

MAES Lecture Programme 2019-2020

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14 Oct	Robert Loynes	The Mummy: Ancient Craft – Modern Science
11 Nov	Roger Forshaw	The City of Naukratis during the Saite Period: The Shanghai of Ancient Egypt
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13 Jan 2020	Cédric Gobeil	The first Egypt Exploration Society campaign on the Third Cataract of the Nile in Sudan: Preliminary results.
10 Feb	Rosalie David	The Life And Times Of Takabuti: A New Investigation Of The Belfast Mummy
9 Mar	Janet McWilliam	Ramesses III and the Battle of the Delta
Sat 21 Mar	STUDY DAY	Queens of Egypt with Dylan Bickerstaffe, Ken Griffen and Sarah Griffiths
20 Apr*	Jacky Finch	Wonderful things: Understanding ancient Egyptian jewellery
11 May	Campbell Price	Art, Sex and Death in Roman Egypt
8 Jun	Members Evening	2 short talks on independent research plus AGM: Lesley Easterman – Did Ancient Egyptians Drink Milk?; James Parr – The Ramessesnakht Family and their contribution to the fall of the New Kingdom

Easter 10-13 Apr – April meeting week later

Mon 9th September

Peter Phillips: Columns of Egypt

The column is one of the most important features of ancient Egyptian architecture, and yet often mis-identified by casual observers and even by experienced Egyptologists. This lecture will classify columns by their various types and show how they developed through the long span of pharaonic history. It will also mention some new research into the origin and decoration of so-called palmiform columns that formed the basis of an entry in the recently-published tribute volume to the career of Rosalie David *Mummies Magic and Medicine in Ancient Egypt*.

Peter Phillips is Chairman of the Manchester Ancient Egypt Society and Editor of Ancient Egypt magazine. His interest in Egyptology was kindled by his friendship with the late Bob Partridge whose enthusiasm for the subject inspired so many, and has taken up most of his time since his retirement 22 years ago from a career in IT at the University of Manchester. His dissertation at the end of the University of Manchester Certificate course was "The Columns of Egypt", which, following extensive further research in many sites in Egypt, he converted into a book with the same title.

Monday 14th October

Robert Loynes: The Mummy. Ancient Craft – Modern Science

The Egyptian mummy has, for centuries, been a source of fascination, often driven by the association with magic properties and the occult. From the nineteenth century archaeologists and Egyptologists commenced a more scientific and structured approach to the investigation of these human mummies. Unfortunately, the only method of investigation and analysis was to subject the mummies to dissection, resulting in complete destruction of these precious and unique artifacts.

In the era of the twenty first century we have the advantage of using advanced medical imaging techniques – CT scans – to perform virtual autopsies – “virtopsies”. This enables the analysis of anatomical abnormalities and the ability to attribute them (in most cases) to disease, damage or the mummification/embalming process. Analysis of another part of the process of mummification – wrapping – can help to identify unexpected features.

This presentation will cover our current knowledge of the motivation of the ancient Egyptians to preserve their dead, various aspects of current mummy research including some related to mummies in the Manchester Museum as well as others (if time permits) from across Europe and the USA – together with a brief explanation, a primer, of the science behind medical imaging.

Robert is a retired Orthopaedic Surgeon who returned to university - the University of Manchester - and obtained a PhD in Egyptology in 2014. He is currently an Honorary Lecturer in the KNH Centre at the University of Manchester and a member of a couple of mummy research consortia abroad. His field of interest is the in the use of CT scans to analyse mummies - particularly mummification techniques and, where shown pathology and, occasionally, causes of death. So far he has been able to acquire the scans of over 100 mummies from ancient Egypt as well as 16 non-Egyptian mummies (whilst not relevant to this talk, a significant source of data - particularly regarding natural mummification).

Monday 11th November

Roger Forshaw: The City of Naukratis during the Saite Period - the Shanghai of Ancient Egypt

The trading port of Naukratis in the Nile Delta would have been a bustling harbour town in the Saite Period, and has been likened to the Shanghai of ancient Egypt. In the 7th century BC, Saite Egypt developed significant trading contacts with the Mediterranean world, particularly with the Greek states. Most of these trade goods passed through Naukratis, before being distributed to the Egyptian hinterland. Naukratis represents the first instance of organised Greek presence in Egypt and only *emporium* in Egypt.

