



African Studies Association of the UK

NEWSLETTER

Volume 2 Number 8

July 1997

Basil Davidson Honoured

On 21 April Basil Davidson was awarded the degree Doctor Litterarum (honoris causa) by the University of the Western Cape in a ceremony especially arranged at the University of Bristol. The degree was conferred by Cecil Abrahams, Rector of UWC, and the following citation, drafted by UWC, was read out by Don Carleton, information officer for Bristol University. The ceremony was doubly special for Basil Davidson since Bristol, among other things, is his home town.

Vice-Chancellor

Basil Davidson has spent the better part of his working life not just combating the racist presumption that Africa has no history worthy of record, but bringing the contours of that previously hidden history to public knowledge; and he has done so in a context where a new view of history has had important political effects.

For the past forty years, Davidson has been reconstructing Africa's precolonial history, relating it to what is happening in Africa today. He has consistently sought to locate his work in relation to the struggles of oppressed people. Indeed, Davidson has traced the history of African people in order to explain Africa's contemporary condition. He has done so to demolish the mythologies of Eurocentric histories and thereby to allow Africa's own voices to be heard.

This remarkable European's sustained and wide-ranging work has been the most important route for many in discovering Africa. Through it he has sought to foster a sense of the worth of the social, cultural and political achievements of African societies and people. Many South Africans, divorced by their history from that larger heritage, have found in the work of Basil Davidson a means of discovering and valuing their own African-ness.

Davidson's distinctive personal involvement in African revolutionary struggles began in the 1950s. His close friendship with the leading activist-intellectual Amílcar Cabral through the early sixties, and his willingness to learn from peasants and peasant movements in Guinea-Bissau, led to the remarkable book, *No fist is big enough to hide the sky*. In a pioneering way, Davidson broke out of the anglophone axis of knowledge about Africa, and opened the possibility for English-speaking people of understanding the liberation struggles in lusophone Africa in the 1960s and 1970s, and in Eritrea in the 1980s.

An epic properly starts in the middle, returning thence away to the beginning. So it is here. Basil Davidson's earlier work lifted the colonial veil on early African history and culture in the most disciplined, sensitive way. *Old Africa rediscovered* set new standards for writing about the African past, opening the way for much further research and exploration of meaning. It is a model, both of intellectual rigour and of vision. Other penetrating works on the Atlantic slave trade and on West and Central African history followed.

Since 1980, Basil Davidson has repeatedly entered the debates on modernisation and development in postcolonial Africa. His *Modern Africa: A social and political history* enjoys wide esteem and has been reprinted twice since 1983. It is still in print. *The black man's burden: Africa and the curse of the nation-state* appeared in 1992. And his latest work, *The search for Africa: A history in the making*, locates his own intellectual development in relation to the fundamental issues of racism, the colonial legacy and the nature of the African state.

This account would do Davidson an injustice were it not to reflect another aspect of his achievement. He typifies the public intellectual: the person who brings the fruits of scholarly work into the public arena. His work has received academic accolades, but it has also been unusually accessible to a wider public. Through his books Basil Davidson has stimulated interest, opened new perspectives, and invited political involvement and change. Through the influential television series, *The story of Africa*, he has exposed more audiences to the African past and present than ever before.

It is sad, but not surprising, that this remarkable man should have been expelled from the old South Africa at the beginning of his career in mid-century. It is altogether appropriate that he should be honoured in a very different South Africa as the century draws to a close. The University of the Western Cape is proud, as an African institution, to take into full membership an intellectual whose work has contributed so richly to the cause of African liberation.

Vice-Chancellor, I ask you to admit Basil Davidson to the degree Doctor Litterarum (honoris causa) in the University of the Western Cape.

The Audrey Richards Prize, 1996

The second Audrey Richards Prize, awarded every two years by the ASAUk for the best UK Ph.D thesis in African studies, was presented to Dr David Maxwell (D.Phil Oxon) on 27 May 1997. The Prize, inaugurated in the presidency of Professor Christopher Clapham, takes the form of book vouchers, totalling some £1000. This year the award was made possible through the generosity of the following publishers, to whom the ASAUk wishes to record its grateful thanks: Avebury Press, Cambridge University Press, Carfax Press, Christopher Hurst, Heinemann, James Currey, Macmillan, Oxford University Press, Penguin Books, and Routledge.

