced by ‘lifting’ over-writing and revealing the erased music underneath (see (i) below). All of these advances contribute to the archival and conservation element in the project, helping to minimize the loss to scholarship resulting from further physical deterioration.

The project uses commercially-available software, chosen with the intention that others should be able to replicate or improve on our results. We hope that not only images but also image-enhancement techniques generated by the project will thereby be disseminated rapidly within the scholarly community. For our part, we have gained considerably from contact with other projects, including the Centre for the Study of Ancient Documents in Oxford and the Dead Sea Scrolls project developed in conjunction with NASA.

High-quality images and enhancements will be disseminated through the project web-site (www.diamm.ac.uk), which also carries source-lists and updates to established finding-aids, and, where appropriate, in hard-copy facsimile publications. Systems for web-based dissemination

are now in place, allowing a hierarchy of different levels of access and providing, via a password system and print-disabled files, an effective means of copyright protection. Images of standard size (96 dpi/1–2 Mb), sufficient for detailed manuscript study and significantly better than conventional colour photography, will be publicly available for nearly all manuscripts. The largest images (up to 500 Mb) used for enhancement work currently exceed the capacity of many desktop computers and web delivery systems but will be made available as technological developments and library policies allow.

The project has so far archived some 1400 images from British collections. In a few major libraries these have been captured using these libraries’ own equipment but in the majority the project’s own mobile high-resolution digital camera and other equipment have been used. During 2000 the project aims to collect digital images of all 350 surviving sources (some 2300 pages in total) and concurrently to continue the process of enhancement that will be needed to restore many of them to legibility. This work has already led to the recovery of works buried beneath dirt or later writing, and the discovery of new works now too faded to be easily legible with the naked eye. Three examples are given below.

New Works Discovered/Uncovered

(i) *Oxford, Corpus Christi College, MS 144.*

Corpus Christi College Oxford, manuscript 144 is unusual (though not unique) in containing leaves from a fourteenth-century music book that were scraped and re-used for writing another text in the fifteenth century (the *Liber metricus de nova poetria* of Geoffrey of Vinsauf). The music leaves, which may have originated at the Benedictine Abbey at St Albans, were also trimmed, removing still more of the original musical text. The resulting palimpsest manuscript was given to the Benedictine Priory at Tynemouth during the fifteenth century. First discovered in the 1970s, this manuscript has until now remained virtually illegible: music is clearly present, but a continuous composition could not be transcribed.

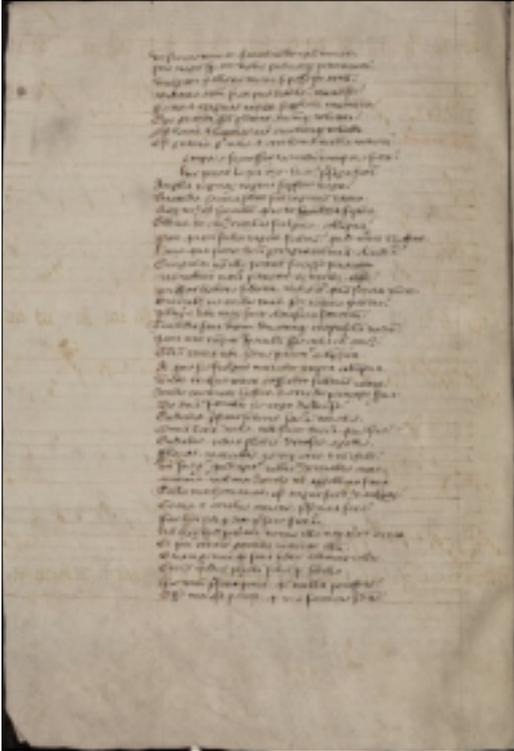
The pictures show two folios of the Corpus palimpsest in various stages of recovery undertaken by Dr Craig-McFeely, which are among the most spectacular examples to date of our enhancement work. Stage 1 shows the page as it appears to the naked eye (or the camera lens). In stage 2, the over-writing has been ‘removed’. In

It is planned to publish part of the results of the work of the Digital Archive of Medieval Music as *English Manuscripts of Fifteenth-Century Polyphony in Facsimile* in the Academy’s Early English Church Music series. The EECM is an Academy Research Project, whose fruits have been published by the Academy since 1963.

