

MAES Lecture Programme 2017/8

DATE	SPEAKER	TITLE
11 Sep	Colin Reader	The Meidum Pyramid
9 Oct	Paul Nicholson	Views of an Antique Land: Egypt & Palestine during WWI
Sat 4 Nov	Victor Blunden Memorial Study Day at the Manchester Museum	Coffins with Campbell Price and Geoffrey Killen, in association with Northampton Ancient Egyptian Historical Society
13 Nov	Alan Lloyd	Ramesses II In Legend
11 Dec	Kevin Harrison	Around Africa by Trireme: Necho's Phoenician Mariners ... an Ancient Example of 'Fake News' or of Genuine 'Daring-do?'
8 Jan	Dylan Bickerstaffe	Separated At Birth? Egypt, Crete and the Levant.
12 Feb	Campbell Price	Bob Partridge Egyptology lecture: Artisans as Ritualists in Ancient Egypt
5 Mar*	Manon Schutz	'To die, to sleep' — The meaning of Beds in Ancient Egypt
17 Mar*	Study Day at the Longfield Suite, Prestwich	Delta Digs: Penny Wilson, Joanne Rowland & Liverpool University
Sat 7 Apr	Joint MAES / EES Study Day at the Manchester Museum	"Life in the Royal Workmen's Towns of Ancient Egypt" with Cedric Gobeil
16 Apr**	Hilary Forrest	Scholars, Collectors, Adventurers, Aesthetes and Plunderers.
14 May	Michael Eastwood	Kha and Merit
11 Jun	Sarah Griffiths & AGM	Ptolemaic Girl Power: Arsinoë II, Berenice II and Cleopatra VII

***March meeting on 1st Monday and Study Day a week earlier than usual.**

****April meeting date has just been changed – now taking place on 16th.**

Monday 11th September

Colin Reader: The Meidum Pyramid

Perhaps more than any other, the Meidum pyramid has been the focus of much speculation about its age, the pharaoh for whom it was built and what events led to the development of its strange shape. In this talk which is based on a paper published in JARCE in 2016, Colin reviews the findings of research by the likes of Petrie and Borchardt and combines this with his own observations from site to re-examine what we think we know about this enigmatic early pyramid.

MAES members will of course know Colin well as he used to be our Chair! He is a Fellow of the Geological Society of London and a Chartered Geologist. He has twenty five years professional experience in the application of geology, geomorphology and hydrology to construction and has been an enthusiastic student of construction in the ancient world since 1995.

Monday 9th October

Paul Nicholson: Views of an Antique Land: Egypt & Palestine during WWI

The *Views of an Antique Land* project is funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and run by Paul Nicholson, Steve Mills and Hilary Rees from Cardiff University. Its aim is to collect photographs taken in Egypt and Palestine during the First World War. This tightly defined time period means that it is possible to get images of known date which provide, literally, a snapshot of those countries at the time. Not only has the project collected some interesting and significant images of the conflict but also pictures of the archaeological sites as they were at the time. Our hope is to eventually extend the project beyond WW1 and to look at images of Egypt from the birth of photography onwards thus providing an overview of the monuments as they have been excavated and 'tidied up' for visitors. This talk will look at some of the military and historical images from the project, concentrating especially on those from Egypt, as well as showing a few dating earlier than the war itself.

Paul T. Nicholson is a Professor of Archaeology at Cardiff University's School of History, Archaeology and Religion. He has worked in Egypt since 1983 and has directed excavations at Tell el-Amarna, Saqqara and Memphis as well as working for other projects in Egypt. He is co-author (with Ian Shaw) of the British Museum Dictionary of Ancient Egypt and co-editor (also with Ian Shaw) of Ancient Egyptian Materials and Technology. He recently published 'Working In Memphis' an account of faience making in Roman Memphis. He serves as Chair of the Amarna Trust.

Saturday 4th November 11am – 3pm at the Manchester Museum

Victor Blunden Memorial Study Day with Campbell Price & Geoffrey Killen

A special study day in memory of the late Victor Blunden, focusing on one of his favourite areas of Egyptology: coffins. We will explore over 4000 years of coffin design, with an introduction to the meaning and symbolism of coffins by Campbell Price an exploration of the role and craft of the carpenter by Geoffrey Killen, who will also give us a practical demonstration using his own replica tools. There will be a private tour of the museum stores to look at some of the full-sized coffins in the collection, and the opportunity for close-up observation of coffin fragments in a handling session.

