

*30 years homosexuals had to disguise their very nature as the practise was illegal in the UK. It is not surprising, therefore, that a chameleon-like persona might develop purely in self-defence. However, in retrospect it is evident to me that Sox, as far as the Shroud is concerned, was, for want to a better description, a “double agent”, determined, behind the scenes, on discrediting it and using his “supportive insider” status as a cover.*

*When (as described in my article on page 4 of this Newsletter) I withdrew from the project to film the Shroud’s C14 test because the protocols were abandoned, Sox stepped in and offered his services to the BBC. Under his “consultancy” the film’s narration used the most deceptive language to disguise the fact that key protocols had been abandoned. Viz. Narrator: **“If the samples look similar, none of the labs will know which is the Shroud.”** At the time this was written Sox already knew that the samples **did not and could not** look similar. He allowed the viewer to believe that the Labs had indeed performed the test blind. This was untrue and he knew it.*

*The Shroud’s pedigree comes in for plenty of questioning and undermining from its avowed detractors and sceptics. That’s fair enough. However, it seems that the Shroud’s reputation has suffered most from those who were entrusted to treat it fairly but could not, for their own private reasons, bring themselves to do so. D.R.*

**An Osseous Remain [sic] on the Face of the Turin Shroud**  
**G. Lucotte and T. Thomasser**  
**Journal of Anthropology and Archaeology June 2017 Vol 5 No 1**  
**Review by Hugh Farey**

The latest offering from Professor Gérard Lucotte, seventh in his series of accounts of his electron microscope researches into the debris on a single square millimetre of sticky tape, describes a piece of bone. Under a microscope, even a scanning electron microscope, the little blob, about 5 µm across, resembles a shapeless lump of semolina (“fine (100nm-1µm) well-delimited micrograms”). Identification depends not on its appearance, but on the very fine probe Energy Dispersive X-Ray (EDX) spectroscopy analysis of a spot in the middle of the top surface. This revealed Calcium and Phosphorus in exactly the correct proportions for bone, together with Chlorine which the authors attribute to salt, and an organic component. At one edge of the blob the organic component was much enhanced, suggesting the presence of cartilaginous connective tissue. There was also an abnormal (1%) proportion of lead. Remarkably, Lucotte claims he was able to compare his findings with an earlier investigation of a fragment of bone from Mary Magdalen, finding them a reasonable match. Unusually for Prof. Lucotte, he specifically mentions “the man whose face image is imprinted on the Turin Shroud” and suggests that his bone fragment may originate in a fracture of the nose. This is quite a departure from the scientific distance he normally keeps from subjective discussion.