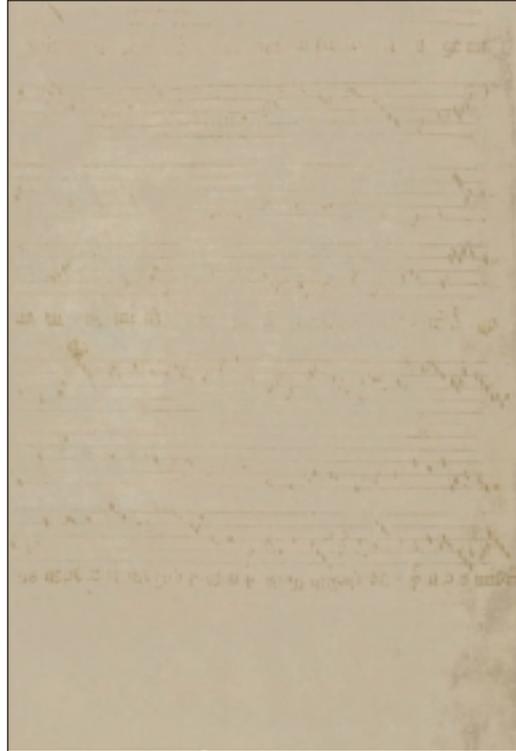
Stage 3 the contrast between the almost-visible music and the rather dark colour of the parchment is increased. In this third step some of the lighter remnants of the music are lost; finally Stage 4 superimposes a partially transparent version of

Stage 3 onto a copy of Stage 2. The result darkens the music writing sufficiently to make it readable. The result – though still not easy to read in places – allows a performable transcription of the piece to be made.