This study day has been made possible thanks to the generosity of Victor's friends from the Northampton Ancient Egyptian Historical Society, and thanks to Campbell Price and the Manchester Museum for hosting this special event.

*Geoffrey Killen is an Egyptologist, wood technologist and furniture historian with more than 40 years of research into ancient Egyptian woodworking processes and techniques. He specialises in making and using replica woodworking tools and equipment to generate and test archaeological hypotheses, and his practical work is now on display in several British museums. He is the author of *Ancient Egyptian Furniture* (three volumes) and lectures widely across the UK, and will be touring the USA in 2018.*

Campbell Price is Curator of Egypt and Sudan at the Manchester Museum and has lectured widely throughout the UK and around Europe. He gained his BA, MA, and PhD in Egyptology at the University of Liverpool, where he is now an Honorary Research Fellow.

Monday 13th November

Alan Lloyd: Rameses II In Legend

With the exception of Tutankhamun Rameses II is the best known of all Egyptian Pharaohs and his reign is far better recorded in monuments and textual material. He is also a Pharaoh who never disappeared from historical tradition, despite the demise of the Ancient Egyptian scripts which recorded his achievements. However, there is no surviving cycle of Rameses legends as such. What we do have at the level of legend is a variety of texts in Egyptian, Greek, and Latin which reflect the impact which he made on ancient historical consciousness. This lecture will try to identify the ingredients of this legendary tradition and the role which it played for Egyptian and non-Egyptian alike.

Alan is Professor Emeritus Department of History and Classics at Swansea University and President of the Egypt Exploration Society. He was involved in EES excavations at Saqqara, working on Old Kingdom tombs in the Teti Pyramid Cemetery. He is an authority on the writings of Herodotus and author or editor of many publications on Egyptological and Classical subjects, most recently "A Companion to Ancient Egypt" (Wiley-Blackwell, 2010) and "Ancient Egypt: State and Society" (Oxford University Press, 2014). He has participated in numerous television and radio programmes, as well as being Egyptology adviser to Ridley Scott's epic film "Exodus: Gods and Kings".

Monday 11th December

Kevin Harrison: Around Africa by Trireme: Necho's Phoenician Mariners ... an Ancient Example of 'Fake News' or of Genuine 'Daring-do?'

Did an Egyptian-led Phoenician expedition circumnavigate Africa in the late-seventh century BC? Herodotus describes such an expedition: his account in the *Histories* of Necho II's mariners and their three year voyage is the most complete – indeed the only - source of this extraordinary story of ancient exploration. This talk attempts to answer the question with reference to our knowledge of the world in the time of Necho, and Herodotus, who lived a century and a half later. The veracity and accuracy of Herodotus is a key element in this story. Scholars have long debated the likelihood of such an expedition, and some of that controversy will be addressed here. Ancient seamanship and geographical knowledge helps one establish some tentative answers to this ancient circumnavigation conundrum.

Kevin Harrison has been interested in ancient history since he first came across pyramids and mummies at junior school. Although his academic studies, life and a teaching career in Further Education and the Open University tended to take him away from the specialised study of Ancient Egypt, he compensated for this by designing and delivering course programmes in Egyptian and Ancient Near Eastern archaeology to adults. Kevin's work on a 'ground-breaking' book about the

ancient search for the source of the Nile has already taken far longer than Necho's mariners took to journey around the continent of Africa. One always travels in hope!

Monday 8th January

Dylan Bickerstaffe - SEPARATED AT BIRTH? Egypt, Crete and the Levant.

Why were bulls, vultures, and snakes such prominent symbols in the cultures of ancient Egypt and Minoan Crete? The Egyptian king was a 'mighty bull', and there were cults in Egypt for the Apis, Buchis, and Mnevis bull. In Minoan Crete votive bull figurines were placed in shrines; numerous images depicted scenes of bull leaping; and several myths and legends focussed on bulls – not least the mighty man-bull, or Minotaur. But this theme may also be found in extremely ancient cultures in the Levant, Mesopotamia, and Anatolia – and here, too, were the common symbols of vultures, and snakes. Images of totemic animals are just one of several artistic themes which we will see paralleled in these ancient cultures.