The assessors were John Peel (now President of the ASAUk), Bill Gould, John Sender and Tom McCaskie. They report great difficulty at arriving at a final decision in a most distinguished field and great satisfaction at the continuing flow of new young talent into the field. They thought four dissertations outstanding. The three runners up were: Andrew Bank (UCT and Cambridge), 'Liberals and their enemies: racial ideology at the Cape of Good Hope 1820-1850'; Paul Clough (Oxford), 'The economy and culture of the Talakawa of Marmara (northern Nigeria)'; and John Parker (SOAS), 'Ga state and society in early colonial Accra, c. 1860 to c. 1920'.

David Maxwell's winning dissertation was entitled 'A social and conceptual history of northeastern Zimbabwe 1890-1990' and analyses how a marginal Shona group has made its mark on Zimbabwean history in peace and war with the aid of Ulster Protestants, Southern Irish Carmelites and its own Pentecostal movement.

Supervisors of PhD students are reminded that it is their responsibility to enter only one outstanding candidate whose dissertation is accepted in the 1996-1998 period.

Obituary: Lilian M. Passmore Sanderson (22 Feb 1925-16 Sept 1996)

Before she was 30 years old, Lilian Sanderson (or Lilian Passmore as she was before her marriage in May 1960 to G. Neville Sanderson) had established herself as an important figure in girls' education in the Sudan, having become headmistress of Omdurman Girls' Intermediate School in 1954 and, in 1958, headmistress of the new Khartoum Girls' Secondary School, a post which she held until it was 'Sudanised' in 1962. Her earlier teaching in the English Girls' College, Alexandria, Egypt (1951-1953) she would later

recall as among the happiest years of her life. It was while on a visit to the Sudan from Egypt in 1953 that girls and women she met had begged her to come to the Sudan to teach them in Omdurman, in what was then the only secondary school for girls in the Sudan. Later that year that she took up a post in the Omdurman Girls' Secondary School, and it was here that the foundations of her lifelong interest in and commitment to the development of education for girls and women in the Sudan were laid. Forty years later she still remembered her deep shock in learning of the genital mutilation suffered by little girls in the Sudan. Her voluntary work to abolish the practice of all forms of female genital mutilation worldwide, and particularly in the Sudan, became a priority for her throughout her 'retirement' from active teaching in England after 1980.

She wrote well over 50 published and unpublished works between 1958 and 1995, her first article appearing in *African World* under the pseudonym, Margaret More. Her best known books were (with her husband, G.N. Sanderson), *Education, religion and politics in Southern Sudan 1899-1964* (Ithaca Press, 1981) (based on her 1966 London Ph.D thesis), *Against the mutilation of women: the struggle to end unnecessary suffering* (Ithaca Press, 1981), and *Female Genital Mutilation, Excision and Infibulation: a bibliography* (Anti-Slavery Society, 1986).

Between the 1960s and 1980s she worked with the Anti-Slavery Society and with other groups and individuals to promote awareness of the issues to which she had committed herself. In 1984, she carried out research to support Lord Kennet's Bill to make female genital mutilation illegal in Britain (the Prohibition of Female Circumcision Act, 16 July 1985). In 1985 she helped to produce the 91 page report on the workshops of the Inter-African Committee on traditional practices affecting the health of women and children held as part of the UN World Conference on Women in Nairobi. She continued to give talks, write reviews and articles, attend conferences and correspond with Sudanese and other colleagues involved in the struggle to free women from harmful traditional practices up to the month before she died.

It was characteristic of Lilian that when she became seriously ill with the rapid onset of cancer in the last weeks of her life, she was concerned to ensure that all her research material and correspondence relating to Sudanese girls' education and to female genital mutilation was sorted so that it could benefit future researchers by being made available in the Sudan Archive at Durham University Library. Educationalist, campaigner, wife and mother, Lilian will long be remembered with affection and admiration by all who knew her. (Adapted from the obituary by L.E. Forbes in *Sudan Studies Number 19, February 1997*).