Stage 1

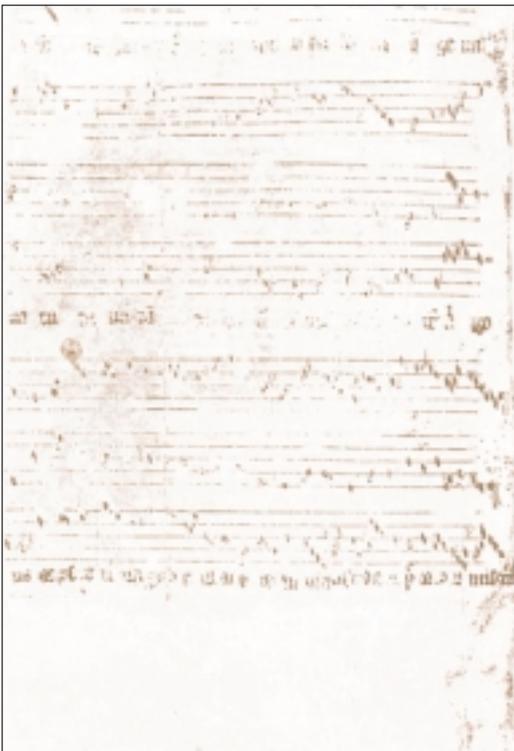


Stage 2

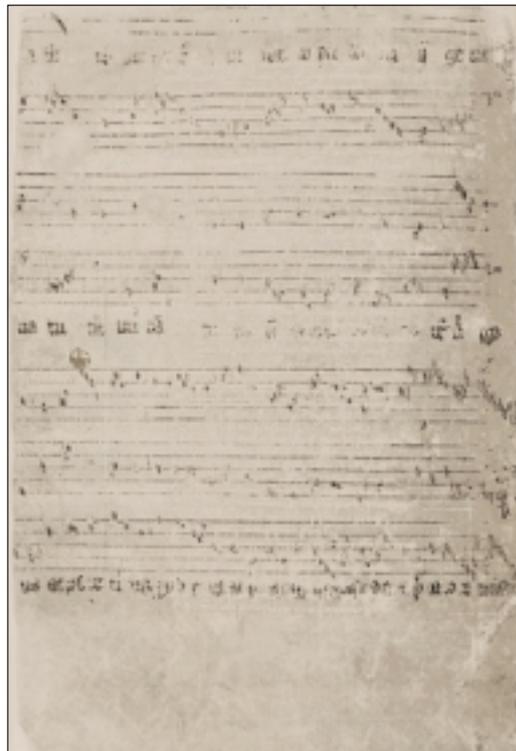


Four stages in the 'virtual restoration' of palimpsest music in Corpus Christi College, Oxford, MS 144, fol. 23v. © 2000 Corpus Christi College, Oxford. Reproduced by kind permission of the President and Fellows.

Stage 3

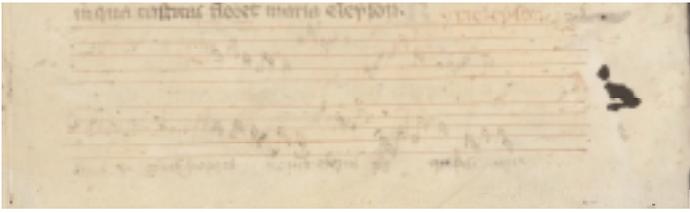


Stage 4

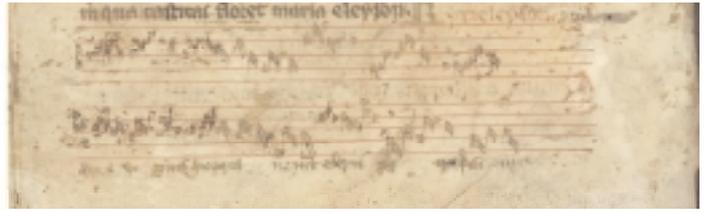


The second phase of the project is funded by a Major Research Grant from the Arts and Humanities Research Board (AHRB), awarded in 1999.

Stage 1



Stage 2



A new polyphonic setting of *Beata viscera* revealed by digital photographic techniques in Worcester Cathedral, Add. MS 68, fragment X, fol. 2r.
© 1999 The Dean and Chapter of Worcester Cathedral. Reproduced by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter.

(ii) The Worcester Fragments

The so-called Worcester Fragments (consisting of leaves in former Worcester manuscripts now at London, Oxford and Worcester Cathedral) are by far the largest and most important English source of thirteenth-century polyphony. Some 53 leaves and other fragments remain at Worcester Cathedral, presenting a rich and fascinating testimony to the creative vigour of the musicians there. Many of these leaves have been re-used twice: once in the late fifteenth-century when they were used to bind Worcester Cathedral manuscripts, but also in the early 1400s when staves unused by the thirteenth-century scribes were filled with shorter pieces, some of which may also have been composed at Worcester Cathedral.

The pictures above show a newly-discovered work, a fifteenth-century setting of the Marian text *Beata viscera*. Added at the foot of two facing pages, this piece is not readily visible to the naked eye (Stage 1). Photographed under ultra-violet light some text and musical notation can be more easily discerned. An enhanced version of this image (Stage 2) renders the notation almost fully legible, revealing the full extent of this new Worcester composition. A performance of this (short) new work can be heard on the project website at: www.diamm.ac.uk.

