

## MAES Lecture Programme 2018/9

DATE	SPEAKER	TITLE
10 Sep 18	Robert Morkot	Gebel Barkal, the Holy Mountain of Napata
8 Oct	Lee Young	The Lure of the East: Artists and Epigraphers in Egypt
5 Nov*	Alan Hayward	How Macclesfield got its Ancient Egypt Collection
17 Nov	Joint study day with KNH Centre at the University of Manchester	<b>Secrets of the Stones: Current Epigraphic Surveys and Excavations at Thebes and Antinoupolis</b> Three lectures from Ray Johnson and Jay Heidel on the Epigraphic survey of Medinet Habu, Luxor Temple and in private Theban tombs, reassembling Amarna talatat blocks and current excavations at Antinoupolis
10 Dec	Keith White	"Beautiful, Fair And Lovely Akhetaten".... The Rhetoric And The Reality
14 Jan 19	Colin Reader	<i>Bob Partridge Egyptology Lecture: Secrets in the Sand</i>
11 Feb	Hilary Wilson	Gifts of the Nile: Water Plants in Egyptian Culture
11 Mar	Nicky Nielsen	Pharaoh Seti I: Father of Egyptian Greatness
Mar 30*	Study Day at the Longfield Suite, Prestwich	<b>Location, Location Location: Houses And Homes In Ancient Egypt</b> with Geoffrey Killen, Peter Phillips, Joyce Tyldesley & Regina Di Giovanni.
8 Apr	Mark Collier	Big Changes: how the Ancient Egyptian Language developed from the Pyramid age through to Coptic Christianity.
13 May	Rosalie David	The Life And Times Of Takabuti: A New Investigation Of The Belfast Mummy
10 Jun	Anna Garnett	The Petrie Museum: Past, Present and Future <b>&amp; AGM</b>

*\*Nov date a week early; March study day a week later*

*With the exception of our two study days, all lectures will be held at our usual venue (Pendulum Hotel, Sackville Street, Manchester, M1 3BB).*

### MON 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER ROBERT MORKOT

#### Gebel Barkal, the Holy Mountain of Napata

Thutmose III claims to have been the first pharaoh to see Gebel Barkal near the Fourth Cataract of the Nile, and he recognised it as the dwelling place of Amun. Later pharaohs built a temple in front of the sheer cliffs that front the mountain, and under the Kushite pharaohs of the 25th Dynasty it grew to be a large complex of temples and palaces. We look at the history, monuments and some of the (occasionally crazy) ideas that this fascinating site has generated.

*Robert Morkot is a Senior Lecturer in Archaeology at the University of Exeter. He studied Ancient History and Egyptology at University College London (1977-1980), followed by postgraduate studies at London including a year at the Humboldt-University, Berlin. He served on the Committee of the Egypt Exploration Society between 1991 and 2010, was Chair of the Society for Libyan Studies from 2011-2016, Chair of the Association for the Study of Travel in Egypt and the Near East 2009-2011. He is currently a Vice-President of the Friends of the Petrie Museum UCL. Robert is a leading authority on the relationship between Pharaonic Egypt and Nubia (Kush), and on the 25th Dynasty. His other main areas of interest are Egypt and Libya, the historiography of Egypt and the reception of antiquity in western Europe.*

## **MON 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER LEE YOUNG**

### **The Lure of the East: Artists and Epigraphers in Egypt**

As the title implies, this lecture will tell the story of the various travellers who ventured to the exotic land that was Egypt, from the time of Napoleon in the 18th century through to the 20th century. These travellers and artists left us a veritable treasure trove of the recordings of their travelling adventures. It will be the story of gentlemen travellers who took along an artist to act as a living camera; of serious scholars who wanted to record as much as they could before it all disappeared; and a group of artists called the Orientalists. There will be many beautiful paintings shown, whilst Lee tells the stories of some on these intrepid pioneers, people like, Belzoni, Bankes, Wilkinson, Lear and many more.

