



Ian Wilson  
and Max Frei  
among  
Byzantine  
ruins in  
Istanbul in  
1977.  
Photo by the  
Editor

I am pleased to say that both the above feature in this edition. In Max Frei's case, of course, posthumously. The above picture was taken when I accompanied them both on one of the research trips for *The Silent Witness*. At that time Ian was a resident of Bristol and had been there long enough to regard himself as a very proud Bristolian. He has now, of course, gone "native" in Australia and very happily so, too.

His return to the UK this summer will allow him to present the fruits of his research over the last decade at two lectures. This new research has focused on two previously overlooked fourteenth century manuscripts which, according to Ian, shed "dramatic" new light on De Charney. Combined with succeeding medieval manuscripts, these show that for three generations, rather than profiteer from the "faked-up" Shroud, as alleged by the C14 scientists, the family suppressed their personal knowledge and belief as to why the Shroud was the genuine article.

Exploring back to the twelfth century, significantly earlier than the date attributed to the Shroud by the carbon dating, the lecture will offer a *brand-new theory* concerning where the Shroud truly was at this early time, what and where it had been before then, how a De Charney forbear came to acquire it, and why its existence became near impenetrably fogged by three centuries of confusion and secrecy.

#### Lectures

**St Mary's Church, Stoke Bishop, 20th September, 7:00pm.  
Sponsored by BSTS. Free admission - Retiring Collection.  
(Q&A for BSTS members and subscribers after this lecture.)**

**Leeds Cathedral, 2nd October, 7:00pm.**

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