Beginning as a military settlement, foreigners of all nationalities were allowed to settle and dwell permanently in Naukratis, where they carried out trade and built temples. Factories mass-produced faience products and in one workshop hundreds of small clay moulds for scarabs and other small amulets have been discovered. During the 7th and 6th centuries BC, as the only Greek city in Egypt, Naukratis also provided the main conduit for Egyptian ideas, some of which proved profoundly influential to Greek culture, especially the areas of sculpture and architecture. Naukratis remained an important, active commercial centre even after losing its first place to Alexandria, while bishops from Naukratis are mentioned as late as the 14th century AD.

Roger is a retired dental surgeon, now honorary lecturer at Manchester University and has written a number of papers on medicine, dentistry and healing practices in ancient Egypt and the author of "The role of the lector in ancient Egyptian society" (Archaeopress) and "The 26th Dynasty: Resurgence of the Power of Ancient Egypt: The Saite Dynasty" (Manchester University Press).

Monday 9th December

Michael Tunnicliffe - The Amarna Letters: The Canaan Correspondence

The cuneiform tablets discovered in the late 19th century open a window onto the times of the Amarna period. The majority come not from the great rulers of the Babylonian, Assyrian or Hittite realms but from the local petty rulers in Canaan - from Jerusalem in the south to Byblos in the north. These areas were supposedly part of the New Kingdom Empire, but all was not well. The Amarna Letters shed a whole new light on what was going on while Akhenaten dreamed his dreams of religious revolution at home - a story of deception, back stabbing and intrigue!

Michael is a freelance lecturer in Adult Education, with degrees from Birmingham and Cambridge. He also completed the Certificate in Egyptology at Manchester.

Monday 13th January 2020

Cédric Gobeil: The first Egypt Exploration Society campaign on the Third Cataract of the Nile in Sudan - Preliminary results.

In February 2019, the EES launched a new archaeological project on the Third Cataract of the Nile in Sudan. The aims for this new mission are to investigate how the entanglement between the Nubian and Egyptian cultures occurred in this area, and how the archaeological landscape has shaped its occupation. We assume the situation is far more complex than as it looks at first sight.

This talk will be the occasion to review the first results obtained, among other things, through the first excavations that have ever taken place in a one-of-a-kind settlement dated from the Egyptian New Kingdom.

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. 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 10th February

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 in 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.

Monday 9th March

Janet McWilliam: Ramesses III and the Battle of the Delta

Towards the end of the late Bronze Age Ramesses was faced with a mass migration of people from the northern and western Mediterranean. Inscriptions at his mortuary temple at Medinet Habu tell the tale of one of these battles. In this talk I look at the reasons behind the migration and how the battle played out.

Janet is Chairperson of Carlisle and District Egyptology Society. She is a former lecturer in Business Studies who took early (very) retirement over 20 years ago. To celebrate she took a Nile cruise, and after walking into Edfu temple was hooked. Since then she has visited Egypt many times. Janet has studied many of the short internet based courses and also continued her studies with the Open University. She describes herself as one of the 'late onset' amateur Egyptologists whose lives have become a series of visits to museums, holidays and study days.

Saturday 21st March Study Day

Queens of the New Kingdom with Dylan Bickerstaff, Ken Griffen and Sarah Griffiths

This year's annual MAES study day at the Longfield Suite, Prestwich, focuses on the powerful royal women of the New Kingdom.

Sarah Griffiths: Early New Kingdom Queens and the Founding of Egypt's Empire Age

A brief introduction to the role of the powerful women of the Seventeenth and early Eighteenth Dynasties and their role in the founding of Egypt's New Kingdom

Ken Griffen: Hatshepsut from Queen to Pharaoh

For over 3,000 years Egypt was ruled by pharaohs, yet during this time only a handful of women reached this position. This lecture will explore the life of Hatshepsut, first as a queen to her husband Thutmose II, second as a regent to her step-son Thutmose III, and finally as the pharaoh of Egypt.

Ken Griffen: Neferure - the Heir to the Throne

This lecture will explore the life of Neferure, the daughter of Hatshepsut and Thutmose II. While Neferure is known to have held the important title of God's Wife of Amun, evidence from Deir el-Bahari suggests Hatshepsut may have been grooming her daughter to be her successor.

Sarah Griffiths: Amarna Queens

From the reign of Amenhotep III to the beginning of the Ramesside period, Egypt came under the influence of a series of powerful royal women who played an unprecedented central role in the rule of Egypt. This lecture traces the lives of the indomitable Queen Tiye, the infamous Nefertiti and her daughters, through to Mutnodjmet consort of Horemheb and Mut-Tuya mother of Ramesses II.

Dylan Bickerstaffe: Nefertari, Beloved Queen of Ramesses II.

The Tomb of Nefertari was the culmination of a series of discoveries in the Valley of the Queens, but added little to the biography of such a celebrated queen. We trace what we can of her life. Why was Nefertari so favoured? What do we know of Ramesses' other women?