*Lee is an independent researcher and lecturer who has been working, for a few years now, as a research volunteer, for the Griffith Institute Archive which is part of Oxford University. She has also worked on a project for the Egyptian Exploration Society. She is currently working on the letters of Myrtle Broome for the Griffith and indeed is in the process of writing a book on the Broome letters. Her research into the archaeological artists, takes up most of her time together with lectures and writing articles for various publications.*

## **MON 5 NOVEMBER\* ALAN HAYWARD**

### **How Macclesfield got its Ancient Egypt Collection**

This is the story of how an industrial town acquired a surprisingly high quality collection of objects from Ancient Egypt. When Alan began to research the material, few objects had a known provenance and it was thought to have been the collection of two Victorian ladies. Marianne Brocklehurst, and her friend Mary Booth (known as the 'MBs'), who were indeed central to the collection, but Amelia Edwards and Flinders Petrie had a significant impact and their involvement added much to the stories that many of the objects have to tell.

*Alan Hayward began studying Egyptology after retiring as Chartered Engineer. West Park Museum in Macclesfield asked him to research the ancient Egyptian collection there and as a result he became honorary curator. He has recently retired from that role but is still involved with the museum, writes occasional articles for Ancient Egypt magazine and gives talks to local societies.*

## SAT 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER JOINT STUDY DAY WITH KNH CENTRE

### **Secrets of the Stones: Current Epigraphic Surveys and Excavations at Thebes and Antinoupolis**

Three lectures from special guests Ray Johnson and Jay Heidel

#### **Raymond Johnson: The Epigraphic Survey at 95: Documentation, Conservation, and New Digital Technologies at Chicago House in Luxor, Egypt**

The Epigraphic Survey of the Oriental Institute, University of Chicago, based at Chicago House in Luxor, has been producing and publishing precise line drawings and photographs of scenes and reliefs since its founding in 1924. The Survey's most recent seasons include a new digital documentation initiative in the blockyards at Luxor Temple; film and digital documentation of a private tomb in western Thebes; and continued documentation, conservation, site development, conservation training programs, and restoration at Medinet Habu with a grant from USAID Egypt. While the precise, scientific documentation and publication of Egypt's pharaonic cultural heritage sites continues to be its primary work in Luxor, the Survey expanded its mission in the mid-1990s to include restoration, conservation, and site management in response to rapidly changing climatic and demographic conditions in Egypt that are resulting in the accelerating decay of the ancient monuments.

#### **Reassembling Talatat Blocks of Akhenaten from Tel el-Amarna: New Joins, Discoveries, and Surprises**

Ray Johnson's re-examination of published Akhenaten building blocks from Tel el-Amarna, reused in the temple complex of the moon-god Thoth at Hermopolis by Ramesses II, has resulted in a number of unexpected and significant discoveries. The small building blocks favoured by Akhenaten, referred to as talatat, allowed quick construction of his Aten temple complexes throughout Egypt and Nubia, but their small size also allowed for quick demolition and widespread reuse, even into the Middle Ages. This lecture discusses the building programs of Akhenaten, primarily at Tel el-Amarna, the history of the demolition and reuse of the Amarna talatat material, and the sometimes surprising knowledge gained from new joins of the material that relate to the king's family, the construction history of Tel el-Amarna, and the latter part of Akhenaten's reign.

*W. Raymond Johnson received his doctorate in Egyptian Archaeology from the University of Chicago in 1992. He joined the Epigraphic Survey, Oriental Institute, University of Chicago based at Chicago House in Luxor, Egypt, full time in 1979 as epigraphic draftsman, where he helped document the Opet reliefs of Tutankhamun in the great Colonnade Hall of Luxor Temple and began the Luxor Temple fragment project. He served as Senior Artist from 1982, became Assistant Director in 1995, and was appointed Epigraphic Survey Director in 1997. He is a Research Associate (Associate Professor) of the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC) and the Oriental Institute*

## **Jay Heidel: Antinoupolis - the Cult City of Osir-Antinous built by Hadrian in Egypt, Overview of the Site and Current Excavations**

When Roman Emperor Hadrian's young beloved Antinous drowned in the Nile during an imperial tour of Egypt in October of 130 AD, Hadrian built a large and elaborate city near the site of his death. This city, Antinoupolis, was designed to be the cult city dedicated to the new god Osir-Antinous, the dead and deified Antinous joined with the Egyptian god of the dead, Osiris.