Gambian Newspapers

The following communication has been received from John Wiseman of the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

The Gambian newspaper *The Nation*, edited by Mr. Dixon Colley (a one-time close friend and collaborator of Kwame Nkrumah), was published in Banjul from 1964 until the time of the 1994 coup d'état. Starting as a monthly publication it later became fortnightly. On a recent research visit to The Gambia I was made aware of a serious problem relating to the survival of the back numbers of the paper. The latter are stored in a somewhat disorganised fashion in Dixon's old office in Banjul although he now lives in Sukuta. He is now in his mid-eighties and is greatly concerned as to what might happen to this collection when he is no longer able to control it. He recognises that, ideally, it should stay in The Gambia but is greatly discouraged by his failure to persuade anybody in The Gambia (eg. the national archives or the museum) to take any interest in it. The collection comprises a complete run of the newspaper over thirty years and should be seen as a major record of a significant period of Gambian history. Some issues are present in multiple copies but for some only an odd copy exists. The physical condition of the newspapers varies from fairly decent to rather tatty and wormy. I spent several dusty afternoons trying to put them in order but did not have time to get beyond the end of the 1960s.

Dixon Colley has asked me to see if I can find a university library (or similar) in the UK or US which would be willing to provide a safe home for this collection. He is not

interested in receiving any payment for the collection but is extremely anxious that it simply survives. I would assume that any organisational or transport costs would be met by the recipient institution. He has asked that any interested party should communicate through me in the first instance. My interest is twofold (1) to help a charming old gentleman; (2) to try to protect the survival of an important historical archive. I would be grateful if anyone who is interested could contact me: Dr. John A Wiseman, Department of Politics, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 7RU (tel: +44 (0)191-222-7527).

Urban Agriculture in Tanzania: Research Partners Sought

Dr. Malongo R S Mlozi, senior lecturer in the Department of Agricultural Education and Extension, at Sokoine University of Agriculture, Morogoro, Tanzania writes with news of research in urban agriculture (raising livestock and growing crops in urban centres). He wants to contact British institutions who would like to co-operate in carrying out joint research or developmental projects in urban agriculture in Tanzania, where preliminary studies indicate that urban agriculture, which is undertaken to earn money and provide for food has, however, led to environmental degradation, among other problems. A joint project would address some of these problems. Contact Dr. Malongo R S Mlozi (email: rutatora@sua.ac.tz).

Funding Method for Research

In January this year Professor J D Y Peel wrote on behalf of the ASAUK to Brian Fender, Chief Executive of the Higher Education Funding Council for England, raising two matters of concern to Africanists. The first referred to HEFCE's proposed funding distinctions between 'laboratory', 'part-laboratory' and 'library' research. Prof. Peel pointed out that this did not take into consideration the important component of field-based collection of data in Africa for the majority of Africanist research in the social sciences and the humanities and urged that HEFCE give recognition to this in its funding provisions.

The second related to the serious concern about the declining academic capacity in certain areas of African studies in the UK now being expressed by the Africa Research Group in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. In light of a recent approach by the Head of Research Analysts at the FCO to HEFCE concerning the provision in universities of political and economic analysis in certain parts of the world, including Africa, Prof. Peel stated that the ASAUK would welcome the opportunity of making a contribution to future deliberations on this issue.

In his reply, Prof. Fender acknowledged the importance of fieldwork research in many subjects and said that HEFCE had now adopted a simple Band A (high cost), Band B (intermediate cost) and Band C (other subjects) terminology. Unfortunately Middle Eastern and African Studies have been assigned to the Band C stratum. He also confirmed that HEFCE, the ESRC and the FCO are in the early stages of discussing a further review of area studies, and that it was their intention to involve the ASAUK in any survey or review which might result from these deliberations.

1998 Decennial Conference: Advance Notice

The date and venue of the next Biennial Conference is set for 14-16 September 1998, at the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London. Residential accommodation will be available at Dinwiddy House, SOAS's new hall of residence in Pentonville Road, not far from King's Cross.

It was agreed at the last meeting of ASAUK Council that it would be best not to have a theme of too great a specificity, since we are anxious to attract papers from across the broad range of Africanist scholarship in Britain. But 'Comparisons and Transitions' was agreed as an overall theme which would encourage Africanists to examine particular topics, whether local/regional or thematic, in the light of comparisons across either/both space and

time. We would thus hope to underscore the importance of Africa as a comparative framework for the questions that are explored in all local and particular studies.

Potential paper-givers or organisers of sessions are invited to send ideas and suggestions to the President, J D Y Peel (c/o ASAUK, SOAS, London WC1H 0XG; email: jp2@soas.ac.uk).

