# **Lectures for 2023-2024**

DATE	FORMAT	SPEAKER	TITLE
11 Sep 2023	ZOOM	Lee Young	The Lighter Side of Egypt with the Art
			of Lance Thackeray
<b>25 Sep</b>	ZOOM	Elsa Yvanez	Textile Archaeology in the Nile Valley
9 Oct	ZOOM	Peter Brand	The Twilight of a God-King: Ramesses
			II's Later Years
Sat 21 Oct	STUDY DAY ZOOM	Stephen Harvey,	Abydos: History, discoveries and the
		Campbell Price & Gina	work of the Ahmose and Tetisheri
		Criscenzo-Laycock	Project, John Garstang and the EES.
13 Nov	POSTPONED TO	Hilary Wilson	
	JAN		
11 Dec	VENUE	Ken Griffin	"Causing Their Names to Live": The
			Harrogate Collection in Swansea
18 Dec	ZOOM	Aidan Dodson	The Nubian Pharaohs of Egypt
8 Jan 2024	ZOOM	Maarten Praet	Reconsidering Mentuhotep II:
			Evidence from Museum Collections in
			Greater Manchester
22 Jan	ZOOM (Postponed	Hilary Wilson	Who Ate All The Fish?
	from 12 Nov)		
12 Feb	ZOOM	Campbell Price	The Legacies of Hatshepsut in
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11 Mar	VENUE	Geoffrey Killen	William Arnold Stewart: How he
			reconstructed the royal furniture of
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Sat 23 Mar	ZOOM STUDY DAY	Aidan Dodson, Anna	An online study day exploring
		Stevens & Paul	Amarna, its history and discoveries.
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8 Apr	ZUUIVI	Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones	The Cleopatras: the Forgotten Queens
13 May	ZOOM	Sofia Aziz	of Egypt  The Importance of the Human Brain
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10 Jun	ZOOM	Michael Tunnicliffe &	Egypt and the Byzantine World
10 Juli	200141	AGM	Egypt and the byzantine world
8 Jul	VENUE	Renee Friedman	Hierakonpolis 40 years on: My
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			Egyptology Lecture
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# 11 September ZOOM Lee Young

# The Lighter Side of Egypt with the Art of Lance Thackeray

Lance Thackeray was an English illustrator, known especially for his comic sporting illustrations involving billiards and golf and for his many humorous postcards. When he was over 30 he spent some winters in Egypt and produced humorous sketches which he collected in a book, The Light Side of Egypt (1908). In this lecture we will concentrate on his time in Egypt where he would gently poke fun at the tourists of his time. We will also look at the tourist industry as a whole in Egypt.

Lee Young is an independent researcher and lecturer in Egyptology specialising in artists and epigraphers in Egypt. She has studied the works of Howard Carter and Lance Thackeray (amongst others), and has a particular interest in bringing the greatly overlooked women artists to the public's attention. Lee worked for several years at the Griffith Institute, part of Oxford University, cataloguing the watercolour paintings held there and doing the same for the Egypt Exploration Society. She also transcribed all 415 letters of Myrtle Broome held by the Griffith and is the author of 'An Artist in Abydos: The Life and Letters of Myrtle Broome', published by AUC Press.

## 25 September ZOOM Elsa Yvanez

### The basics of textile research and its untapped potential for archaeology in Egypt and Sudan

The arid landscape of Egypt and Sudan has allowed the conservation of a formidable amount of archaeological textiles, often associated with burials and the practice of mummifying or wrapping the dead. Ancient textiles are extremely rare finds worldwide but tend to be common on Egyptian sites, where they can form very large and overwhelming corpora of material. At first glance, they can appear difficult to study due to the complexity of their production, and for this and many other reasons, textiles have received little interest in Egyptian and Sudanese archaeology. However, textile research has seen great developments lately, showcasing the wide range of information brought by archaeological textiles in areas as diverse as agriculture, craft technologies, economics, social behaviours, and religious and burial practices. This momentum is now reaching Egyptology, with many new projects under way. This lecture will present an overview of textile research, highlighting its potential for Egyptian and Sudanese archaeology, and provide a general introduction to the methods applied to archaeological textiles from the Nile Valley, both on site and in museums.