(iii) British Library, Additional MS 41340 (H), fol. 100v

The three parchment fragments now fols. 99–101 in BL Additional MS 41340 are the only source of secular polyphony to survive from late-fourteenth-century England. They preserve portions (mostly small) of no fewer than thirteen polyphonic settings of French or Anglo-Norman texts, of which at least one and probably seven can be identified as polyphonic *rondeaux* musically similar to the *rondeaux* of Guillaume de Machaut. The fragments were cut from a roll and fashioned (probably during the fifteenth century) into a cover for a manuscript of Middle English sermons used in Shropshire. They were acquired by the British Museum in 1926 but, owing to their very poor condition (they are almost illegible even under ultra-violet light), their musical contents were recognised as polyphony only in the 1980s.

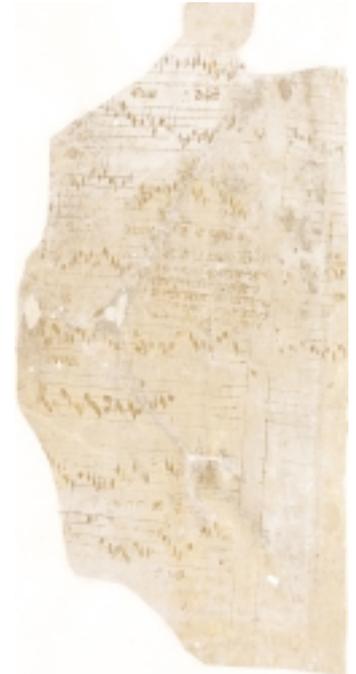
The pictures below show a folio containing two of the newly-recovered fragmentary works including one *rondeau* (top left). Very little on this page is visible to the naked eye (Stage 1). Overall contrast is adjusted to maximise the distinction between the faded ink colour and its background (Stage 2). The ink colour is then isolated, independently darkened, and recombined with the background (Stage 3), producing an image from which the remains of these works can be transcribed with relative ease.



Stage 1



Stage 2



Stage 3

Two newly-recovered fragmentary works in British Library Additional MS 41340 (H), fol. 100v.
© 2000 The British Library Board.
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Academy programmes to support advanced research 2000–2001

Research Appointments

Research Professorships

The scheme offers a series of prestigious awards, first offered in 1999. Awards are designed primarily for established scholars who have already published works of distinction in their field. Applicants should have a major programme of work which would benefit from a sustained period of support. The Research Professorship awards enable scholars to be relieved of their normal teaching and administrative commitments for three years. The next competition is expected to be held at the end of 2001.

Research Readerships and Senior Research Fellowships

These schemes are aimed at established scholars in UK universities who are in mid-career, having already published works of distinction. Awards allow scholars to undertake or complete an approved programme of sustained research, while relieved of their normal teaching and administrative commitments. Readerships are tenable for two years, and Fellowships for one.

Postdoctoral Fellowships

One of the Academy's most popular schemes, this programme enables outstanding recently postdoctoral scholars to obtain experience of research and teaching in the university environment, which will strengthen their curriculum vitae and improve their prospects of securing permanent posts by the end of the Fellowship. Awards are tenable for three years.

Research Projects

The Academy supports a series of major infrastructural research projects, which are designated Academy Research Projects. This programme is currently under review. In addition, the Academy makes annual grants to collaborative international projects on behalf of the UK, and provides a substantial contribution to the *New Dictionary of National Biography*.

Research Grants

Small Research Grants are available to support the direct expenses of a research programme, such as travel and maintenance, consumables, research assistance and specific IT costs excluding hardware. The upper limit of award is £5,000.

Larger Research Grants are available for pilot projects which require levels of research assistance, data collection and analysis, or other costs that cannot be contained within the Academy's Small Research Grants scheme; field study for programmes of field work extending over periods of up to three years; or extensions to existing research activity (applications under this head must be for self-contained projects). The upper limit of award is £20,000, and grants are tenable over three years.

Conferences

The Academy offers three main forms of support for conferences: *Overseas Conference Grants*, providing travel expenses for a British scholar to present a paper abroad; *British Conference Grants*, offering a contribution to the costs of conferences in the UK, particularly to assist with the costs of bringing key overseas speakers to participate in a conference held in Britain; and *Worldwide Congress Grants*, giving large grants to contribute to the administrative

expenses of running a major congress in the UK. In addition, block grants are available for learned societies/subject associations to support the attendance of UK-based scholars at conferences overseas.