The Harem – Drudgery or Debauchery? The Harem Conspiracy Against Ramesses III

How do we balance the images we have of sensuous scented maidens and sweet music with the evidence for a weaving sweat shop? The rivalry between two queens led to the most famous of the Harem Conspiracies and the assassination of Ramesses III.

Dr Kenneth Griffin is the Collections Access Manager at the Egypt Centre, Swansea University. He is a former Lecturer in Egyptology at Swansea University and has excavated in Egypt and Sudan on numerous occasions.

Dylan Bickerstaffe is a Geography graduate and teacher, who over the last twenty years has lectured extensively to Egyptology societies around the UK, and at Conferences in the UK and Luxor. He has contributed to TV programmes on Egyptian mummies and tomb-robbery by National Geographic and Atlantic Productions for Channel 5. He is the author of "Identifying the Royal Mummies" and "An Ancient Egyptian Case Book".

Sarah Griffiths is Secretary of MAES and Deputy Editor of Ancient Egypt Magazine. A former BBC producer and project manager, she currently manages property and presents Egyptology lectures and study days across the UK.

Monday 20th April

Jacky Finch: Wonderful things - Understanding ancient Egyptian jewellery

Jewellery was worn by all levels of ancient Egyptian society, but not solely for personal adornment. Although those pieces found in the tomb of Tutankhamun are spectacular, those from the Middle Kingdom are outstanding for their beauty and craftsmanship. This lecture will include images of both

the modest and the exquisite from all periods of ancient Egyptian history. Concentrating on their form, composition and iconography the lecture aims to equip the listener with the skills to 'read' each piece and thus unlock their true significance.

Jacky left teaching in 1999 and undertook the then Certificate in Egyptology run by Professor David, and now holds an MSc and PhD in Egyptology. Her main focus of research is anything mummy related, examining the evidence for the emergence of prosthetic devices for her doctoral research. As an independent researcher she lectures to societies and to a wide range of age groups while exploring various avenues of research. Jewellery both ancient and contemporary is a particular passion and thus this lecture is a sheer indulgence of something she loves!

Monday 11th May

Campbell Price: Art, Sex and Death in Roman Egypt

Manchester Museum has launched its first international touring exhibition, entitled 'Golden Mummies of Egypt', which explores multicultural expectations for the afterlife using more than 100 objects from the Manchester collection. Funerary iconography is examined as a means to emphasise divine and gender roles of the deceased. This lecture interrogates the functions of the exhibition objects, and the particular seductive attraction of painted portraits and gilded mummies.

Campbell is Curator of Egypt and Sudan at the Manchester Museum (the University of Manchester). He is the author of "Pocket Museum: Ancient Egypt" (Thames & Hudson), co-editor of "Mummies, Magic and Medicine in Ancient Egypt: Multidisciplinary Essays for Rosalie David" and a regular contributor to Ancient Egypt Magazine.

Monday 8th June

MAES Members Research Evening & AGM

Lesley Easterman – Did the Ancient Egyptians Drink Milk?

There is much in the daily life of the Egyptians about which we have no information; while we can rely on depictions in temples and tombs, they can be misleading. We can also look at the lives of the Egyptians with today's expectations, and fail to question our assumptions. A sentence in a book stated that the Egyptians would not have drunk milk, which came as a surprise since cattle feature frequently in scenes. Hence some investigation was necessary!

Lesley's father was a dentist who developed an interest and enthusiasm for ancient Egypt, and subsequently became a member of the Manchester Mummy Team. Lesley was steadfastly uninterested in ancient Egypt, but in 2002 she decided to visit Egypt, and in preparation began a course taught by the late Bob Partridge. From that first Saturday she was hooked! She has now been to Egypt several times, completed the University of Manchester Certificate course, is a member of three AE societies and volunteers in Bolton Museum in the Egyptian galleries.

James Parr *The Ramessesnakht Family and its contribution to the fall of the New Kingdom*

From his first attestation dating to late in the reign of Ramesses III or early in that of Ramesses IV until his last, early in the reign of Ramesses IX, the high official Ramessesnakht occupied the office of '*High Priest of Amun*'. As well as this immensely important and powerful position he also held other important offices and forged connections with other important Theban families. This accumulation and monopolisation of administrative offices by various members of the Ramessesnakht family has often been seen as instrumental to the rapid decline of the 20th Dynasty. This lecture will examine the nature of the relationship between the Ramessesnakht family and the royal court and how it contributed, if at all, to the fall of the New Kingdom.