Elsa Yvanez is an archaeologist specialising in the textile production of the ancient Nile valley, in the chaine opératoire and economic significance of spinning and weaving, as well as in the use of textiles for clothing and burial. She is associate professor of textile archaeology at the Centre for Textile Research, Saxo institute, at the University of Copenhagen, where she teaches textile archaeology. She is currently conducting a 5-year research project, 'Fashioning Sudan. Archaeology of dress practices along the Middle Nile', with the support of the European Union's Horizon Europe programme, and also acting as a textile specialist for several excavation teams working in Egypt.

#### 9 October ZOOM Peter Brand

## The Twilight of a God-King: Ramesses II's Later Years

In his 34th year as Pharaoh, Ramesses II celebrated his second jubilee, married a Hittite princess and, unbeknownst to him, reached the halfway point of his sixty-seven-year reign. The occasion also signalled an increased emphasis on his status as a living god expressed through temples, statuary, imagery, and literature dedicated to his worship and glorification as Ramesses-the-great-god. As the years rolled on, the king grew older and increasingly frail. Divine kingship became a useful façade behind which the elderly king could be shielded from public view as age and infirmity overcame him. While he continued to reign until the end, in his last years, the crown prince Merenptah ruled in his

name. Remarkably, Ramesses II's mummy has survived as a unique artefact of his reign and tells us more about his humanity than any statue or inscription. From it we know what medical afflictions troubled him over the course of a lifespan that stretched into his late eighties or early nineties.

Dr Peter J. Brand is a professor in the Department of History at the University of Memphis, USA. He is also a director of the Karnak Hypostyle Hall Project, and specialises in the history and culture of ancient Egypt during its imperial age (c. 1550-1100 BC). He is the author of *The Monuments of Seti I and Their Historical Significance* and *Ramesses II, Egypt's Ultimate Pharaoh*.

#### 21 October ZOOM STUDY DAY: ABYDOS

A study day with Stephen Harvey, Campbell Price & Gina Criscenzo-Laycock, exploring Abydos, its history, discoveries and the work of the Ahmose and Tetisheri Project, John Garstang and the EES.

## Approaching Abydos: An Introduction - Campbell Price

This lecture sets the scene for our study day by exploring the significance of the important site of Abydos in ancient times, introducing some of its key features and offering a sketch of its modern investigation. From Amélineau to O'Connor, different archaeological priorities, excavation techniques and display strategies have shaped how we view Abydos.

## The Excavations of John Garstang - Gina Criscenzo-Laycock

This lecture explores the excavations of John Garstang who led the work of the Egyptian Research Account at a Dynasty 12 and Dynasty 18 cemetery (Cemetery E), located in the North Cemetery at Abydos.

## The Egypt Exploration Society at Abydos - Campbell Price

Between 1899 and 1988, the Egypt Exploration Society organised excavations at Abydos. Through this work and due to the system of finds division (or 'partage') a number of objects were uncovered. This lecture reviews some of the more iconic objects from this work and attempts to contextualise them both in terms of ancient material culture and also modern tastes for museum display.

## Americans at Abydos: A Personal View – Stephen Harvey

Based on excavations at Abydos since 1967, the American contributions to archaeological work at Abydos will be considered, mainly centering on the work of David O'Connor and his former students. The results have reshaped how we view Abydos, including the finding of the world's oldest fleet of boats (Early Dynastic), the rediscovery of the tomb of Weni the Elder (Old Kingdom), the identification of a lost "Abydos Dynasty" of rulers (Second Intermediate Period), and the discovery of decorated temples at the base of Egypt's last royal pyramid, that of King Ahmose (Dynasty 18, ca 1550-1525 BC).