International programmes

Exchanges

The Academy provides opportunities, through exchange agreements with other Academies, research libraries and other research organisations for British scholars to carry out individual research programmes or to collaborate in joint programmes with overseas scholars. Research visits (in either direction) are supported, as well as attendance at joint seminars or conferences, and the holding of workshops in connection with joint projects. The exchange programme may be particularly valuable for scholars wishing to work in countries where access might otherwise be problematic. Logistic and other support in arranging a research programme is available from the relevant partner organisation.

Joint activities

A special programme has recently been established to support international joint activities involving British scholars in collaboration with foreign partners. The research programme should be clearly defined (not open-ended) and involve partners from one or possibly two other countries.

Networks

A new initiative has been developed to promote small networks of scholars from different countries meeting over a period of three to five years to work on particular issues or questions of methodology. This scheme is intended to support research which is wide-ranging in scope, and broader than that for which the 'joint activities' programme has been developed.

Visiting Professorships and Fellowships

This scheme enables distinguished scholars from overseas to be invited to spend a minimum of two weeks in the UK. The main purpose is to enable the visitor to pursue research, but the delivery of lectures and participation in seminars is also allowed. A British sponsor must apply on behalf of the overseas scholar.

British Academy Visiting Lectureships

This is another new scheme, and is designed to enable a limited number of distinguished scholars from overseas (up to 4 a year) to be invited to spend around 2 weeks in the UK, to deliver a lecture or series of lectures and/or seminars.

Special international symposia and Meetings

Funds are available to support the organisation of conferences or symposia in the UK and/or overseas, usually organised jointly by the Academy and another partner institution in the UK, and an appropriate organisation abroad. The active involvement of the British Academy in the conference is necessary.

Full details of the Academy's programmes can be found on the web site at www.britac.ac.uk/guide

Financial Summary

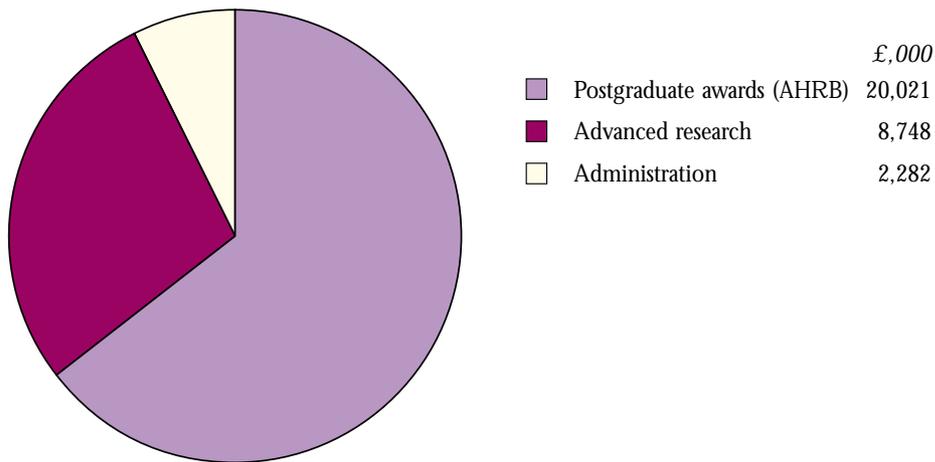
The Academy's funds derive from both public and private sources. By far the largest proportion, however, comes in the form of a grant-in-aid from the Department for Education and Employment (DfEE).