Since 1935, the University of Florence, Italy has done archaeological work at the site, and Jay Heidel joined the team as architect in 2009. In 2011 he founded the Antinoupolis Foundation to fund special projects at the site for the Istituto focused on studying the city's urban form and its buildings at the time it was first constructed in the 130's AD. This lecture will be an overview of the site and a discussion of the history of work at the site, current work at the site, and current conclusions we may make about the urban form and architecture of the city that Hadrian built. The lecture will focus especially on the mission's current excavations in the centre of the city near the Nile which were recent finds indicate is a temple precinct dedicated to the city's titular deity, Osir-Antinous.

*James B. (Jay) Heidel, M. Arch., is Architect for the Istituto Papirologico "G. Vitelli" of the University of Florence, Italy's archaeological mission to Antinoupolis and President of the Antinoupolis Foundation, Inc. He is also Luxor Temple Site Coordinator, Architect and Epigraphic Artist for the University of Chicago's (Chicago House's) permanent expedition to Luxor, Egypt.*

## **MON 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER KEITH WHITE**

### **"Beautiful, Fair And Lovely Akhetaten" .... The Rhetoric And The Reality.**

The pharaoh Akhenaten relocated the capital of Egypt to a previously largely uninhabited site 170 km south of modern Cairo in around 1344BCE. Within nine years the city, named Akhetaten and known today as Amarna, had population of between 20,000 and 30,000 people. For political and religious reasons the city was abandoned after, at most, 20 years, and so provides a 'snapshot of life under the co-called heretic Akhenaten. Tomb and temple scenes suggest a city of plenty and a happy populace.

This talk will present evidence from investigations over the last decade suggesting that the reality – at least for the non-elite – was very different, with malnutrition and disease common. Spinal and limb injuries also suggest a work-load that was excessive even for the average ancient Egyptian. We will also look possible reasons for such an unhealthy population – and the likely explanation does not reflect well on the pharaoh whose obsession with rapidly establishing his city to his new god Aten in "this distant place" was at the expense of the ordinary Egyptian.

*Dr Keith White is an environmental biologist, and currently lectures at the University of Manchester. He has had an interest in Egyptology since his teenage years and has visited Egypt many times since the 1970's. He is now studying for a (second!) PhD under the supervision of Professor Rosalie David which will examine the impact of Akhenaten's revolutionary' policies and practices on the health of the non-elite population and the long-term 'viability' of the pharaoh's new city. He hopes to bring his existing environmental expertise to the study, including the degree to which Akhetaten was sustainable in view of its isolated location and the amount of accessible agricultural land.*

## MON 14<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2019 COLIN READER

### **Bob Partridge Egyptology Lecture: Secrets in the Sand**

Over a number of years, Colin had the very good fortune to be asked to work with the late Ian Mathieson at North Saqqara, and has since been analysing Ian's unpublished material - particularly with regard to the enigmatic and little understood Gisir el Mudir at Saqqara a site in which he himself has a keen interest. Today this is a very crowded site, with many tombs and temples from all periods of the Pharaonic Civilisation. But what was Saqqara like when the earliest pharaohs chose to build there and what influenced where they chose to build?

As he did with the Great Sphinx of Giza, Colin has examined the famous necropolis of North Saqqara from an engineering geologist's perspective. The results were rather surprising and have recently been published in JEA! In this lecture, Colin will share these findings, shedding light on Saqqara before the pyramids.

*Colin is a Fellow of the Geological Society of London, a Chartered Geologist and regular contributor to AE Magazine. He was first attracted to ancient Egypt by the controversy over the age of the Great Sphinx at Giza and what the weathering and erosion of that monument could tell us about its age. Colin then went on to research the geology of Egypt in broader terms, particularly the way the Egyptian landmass and features such as the Nile Valley and the Red Sea Hills, evolved. MAES members will of course know Colin well as our former Secretary and Chair!*

## MON 11<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY HILARY WILSON

### **Gifts of the Nile: Water Plants in Egyptian Culture**

Along the banks of the Nile and Egypt's many canals and irrigation channels grew a wealth of plant resources which were exploited from earliest times for a multitude of purposes. The common reeds, rushes and sedges, including papyrus, provided the raw materials for building, making furniture and even for clothing, and many of them assumed symbolic value within the Egyptian belief system. This talk explores the practical and cultural significance of these humble plants and their continuing importance for Egypt's ecology.