Scotland Africa '97

A 60pp brochure for *Scotland Africa '97*, listing events running through October, can now be obtained from Pravina King, General Co-ordinator Scotland Africa '97, Centre of African Studies, 40 George Square, Edinburgh, EH8 9LL (tel: +44 (0)131-650-3878/6676). Updated information can also be found in the free six-weekly *Scotland Africa '97* Newsletter (obtainable from the same address).

Conferences Future...

Conference listings may appear twice: one short and one long, the second notice appearing in the nearest quarterly number prior to the conference date. Organisers are invited to keep the Newsletter up-to-date with any changes or additions to earlier notices.

UNITED KINGDOM

September: *'Propaganda and empire in France'*, organised by the Francophone Area Studies Research Group, University of Portsmouth. The conference aims to fill the gap in the study of the nature and impact of popular imperialism in France. It will be accompanied by a season of French colonial films from both the colonial and post-independence eras. Contact Amanda Sackur, School of Languages and Area Studies, University of Wiltshire Building, Hampshire Terrace, Portsmouth PO1 2BU (fax: +44 (0)1705-843493; email: amanda@hum.port.ac.uk), or Mrs T. Hurd (tel: +44 (0)1705-843476).

12-13 September: The Centre of West African Studies, University of Birmingham, and the Centre of African Studies, SOAS, are jointly convening a conference on *'Creative writing in African Languages'*, under the auspices of the ASAUK. The conference seeks to bring to the attention of Africanist scholars in all fields the extent, diversity and importance of African-language writing, and to raise questions about the economics of publishing and the feasibility of translation into English and into other African languages. In addition to presentations by authors, which may take the form of personal reminiscences, readings or public interviews as well as formal papers, there will be papers by scholars working on African-language literature and by publishers who have had experience of African-language publishing. Contact Anna Debska, Centre of African Studies, SOAS, Thornhaugh St., Russell Sq., London WC1H 0XG (tel: +44 (0)171-323-6395; fax: +44 (0)171-323-6254; email: cas@soas.ac.uk).

15-17 September: *'Identity & conflict in Africa'*, organised by the African Studies Unit, to be held at Bodington Hall, University of Leeds (see details in *ASAUK Newsletter* no 7). Registration fee is £85 (full)/£20 (student), plus £85 residential charge (full board, 10am Monday-12 noon Wednesday) or £30 non-residential charge (lunch, tea/coffee, etc.). Registration forms can be obtained from Kate Banham, African Studies Unit, University of Leeds LS2 9JT (tel: +44 (0)113-233-5069; email: African-Studies@leeds.ac.uk). Completed forms and payment must be returned by 8 August.

18 October: EthioNet open meeting, *'Trends in Economic and Political Development in Ethiopia'*, SOAS. Three speakers will be sharing their experiences of recent visits to Ethiopia: Hakim Adi (History, Middlesex University), Nici Nelson (Anthropology, Goldsmith's College), Fiona Warden (journalist).

21-22 October: The Edinburgh Centre of African Studies annual conference will be on 'Running, reporting and researching Africa' (see details in *ASAUK Newsletter* no 6). Contact Pravina King (tel: +44 (0)131-650-3878; email: Pravina.King@ed.ac.uk).

November: 'Yoruba diasporas', organised by the Centre of African Studies, SOAS, to coincide with the exhibition at the October Gallery.

24-26 April 1998: First call for papers for the second conference on the theme, 'Africa and Globalisation: Towards the Millennium'. As we approach the millennium, it is time to take stock of political, economic and cultural developments in Africa. Potential panels, in this second conference discussing historical and contemporary experiences of the continent, include: politics & transitions, state & civil society, conflicts & conflict resolutions, prospects for democracy, Africa & the African diaspora, African culture & literature, youth & social movements, humanitarian intervention, land, population & the environment, workers' struggles, structural adjustment & beyond, regional security & African unity, ethnicity & development, the left in post-Cold War Africa, gender & identity, refugees & NGOs, international relations, and agrarian transformation. There will be special panels on South Africa, Nigeria, Pan-Africanism, Sierra Leone & Liberia, the Horn of Africa, the Great Lakes Region, African diaspora, and civil society & democracy. As in the past selected papers will be published in *ROAPE* or in edited volumes. Send abstracts of not more than 200 words, no later than 30 January 1998, to: Tunde Zack-Williams (University of Central Lancashire, Preston PR1 2HE, tel: +44 (0)1772-893970, fax: +44 (0)1772-892966, email: t.zack-williams@uclan.ac.uk), or Alex Thomson (University of Central Lancashire, tel: +44 (0)1772-893920, fax: +44 (0)1772-892919, email: t.thomson@uclan.ac.uk).