Dylan gained archaeological experience digging on Romano British sites in the 1970s and since then has travelled widely in the Middle East and Europe; designing and leading tours especially to Egypt, but also Crete, Italy and Turkey. He lectures to Egyptology Societies around the UK, and at Conferences in the UK and Luxor and has contributed to several TV documentaries. His publications include numerous magazine articles and he is author of two books, "Identifying the Royal Mummies" and "An Ancient Egyptian Case Book". He is Programme Secretary for the SSAE (Nottinghamshire/Derbyshire group).

Monday 12th Feb

Campbell Price *Bob Partridge Egyptology Lecture: Artisans as Ritualists in Ancient Egypt*

Artisans, particularly those engaged in producing sculpture, held an especially important place in Ancient Egyptian society. This lecture explores the 'magic' of artistic production and traces the evidence of some artisans, who often left their mark on works they created or used their access to skills and resources to make very special objects for themselves.

*Campbell Price is Curator of Egypt and Sudan at Manchester Museum, one of the UK's largest Egyptology collections. He undertook his BA, MA, and PhD in Egyptology at the University of Liverpool, where he is now an Honorary Research Fellow. He has published widely on ancient Egyptian material culture, most recently *Pocket Museum: Ancient Egypt* (Thames and Hudson, 2018). Campbell has lectured widely throughout the UK, and internationally.*

Mon 5th March

Manon Schutz - 'To die, to sleep' — The Meaning of Beds in Ancient Egypt

The bed is a piece of furniture which everyone in modern day England uses or at least knows. However, as it seems so familiar to us, we tend to project our own understanding of beds and the ideas related to them—especially that of the nightly sleep—to beds in other cultures. In the case of Egyptian beds, however, one might wonder whether it is legitimate to compare objects that are not

only geographically, but also chronologically apart, even though their form is similar to our modern counterparts. Furthermore, it is noteworthy that all the beds known to us stem from tombs, not the domestic area. Thus, the aim of this talk is to analyse the function of beds in the funerary context of ancient Egypt and their role as connecting link between sleep and death.

Manon is a doctoral candidate and Clarendon scholar at Mansfield College, University of Oxford. In her thesis 'Sleep, Beds, and Death in Ancient Egypt', she is analysing the function of the bed in the funerary context of ancient Egypt from Predynastic times to the Graeco-Roman Period, especially in its role as protector and guarantor of rebirth. In her Magister Artium thesis, which she completed at the University of Trier (Germany), as well as her Master of Studies thesis for the University of Oxford, she analysed coffins from the Roman Period. She was also involved in the publication of the Egyptian collection housed in the Musée National d'Histoire et d'Art in Luxembourg.

Saturday 17th March MAES Annual Study Day at the Longfield Suite, Prestwich

“Delta Digs”: Latest excavations in the Delta region of Egypt.

A day of discoveries with Penny Wilson, Joanne Rowland and Rosalie David discussing the latest excavation work in the Delta.

- A Short history of the Delta
- Sais: from Fisherfolk to Royal Capital
- From the first peoples to the first farmers at Merimde Beni Salama and the Wadi el-Gamal, to the spread of Predynastic settlements
- Changing patterns of site density - from the Early Dynastic to the Old Kingdom in the Delta
- The Tanis excavations and treasures
- Boom & Bust: Ptolemaic period to Late Roman Period settlements in the North of Egypt

Penny Wilson is Associate Professor in Egyptian Archaeology, Dept. Archaeology, Durham University. Field Director of the Royal City of Sais Project since 1997, also Director of the Egypt Exploration Society-British Academy Special Project, The Nile Delta Survey, with specific attention to the north and western Delta.

Joanne Rowland is Lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Edinburgh. Director of the Minufiyeh Archaeological Survey since 2005, and the Imbaba Governorate Prehistoric Survey since 2013 (both Egypt Exploration Society, Delta Survey).

Professor Rosalie David, OBE, BA, PhD, FRSA is Emerita Professor of Egyptology at the University of Manchester, and currently Co-Director of the KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology. In 2003, she was awarded an OBE for services to Egyptology, and has received Fellowships of The Royal Society of Arts and The Royal Society of Medicine. She is of course also a member of the MAES committee.