*Retired Maths teacher and Chairman of the Southampton Ancient Egypt Society, Hilary Wilson is now a free-lance lecturer and writer. She is author of several Egyptological books and articles as well as the Per Mesut pages in Ancient Egypt Magazine and, under the name Hilary Cawston, she writes fiction with an Egyptian theme.*

## MON 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH NICKY NIELSEN

### **Pharaoh Seti I: Father of Egyptian Greatness**

While his son's successes condemned Seti I to spending his Afterlife very much in the shadow, his short reign was nevertheless a crucial period in the development of the Ramesside Period. This talk will cover Seti's origins, his family and the early foundations of the period he helped to shape. It will investigate his role as a warrior and his successes as a builder and restorer of temples throughout

Egypt. The talk will also discuss his death, his impressive burial and the different ways in which he's been perceived and received by everyone from Classical authors, to 19th century freemasons and Hollywood script-writers.

*Dr Nicky Nielsen is a Lecturer in Egyptology at the University of Manchester. He specialises in Ramesside history, archaeology and material culture. He is publishing a biography of Seti I aimed at the general public in September 2018 with Pen & Sword Press.*

## **SAT 30<sup>TH</sup> MARCH STUDY DAY GEOFFREY KILLEN, PETER PHILLIPS, JOYCE TYLDESLEY & REGINA DIGIOVANNI.**

### **Location, Location Location: Houses And Homes In Ancient Egypt**

*A study day focusing on domestic life in ancient Egypt, including houses and their constructions, woodworking techniques in furniture construction, household roles and family life.*

#### **Peter Phillips: "... but where did they live?"**

Tourists visiting Egypt may be left with the impression that ancient Egyptians were obsessed with death and the afterlife and ask the question in the title of this lecture. The temples and tombs they visit were made to last for eternity, while the houses and palaces of the living were for the most part built of perishable materials. This lecture will look at the growing corpus of evidence for domestic architecture and urbanisation.

#### **Geoffrey Killen: ".....and how did they create a living environment within their homes?"**

Evidence from archaeological excavations in urban settlements show the importance wood played in the fabric of Egyptian homes. Even though a scarce material it is found in the windows, doors, beams, cramps and columns of houses, turning a mud brick structure into a home. The importance and value of large sectioned timbers is seen in the official requisitioning of unused timber from settlements such as Memphis. Once the home was established it had to be furnished. Wooden furniture was manufactured by local carpenters to a set design standard to fulfil the needs of the home owner and the family. Various social mechanisms were employed to source furniture and the carpenter was pivotal to the success of a settlement. Records show that carpenters were seconded from established settlements to help develop new communities. The carpenter's role was to create many of the products that made life in an ancient Egyptian home "comfortable" or at least "tolerable". He built the looms and ancillary equipment needed for home weaving, made cosmetic and toilet boxes, created a wide range of personal artefacts including walking sticks and combs and produced writing equipment. He even had time to make simple toys and games that Egyptians used to occupy their "leisure" time.

#### **Joyce Tyldesley: Feeding the Family – An Exploration of Food and Drink in Ancient Egypt.**

#### **Joyce Tyldesley: The Mistress of the House – The Domestic Responsibilities of Egypt's Housewives.**

#### **Regina De Giovanni: An Exploration of Domestic textile structures.**

Regina will be taking a close-up look at the textile structures of several museum pieces from different periods including the Manchester Museum child's sock from Oxyrhynchus: knitting or not? Also a Predynastic bed weaving from Tarkhan in the Manchester Museum and cosmetic pots from the National Museum of Scotland: knotting or netting?