INTERNATIONAL

3-5 October: The Centre d'étude d'Afrique noire is hosting a colloquium at Bordeaux on 'La restructuration des réseaux territoriaux en Afrique australe: le local et le régional'. Contact Christine Cazenave, CEAN, BP 101, 33405 Talence Cedex, France (tel: +33-5-56 84 43 03; fax: +33-5-56 844324; email: c.cazenave@cean.u-bordeaux.fr).

12-14 October: 'African contexts of children's rights' is a seminar which will take place in Harare as a collaboration between ANPPCAN Zimbabwe, CODESRIA and Childwatch International Zimbabwe Country Case Study. The aim is to address the relative lack of awareness in African countries of both the OAU African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, as well as to stimulate multidisciplinary intellectual debate that will further children's rights in African contexts. Among the specific objectives of the Seminar are examination of problematic concepts in both instruments and contribution to the process of ratification of the Charter, which still needs two ratifications to come into force. Twenty four established African scholars will be invited to make presentations covering six inter-related themes relevant to the current contexts of children's rights in Africa: economic contexts; conflicts; abuse and exploitation; social inter-relationships; participation and democracy; and fundamentalisms and identity. These scholars will be drawn from all major regions of Africa, and represent the disciplines of law, psychology, sociology, anthropology and economics. Ten to fifteen observers from relevant policy-making and programming organisations will also be invited. The expected outcomes will include progress towards the development of an informed culture of children's rights in African countries; development of a core group of interdisciplinary scholars who can carry the debate forward; and a publication, based on presentations at the seminar, through which the discussions can reach a wider audience. Contact Judith Ennew, Childwatch International, Indicators for Children's Rights Project (email: judithen@alfa.itea.ntnu.no).

15-17 October: Méga-Chad conference on 'L'homme et l'animal dans le bassin du lac Tchad', will be held in Orléans. It will investigate the distribution of domestic animals in the Chad basin, representations and symbolism of the animal world, rearing systems and

social organisation, environmental and developmental challenges linked to animals. Contact Jean Boutrais, Ostrom-MAA, 213 rue Lafayette, 75480, Paris Cedex 10, France.

25-29 March 1998: 24th Annual Conference of the African Literature Association, on the theme of 'Multiculturalism and hybridity in African literatures', at the Omni Hotel, Austin Texas. Chinua Achebe and Maryse Condé will be the keynote speakers. The deadline for submission of paper and panel abstracts for the ALA is 1 December 1997. Contact Hal Wylie, French Department, University of Texas, Austin TX 78712, USA (tel: +1-512-471-5531; fax: +1-512-471-8492; email: hwylie@uts.cc.utexas.edu). The ALA conference will be held on the same weekend and in the same hotel as the American Comparative Literature Association, whose conference theme will be on 'Literary and Cultural Translation/Exchange'. A single registration fee of \$75 will be available for those wishing to attend sessions of both conferences. Those reading papers at the ALA conference must be paid-up members of the ALA. Contact the ALA Treasurer, Louis Tremaine, Department of English, University of Richmond, Richmond, VA 23173, USA.

...Conferences Past

'NGOs and Academics: African Studies in Theory & Practice', a symposium co-hosted by ASAUK and the E.P.S.S. Department, South Bank University, on 16 May, was attended by 75 people, of which about one third identified themselves as from the NGO sector, one third as academics, and one third as both. Three panels were held: 1) 'Does collaboration enhance either sector?', 2) 'Power relations between the sectors', and 3) 'Examples of successful collaboration'. By the end of the three panels a number of suggestions emerged. It was generally agreed that practitioners and academics both recognise that the world needs changing. Both are in the 'influence business', each in their different ways. Academics were urged to research context and power relations. Academics and researchers should question the power of donors. Donors need educating and at present NGOs are reluctant to question or criticize NGOs. More time for research should be programmed into NGO work routines. It was also generally agreed that there should be more opportunities for formal exchange and discussion. The ASAUK was specifically asked to disseminate information about its events more widely, and it would be useful if ASAUK advertised its symposia and conferences in development circles.