**Hidden Histories: Military Abydos** 

Best known as a cult centre for the god Osiris, and for the many royal and private tombs and memorials built across the landscape of Abydos for millennia, less is known about the role that this ancient place may have played in tactical preparations for military conquest. During the Second Intermediate Period (ca. 1650-1525 BC), there is some evidence that several Upper Egyptian sites including Abydos may have been used as gradual staging areas for the expansion northward of the Theban rulers of Egypt's 17th Dynasty. Combining textual, art historical and archaeological evidence, this lecture seeks to assess how and whether Abydos played a role in the wars against the Hyksos.

Dr Campbell Price has been Curator of Egypt and Sudan at Manchester Museum since 2011. He completed his BA, MA, and PhD in Egyptology at the University of Liverpool, where he is now an Honorary Research Fellow. He is currently Chair of Trustees at the Egypt Exploration Society, the UK's foremost charity promoting Egypt's cultural heritage. He is the editor, with Stephanie Boonstra, of 'Ancient Egypt in 50 Discoveries: Highlights from the First Century of the Egypt Exploration Society', to be published in 2024.

Dr Gina Criscenzo-Laycock graduated with a BA in Egyptian Archaeology, an MA in Egyptology, and a PhD from the University of Liverpool. Her PhD thesis focused on provincial administration in Middle Egypt during the Old and Middle Kingdoms. She worked as a Project Assistant for the Association of Curators of Collections from Egypt and Sudan in 2010, before being appointed a Project Curator at the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford, later that year. She took up the post of Curator of the Garstang Museum in Liverpool in 2013.

Dr Stephen Harvey is the Director of the Ahmose and Tetisheri Project, which centres on excavation of the pyramidal complex of King Ahmose at Abydos, southern Egypt. His fieldwork in and around the pyramid complex of Ahmose (ca 1550-1525 BC) has resulted in major discoveries, including several previously undiscovered temples, the identification of the pyramid of Queen Tetisheri, and the analysis of thousands of fragments of the temples' decorative programme. In addition to extensive fieldwork at Abydos, Stephen has worked in Egypt at Giza and Memphis, as well as on archaeological projects in the United States, Syria (Tell es-Sweyhat), and Turkey (Gordion).

## 13 November POSTPONED

#### 11 December VENUE Ken Griffin

## "Causing Their Names to Live": The Harrogate Collection in Swansea

In February 2023, over 800 objects arrived at the Egypt Centre (Swansea University, Wales) from Harrogate Museums (England) and will be housed there for three years. During this time, the collection will be studied, used as teaching tools, and made available through an online catalogue. This collection includes stelae, statues, shabti figures, pottery, a complete coffin, and a unique cartonnage Anubis mask. One goal of the project is to trace how the objects were collected and why. Additionally, the names of the ancient Egyptians who owned or dedicated these objects are being

revealed, some for the first time, helping to "cause their names to live", as the ancient Egyptian expression requests.

Dr Ken Griffin is the Cuator of the Egypt Centre, Swansea University. His association with the Egypt Centre first began in 2000 as a volunteer. Over the past two decades, he has been researching the collection, including publishing a number of the objects. Prior to his appointment as the Curator, he was a lecturer in Egyptology at Swansea University. He has participated in excavations in Egypt (Abydos, South Asasif necropolis, Valley of the Kings) and Sudan (Sai Island).

#### 18 December ZOOM Aidan Dodson

#### The Nubian Pharaohs of Egypt.

For a few decades during the 8th to 7th centuries BC, there was a remarkable reversal of the age-old imperial domination of Nubia by Egypt. In the wake of the fragmentation of the Egyptian state during the 8th century, the Kushite state that had evolved in Nubia since Egyptian withdrawal at the beginning of the 11th century expanded northwards, ultimately absorbing the south of Egypt, including Thebes itself. Having established themselves as overlords of the various regional rulers in Egypt, the Nubian pharaohs led a national revival in Egypt, until an Assyrian onslaught drove them back into Nubia, where their composite of Egyptian and Nubian culture would survive into the 4th century AD.