In 1999–2000, the Academy received a grant-in-aid from the DfEE of £31.069 million. Grants from other sources, including the Department of Education for Northern Ireland, the Higher

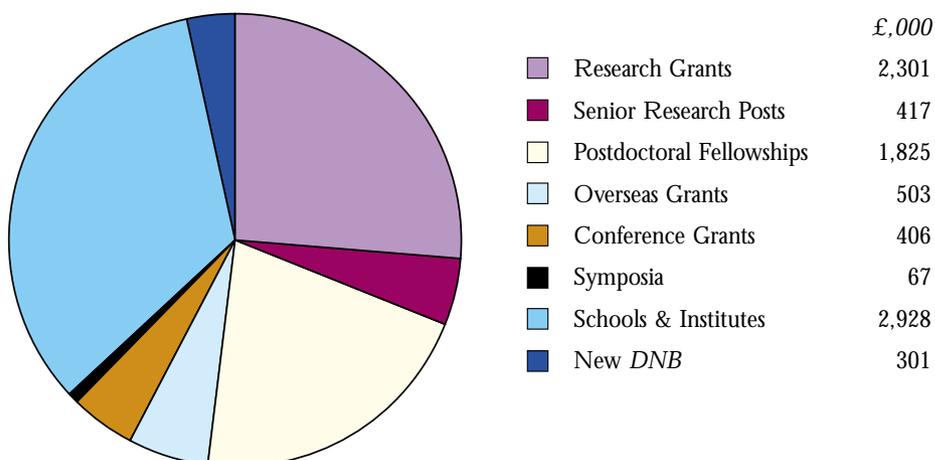
Education Funding Councils for England, Scotland and Wales and the Economic and Social Research Council, amounted to £0.208 million. Income from private sources amounted to £0.70 million. A full set of accounts for the financial year 1999–2000 is available from the British Academy.

The charts below summarise the principal expenditure from public funds in 1999–2000.

Total expenditure from the DfEE grant-in-aid, 1999–2000



Expenditure from the DfEE grant-in-aid on Advanced Research Programmes, 1999–2000



Diary of Events

Lectures marked ★ take place at the British Academy unless otherwise stated at 5.30 pm and are freely open to the general public. There is no admission charge but because of limitations on space those wishing to attend are asked to inform the Academy on 020 7969 5264, or email: secretary@britac.ac.uk.

All those interested are also welcome to attend symposia marked ★, but for these meetings it is essential to register in advance. A small registration fee is charged for some events. Please contact the Academy for details about individual symposia.

Autumn/Winter 2000

14–15 September

The European State and the Euro

Conference organised by Professor Kenneth Dyson
FBA ★

20–22 September

British Constitution in the Twentieth Century

Workshops in preparation for a British Academy
'Centenary' monograph

29–30 September

Prosopography in the Twenty-first Century: Late Roman and Byzantine

International Colloquium ★

3 November

Social Challenges Facing Britain

Seminar preliminary to a British Academy
'Centenary' publication in 2002

26 October

Rich Trades: Industrial Development Revisited

Professor John Sutton FBA

KEYNES LECTURE IN ECONOMICS ★

1 November

Waiting for God: John Milton's Poems of 1671

Dr Margaret Keane

CHATTERTON LECTURE IN POETRY ★

2 November

White Masculinity: Smuts, Race and the South African War

Professor Shula Marks FBA

RALEIGH LECTURE IN HISTORY ★

7 November

Other People

Professor Amartya Sen FBA

4th annual BRITISH ACADEMY LECTURE ★
at the Institute of Education

22 November

The Law: An Engine for Trade

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg

THANK-OFFERING TO BRITAIN LECTURE

4 December

Translators, Knowledge and Cultures

One-day symposium addressing translation historically as a process concerned with knowledge ★

6–7 December

Artefacts and Images of the Ancient World

British Academy/Royal Society joint discussion meeting ★ at the Royal Society

12 December

'Beowulf' and perception

Professor Michael Lapidge FBA

SIR ISRAEL GOLLANCZ MEMORIAL LECTURE ★

Spring/Summer 2001

23–24 February

Wetland Landscapes and Cultural Responses

Two-day conference ★

10 March

Bayes's Theorem

One-day discussion meeting ★

3 April

British Academy PDF Symposium

A day of talks given by final year Postdoctoral Fellows ★ *Please contact Ken Emond on kene@britac.ac.uk if you wish to attend.*