Theses Recently Accepted at UK Universities

William J. Bajor, 'Discussing "Human Rights": An Anthropological Exposition on "Human Rights" Discourse', Ph.D. St. Andrews, Social Anthropology, May 1997 (supervisor, Ladislav Holy).

Rosaleen M. Duffy, 'Environment and Development: The Politics of Wildlife Conservation in Zimbabwe', Ph.D. Lancaster, Politics, December 1996 (supervisor, Christopher Clapham).

Recent and Forthcoming Publications

Listings of recently published or forthcoming books by ASAUK/RAS members. Members are invited to send in details, including number of pages, ISBN numbers, price and publication date (where known).

Douglas H. Johnson, *Nuer Prophets. A History of Prophecy from the Upper Nile in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*, Oxford, Clarendon Paperbacks (paperback edition) 1997, 432pp, ISBN 0-19-823367-1, £15.99 (8 May 1997).

Appointments, Academic Links and Exchanges

St Antony's College, Oxford: Murrack Goulding, former British ambassador to Angola, UN under-secretary general for peacekeeping and UN under-secretary general for political affairs becomes Warden of St Antony's College as of 1 October.

Institute of Development Studies, Sussex: The following visiting fellows recently arrived at the IDS: Data Dea (10 April), 'Anthropological perspectives on soil fertility management and agricultural change in southern Ethiopia'; Ngolo Coulibaly (25 April), 'Sustainable livelihoods in Mali'; Billy Mukamuri (27 April), 'Sustainable livelihoods in Zimbabwe'; Alemayehu Konde (1 May), 'Sustainable livelihoods in Ethiopia'; and Delius Asiimwe of the Makerere Institute of Social Research (12 May), 'The current public and private health care delivery in Uganda'.

University of East Anglia: International Institute for Environment and Development, the Drylands Programme is hosting two research fellows from Mali during the summer: Idrissa Maiga of GRAD (Groupe de Recherche-Actions pour le Développement) and Salmana Cisse, an independent sociologist with considerable experience in pastoral issues. Idrissa will be attending a Responding to Conflict course in Birmingham and a course at the University of East Anglia: Managing Organisations, Managing Change. Salmana will be undertaking the Visiting Professional Programme at the University of East Anglia.

Awards, Prizes and Fellowships

The Archibald Callaway Prize in African Studies, a newly instituted book prize established at St Antony's College, Oxford University, endowed by the Archibald Callaway fund, awards books to the value of £100 for the best piece of written work on Africa submitted by a junior member of St. Antony's (masters, doctoral and post-doctoral students). This year's prize was jointly awarded to JoAnne McGregor for 'Containing violence: poisoning and guerrilla-civilian relations', and Jocelyn Alexander for 'Dissident perspective on Zimbabwe's post-independence war'. By special arrangement the prize winners were able to choose their books at a discount from James Currey Publishers (Oxford).

Kirk-Greene Junior Research Fellowship in African Studies: The Kirk-Greene Junior Research Fellowship in African Studies, first established in the academic year 1995/1996, are to be extended through 1999/2000. Its purpose is to enable post-doctoral works on the history, politics or international relations of Tropical Africa (defined as Anglophone East Africa, Anglophone and Francophone West Africa, including Cameroon but excluding Mauritania). From 1997/98 the JRF will be tenable on a two term basis (Hilary and Trinity terms). Contact the College Secretary, St Antony's College, Oxford OX2 6JF for details about the advertisement of the fellowship.

Note to Contributors

The *Newsletter* solicits short reports (of around 2-300 words) on recent conferences, announcements of forthcoming conferences, symposia and workshops (giving topic, date, venue, and contact address), announcements of the awarding of grants, fellowships and prizes, news of appointments and visiting fellowships, publication announcements of books by members, and brief articles or notices on matters of importance to Africanists in the UK. All items for inclusion in the *Newsletter* should be sent to Douglas H. Johnson, Editor, ASAUK Newsletter, James Currey Publishers, 73 Botley Road, Oxford OX2 0BS (fax: (+44) (0)1865-246154), or email: 106155.3441@compuserve.com. *Deadlines* are 31 December (for the January Newsletter), 25 March (for April), 25 June (for July), and 30 September (for October). Any opinions expressed are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent the ASAUK.