The Lebanese British Friends of the National Museum is a private association established in London as a trust. It was created in 1993 with the aim of raising funds and providing technical support for the Lebanese General Directorate of Antiquities.

British and Lebanese archaeologists, architects, historians, scientists, and much needed benevolence have assisted in defining the association’s aims and continue to advise on its activities, which include exhibitions, publications, symposia and conservation projects, all made possible with gifts from benefactors. Members of the association have thus been campaigning with the principal goal of helping rebuild the Beirut National Museum as well as rescue its collections from the damages of war. Among its many activities, the association biannually co-publishes National Museum News in collaboration with the General Directorate of Antiquities.

**Founding Committee** - Mrs. Nada Akkari - Mrs. Nayla Al Assaad - Mrs. Nada Al A’war - Mrs. Danielle Ayas Mrs. Ralda Boulos - Mrs. Zeina Corban - Dr. Claude Doumet-Serhal - Mrs. Marlène Malek - Mrs. Anne Rabate Mrs. Andrée Resek

**Trustees** - Dr. Claude Doumet-Serhal - Dr. Farès el-Dahdah - Mrs. Anne-Marie Maila - Afeiche Mrs. Marlène Malek - Dr. Georges Resek

**Advisors** - Mr. James Black, International Academic Projects - Mr. John Carswell, Sotheby’s Dr. Dafydd Griffiths, Institute of Archaeology - Prof. Susan Pearce, University of Leicester Dr. Dominic Perring, AOC Archaeology Ltd - Dr. Venetia Porter, British Museum - Dr. John Scofield, Museum of London - Mr. Nadim Shehadi, Center of Lebanese Studies, Oxford Mrs. Kathy Tubb, Institute of Archaeology

**Honorary Members** - Mr. John Matossian (legal adviser) - Mr. Taji Gill (accountant)

**Donors** - Mr. & Mrs. Albert Abela - Mr. & Mrs. Ramzi Akkari - Mr. & Mrs. Joe Assiey Mr. & Mrs. Georges Assiey - Mr. & Mrs. Said Ayas - Mr. & Mrs. Rafik Azzam Mr. & Mrs. Ghassan Azouri - Mr. & Mrs. Maroun Boulos - Mr. Elie Calil - Mr. & Mrs. Nemr Diab Mr. & Mrs. Mansour Foustok - Mr. & Mrs. Elie Hallak - Mr. & Mrs. Philippe Helou - Mr. & Mrs. Philippe Jabre Mr. & Mrs. Romy Karam - Mrs. Mary Kettaneh Mr. & Mrs. Michel Klat - Mr. & Mrs. Nadim Korban - Mr. & Mrs. Nabil Nahas Mr. & Mrs. Salim Nassar - Mr. & Mrs. John Ricciardi - Mr. Mouhammad Safadi Mr. Mario Saradar - Mr. & Mrs. Mouhamed Shaker - Mr. & Mrs. Gaby Tabarani - Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Taktouk Mrs. Sandra Tarazi - Mr. Ghassan Tuéni - Mr. & Mrs. Georges Zakhem Mr. & Mrs. Khalil Zantout

This issue of National Museum News was made possible with gifts from Mr. & Mrs. Philippe Helou

Thanks to Mr. Robert Debbas, Managing Director of LINK Lebanon, the distribution of National Museum News is now available through the LINK company network which offers a personalised monthly mailshot to its 15,000 customers in Lebanon. Mr. Debbas’s idea was to include a subscription form to the National Museum News in the company’s monthly promotions and indeed received a very favourable response. Numerous new subscriptions have thus been made as well as several generous contributions, all thanks to Mr. Debbas’s genuinely altruistic initiative and to whom we are truly grateful.