*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.*

*Joyce Tyldesley is a Senior Lecturer at the University of Manchester, where she writes and teaches the three year on-line Certificate in Egyptology, the two year on-line Diploma in Egyptology, and a series of on-line Short Courses in Egyptology. She is the author of many Egyptology books, including the recent "Nefertiti's Face", three television tie in books and Cleopatra, Last Queen of Egypt, which was a Radio 4 "Book of the Week". She was awarded the Felicia A Holton Book Award from the Archaeological Institute of America for her book "Tutankhamen's Curse".*

*Peter Phillips is Chair of the Manchester Ancient Egypt Society and Editor of Ancient Egypt Magazine. He is also the author of "The Columns of Egypt" published by Peartree. He retired early from a career in IT because "there are more pleasurable ways of wasting time"! He also has a great bass voice and regularly sings with his local choir.*

*Regina De Giovanni holds a BA (Hons) in Comparative Religion, majoring in Egyptology and Greek religion. She has a long term interest in Textile Structures, more recently focusing on domestic Egyptian textiles such as Coptic Socks, Tarkhan Bed Weaving and Qurna burial pot nets.*

## **MON 8<sup>TH</sup> APRIL MARK COLLIER**

### **Big Changes: how the Ancient Egyptian Language developed from the Pyramid age through to Coptic Christianity.**

Ancient Egyptian remains the language with the longest recorded history in the world, stretching from the period of the great pyramid age of the Old Kingdom (and before) through to the Middle Ages and its last survival within Coptic Christianity. All languages change over time and Ancient Egyptian was no exception. Indeed, the written history of Ancient Egyptian gives us a chance to look at language change for a period of well over four millennia. These changes have been described as 'massive', but broadly follow, and give longer-time depth evidence for, language changes which are also well attested in other languages of the world. Mark will survey these changes for you, but will not presume any prior knowledge of Ancient Egyptian or the writing systems from Ancient Egypt.

*Mark Collier is a professor of Egyptology at the University of Liverpool in the department of Archaeology, Classics & Egyptology, where he has taught the Ancient Egyptian language to generations of students for over twenty years. Throughout his career he has engaged in research into the Ancient Egyptian language and is one of the leading specialists in the linguistic analysis of Ancient Egyptian. He is probably most widely known as co-author of the book How to Read Egyptian Hieroglyphs, which was first published earlier in his career back in 1998.*

## **MON 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY ROSALIE DAVID**

## **The Life And Times Of Takabuti: A New Investigation Of The Belfast Mummy**

The mummy of Takabuti, one of the best-known antiquities in the Ulster Museum, Belfast, belonged to a woman of high status who lived and died in Egypt c.600 BCE. Brought to Belfast in 1834, the mummy was initially unwrapped and investigated in 1835; it was transported to Manchester in 2008 to undergo a series of in-depth scientific investigations (the subject of a BBC television documentary transmitted in 2009), but many questions remained unanswered.

A new research project recently undertaken by 'forensic detective' teams in Manchester and Belfast has used state-of-the-art science to piece together a fuller picture of the life and times of Takabuti. Questions addressed in this lecture will include: Who was Takabuti? Was Egypt her original home, and where did she reside in Egypt? What did she eat, and did she suffer from any diseases? Did she suffer a violent death? And how was she mummified and prepared for burial?

*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. She has established biomedical Egyptology as a new university specialisation, to provide a different approach to understanding ancient Egyptian civilisation. She has lectured around the world (including Nile cruises); has authored/edited more than 30 books; and has been consultant/contributor for television documentaries. 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.*

**MON 10<sup>TH</sup> JUNE ANNA GARNETT**

## **The Petrie Museum: Past, Present and Future**

The Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, first opened in 1915, holds more than 80,000 objects and is one of the largest and most important collections of Egyptian and Sudanese archaeology in the world. The Museum archive also preserves fascinating insights into the early development of Egyptian Archaeology. In this presentation I will explore aspects of the past, present, and the future of the Petrie, and present some of the characters who devoted their lives to founding and caring for the collection.

*Anna Garnett is the Curator of the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, UCL, and is completing her PhD at the University of Liverpool. She is also a Field Ceramicist and directs a project funded by the Egypt Exploration Society on the pottery assemblage from the Amarna Stone Village.*