Saturday 7th April Joint MAES / EES / Manchester Museum Half Study Day at the Manchester Museum 11am – 2pm

“Life in the Royal Workmen’s Towns of Deir el-Medina” with Cédric Gobeil.

A joint half study day with the Egypt Exploration Society held at the Kanaris Theatre of Manchester Museum. EES Director Cédric Gobeil presents two lectures about his excavations at Deir el-Medina, and research on the Deir el-Medina tattooed lady.

Lecture 1: Deir el-Medina 2.0. A reassessment of the site’s archaeology and history to the light of our most recent discoveries.

Lecture 2: Embodying the divine. A female tattooed mummy from Deir el-Medina.

Tickets £20 see website for details.

Cédric is Director of the Egypt Exploration Society, and Director of the French archaeological mission of Deir el-Medina for the Institut français d'archéologie orientale du Caire (IFAO) in Egypt. Born in Quebec City, Canada, he studied at the Université Laval in Quebec City and the Université Paris IV-Sorbonne. He is also working for the French missions of Coptos (IFAO/Université Lumière-Lyon II) and Balat/Ayn Asil (IFAO), as well as for the Great Hypostyle Hall Project in the Temple of Karnak, a joint mission of the University of Memphis and the Université du Québec à Montréal.

Monday 16th April

Hilary Forrest - Scholars, Collectors, Adventurers, Aesthetes and Plunderers.

The nineteenth century was a period of exploration, analysis and plundering of the treasures of ancient Egypt. Some of this activity could be interpreted as legitimate while much was unofficial or even illegal. The Museums of the world and private collections were often beneficiaries. This lecture will look at a number of individuals involved in this process looking at their lives, careers and their motivation, to examine this process. Examples will begin with the Napoleonic study and will include colourful characters such as Belzoni, Henry Salt, William Bankes, well-known names like Maspero and Petrie as well as some lesser names like Greville Chester and Gayer Anderson.

Having had a lifelong interest in and enthusiasm for archaeology and more specifically, Egyptology, Hilary was finally able to pursue these interests after taking early retirement from teaching History and Archaeology to A level for 33 years. She gained the Certificate in Egyptology from the last of Professor David's taught courses. She is the author of "Mummies, Manufacturers and Manchester", published in 2011, which traces the development of Egyptology in the Greater Manchester area.

Monday 14th May

Michael Eastwood – Kha and Meryt

Kha supervised the building of three royal tombs, those of Amenhotep II, Thutmose IV and Amenhotep III. However when his own tomb, which he shared with his wife Meryt, was found in 1906 it was, and still is, one of the greatest archaeological discoveries of all time. Because it was found intact it gives us a wonderful insight into the lives of non-royals (albeit very 'well to do')

individuals) during the New Kingdom. During this talk we will learn about the couple, their tomb and its contents.

Michael is secretary and co-founder of Thebes - the Blackburn Egyptology Society. He has lectured across the North West to Egyptology societies and other historical and charity groups. His main focus is on visiting primary schools, teaching children about the wonderful ancient Egyptian civilisation, and also accompanies classes on trips to the Manchester Museum.

Monday 11th June (& AGM)

Sarah Griffiths: Ptolemaic Girl Power: Arsinoë II, Berenice II and Cleopatra VII

The Ptolemaic Dynasty was a final flowering of pharaonic Egypt, but with a distinctive Greek flavour – a continuation of Egypt's religious traditions by a foreign elite with their own Hellenistic culture and traditions.

And yet the House of Ptolemy was a family at war with itself, a complex tangle of relationships based on sibling marriages that gave the formidable Ptolemaic queens positions of considerable power and influence but also contributed to dynastic instability.

Sarah Griffiths will paint a vivid picture of the rise and fall of Egypt's last ancient dynasty, exploring the lives of three of Egypt's most powerful women set against a backdrop of corruption, intrigue, murder, foreign wars, civil unrest and the series of catastrophic events that led to the decline of the kingdom and its final annexation by Rome.

Sarah is Deputy Editor of Ancient Egypt Magazine and Secretary of Manchester Ancient Egypt Society. She holds the Certificate in Egyptology from the University of Manchester in addition to Honours and Masters degrees in science, and lectures in Egyptology for the Manchester Continuing Education Network as well as to Egyptology societies across the UK.