11–12 May

Aerial Archaeology – Into the Future

Two-day conference ★

12–15 July

Locating the Victorians

Major international conference commemorating 150 years since the Great Exhibition, and the centenary of Queen Victoria's death. To be held at the Science Museum and Imperial College, with collaboration from the Natural History and Victoria & Albert Museums. The British Academy will host a strand on *The structure of knowledge*

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From the Archive

One hundred years ago...

... the next tentative steps were taken in the formation of the British Academy. In November 1899, the Secretaries of the Royal Society had sought advice on the possibility of establishing an Academy to represent Britain in the 'Literature, Antiquities and Philosophy' section of the new International Association of Academies. Certain distinguished men of letters had met in December and had composed a reply – to the effect that such a British Academy could not be formed simply by the federation of existing learned societies.

This letter was received by the Council of the Royal Society at its meeting on 18 January 1900. The Council also had before it a letter from Henry Sidgwick, Professor of Moral Philosophy in the University of Cambridge, enclosing the following Plan, which had been approved by several of the gentlemen who had taken part in the December meeting.

PLAN FOR INSTITUTION OF NEW ACADEMY OR SECTION

1. *While the difficulties in the way of the satisfactory establishment of such an Academy are considerable, we think that they may be overcome with the aid of the Royal Society and of the Government.*
2. *The aid of the Royal Society might be given in one of two ways:–*
 - (a) *It might propose to enlarge its scope, and include a section corresponding to the 'Philosophico-Historical' and 'Philological' division of the German Royal Academies and Societies. This would, of course, be the simplest and most effective way of attaining the desired end.*
 - (b) *Or, if it prefers to maintain the restriction of scope – which it has in the main, although not altogether, maintained in the past – and limit its own work to Mathematics and Natural Science, it might address a memorial to Government, pointing out the exceptional position in which England is placed, as compared with other European countries, through the absence of any Academy representing other departments of study, and advocating the formation of such an Academy.*
3. *We think that in order to provide for the adequate maintenance of the status that such an Academy ought to hold, it should receive a charter from the Crown and a small public endowment, sufficient to enable it to carry on its own work with its numbers strictly limited.*
4. *In case the Royal Society should provisionally decide in favour of either of the courses above suggested, it will probably think it desirable, before taking any further step, to obtain the views of a larger number of persons representing the departments of study which the new Academy is to include. We should agree in recommending this course; and we are willing, if the Royal Society should desire it, to suggest the names of persons whose advice might be asked.*

The Council of the Royal Society resolved to set up 'a Committee with instructions to make such inquiries, and for that purpose to confer with such persons as they may think desirable, with the view of laying before the Council a report on the suggestions made in the plan, stating the various reasons which may be urged for and against them'.

After conducting its inquiries, the Committee issued a Report, dated 28 June 1900.

The following are extracts from the beginning of the Report.

REPORT OF THE BRITISH ACADEMY COMMITTEE

Your Committee have held several Meetings for the discussion of the subject referred to them by Council ...

Under the powers given to them by the terms of reference, your Committee have placed themselves in communication, through Prof. Sidgwick, Prof. Jebb, and Lord Acton, with a number of representatives of those branches of learning referred to in Prof. Sidgwick's suggestions, with a view to ascertaining the method of organization which would be most likely to enlist the support of the recognised leaders of thought in those subjects. On May 29, an interview took place [with those representatives] ...

The Committee have not considered it necessary for the present purpose to consult the Councils of the various learned Societies who are, or might be, interested in the discussion ...

The Report was presented to the Royal Society's Council on 5 July 1900, but further consideration of it was postponed. Further extracts from the Report will be given in the next issue of the *Review*.