

bardez partez

á

THE BULLETIN OF
THE ARMENIAN
INSTITUTE

ՀԱՅ ՀԻՄՆԱԿ

2018



Dear reader, Միընդի ընթերցող,

Welcome to our Bardez-Partez / Պարտեզ!

News and Views from the Armenian Institute

It has been another incredibly busy year here at the Armenian Institute, with 30-odd events throughout 2017, including the amazing concert by Levon Chilingirian, Alexander Chaushian and Karén Hakobyan at St James' Church, Piccadilly to mark the Institute's Sweet 16th Birthday.

Highlights for me have included the series on Armenian Art History at the Royal Asiatic Society, the book launch for the translation of Zabel Yessayan's works and the moving memorial to a staunch Armenian Institute supporter, Christopher A Walker.

The Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank the Arts Council for their grant which allowed us to put forward our programme "Connecting Communities: Creative Writing Across the Arts" (see pages 26-30).

Looking forward to the year ahead, we are planning a number of lectures and workshops so please do lookout for our emails. On that note, (sorry for the administrative task in the midst of our welcome) with new data protection laws coming into force later in 2018, we will be in touch with our Friends to ask if they are still happy to be contacted by us in order to give them news of events and the latest copy of this magazine. We kindly request that when you receive such notices you do come back to us either way. (The administrative part is now over).

This year's Bardez-Partez is one of our largest to date and welcomes familiar contributors and well as new ones. I do hope you enjoy being taken through the past and the present, all over the Near East, only to end up back in West London with our articles herein.

Arda Eghiayan

If you would like to contribute in the next issue please contact the Publishing Committee on info@armenianinstitute.org.uk.

In this Issue...

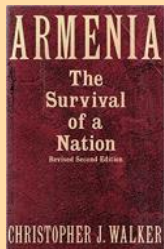
**Armenians
in Ethiopia**
PAGES 4 - 5



Travel in Armenia and beyond
PAGES 8 - 12



**Christopher J Walker:
in memoriam**
PAGE 34

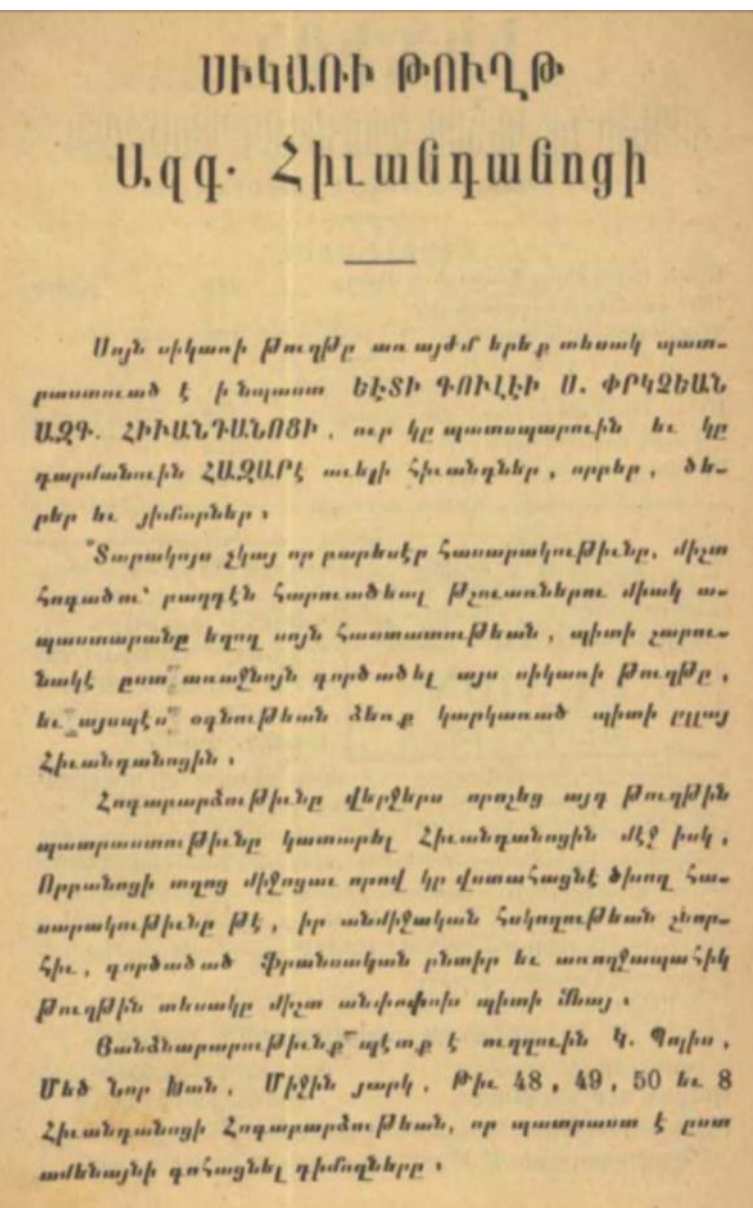


**Armenians in
Sports: We did
it again!**
PAGES 19 -20

Trying to find a new hospital fundraising scheme - how about cigarette paper?

by Hratch Tchilingirian

Recently, while searching for an article, I came across a rather curious 1901 advertisement for “cigarette paper” produced by the Surp Pirgic [Holy Saviour] Armenian hospital in Istanbul (Constantinople) to augment the income of the hospital. Today, it would not only be scandalous for a hospital to produce or sponsor such a product, it would be unthinkable. Indeed, over the last century medical science and technologies, especially research on the effects of smoking, have advanced so much that reading such advertisements today is amusing. Another idea that would seem exploitative today is the claim in the advertisement that “orphans” under the care of the hospital were used for “quality assurance” of the product. Here is the translation of the advertisement that provides a glimpse of the cosmopolitan Armenian life in Constantinople (Bolis) more than a century ago.



Cigarette Paper of the National Hospital*

“This cigarette paper is currently produced in three kinds by the Holy Saviour National Hospital in Yedikule (*Surp Pirgiç Azkayin Hivantanots*), where more than a thousand patients, orphans, elderly and mentally ill people are sheltered and treated.

“No doubt, the generous public, always showing care towards this institution that provides the only shelter to the destitute stricken by misery, will continue as before to use this cigarette paper, and thus, lend a helping hand to the hospital.

“Recently, the Trustees decided to produce those papers in the hospital itself. Through the children of the orphanage, [the hospital] assures the smoking public that under its immediate supervision, the quality of the utilised type of the selected and healthy French paper will always remain unchanged.

“Orders should be sent to Constantinople, New Big Khan, Middle Floor, No. 48, 49, 50 and 8 Trustees of the Hospital, who are ready to fully satisfy the demand of the applicants.”

* Published in 1901 *Extensive Calendar of the National [Armenian] Hospital*.