Aidan Dodson has taught Egyptology at the University of Bristol, UK, since 1996, and has been honorary full Professor of Egyptology since 2018. A graduate of Liverpool and Cambridge Universities, he is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, and a former Chairman of the Egypt Exploration Society. The author of over 25 books and 400 articles and reviews, 'The Nubian Pharaohs of Egypt: their Lives and Afterlives' is due to be published by the American University in Cairo Press at the end of 2023.

## 8 January 2024 ZOOM

# Maarten Praet: Reconsidering Mentuhotep II: Evidence from Museum Collections in Greater Manchester

The importance of King Mentuhotep II in current Egyptological narratives cannot be understated. Mentuhotep II is said to have reunited Egypt after a period of political fragmentation, and to have made important artistic, political, societal, and religious innovations that would become part of the ancient Egyptian canon for the next 2000 years. Nevertheless, his reign is still poorly understood, leaving many questions unanswered. My doctoral research aims to provide some answers that can fundamentally improve our understanding of this transitional time period in ancient Egyptian history. Much of the evidence for the life and reign of Mentuhotep II is yet to be comprehensibly studied and published. For instance, there remains a wealth of unpublished iconographic, textual and object-related data from his funerary temple in Deir el-Bahari, which is now preserved in

museum collections in the UK and worldwide. This is also the case for collections in Greater Manchester, such as the Bolton Museum, Warrington Museum and Art Gallery, and the Manchester Museum. This talk aims to show my ongoing study on these objects from collections in Greater Manchester, and how they can aid in expanding our understanding of the seminal reign of Mentuhotep II.

Maarten Praet is a Ph.D. student in Egyptian Art and Archaeology at the Johns Hopkins University in the USA. Before starting his doctoral degree in the US, he earned three MA degrees – in ancient history, archaeology, and Egyptology – at KU Leuven University in Belgium. Maarten has extensive archaeological fieldwork experience both in Egypt, where he excavated in sites such as Deir el-Bersha and the Mut temple precinct at Karnak, and Belgium. He also has experience working in museums, such as the British Museum in London and the Johns Hopkins Archaeological Museum in Baltimore. In his Ph.D. dissertation, "The Reign of Mentuhotep II Reconsidered", he uses the previously unstudied objects and decorated wall fragments of Mentuhotep II's funerary complex in Deir el-Bahari to study this king's important artistic, political, societal, and religious innovations that would become part of the ancient Egyptian canon for the next 2000 years.

#### 22 Jan ZOOM Hilary Wilson (Postponed from Nov)

## Who Ate all the Fish in Ancient Egypt?

Classical sources suggesting the existence of a taboo on eating fish in ancient Egypt seem to be at odds with the extensive physical remains of fish from Predynastic settlement sites as well as the vivid tomb images of fishing from the Old and Middle Kingdoms. By examining a combination of artistic, literary and modern archaeological evidence, Hilary Wilson re-evaluates traditional interpretations of ancient Egyptian attitudes towards the consumption of fish and demonstrates the dietary and economic importance of fish to different social groups.

Hilary Wilson is a retired Maths teacher and former Open University lecturer. For many years she ran Adult Education courses in Egyptology for the University of Southampton and for WEA groups across Hampshire. She has written several books on popular Egyptology and is founder Chair of the Southampton Ancient Egypt Society. Hilary was awarded her MA in Egyptology from the University of Manchester in 2022. She is also a staff contributor to Ancient Egypt Magazine.

#### 12 February ZOOM Campbell Price

## The Legacies of Hatshepsut in Manchester and Elsewhere

One of the most famous aspects of the reign of the female pharaoh Hatshepsut is her apparent erasure from official Pharaonic history. But how much did later Egyptians know about her and her achievements - and why does she appeal to us so much today? This lecture reviews evidence for the legacy and reception of Hatshepsut in ancient times and today, as part of a new biography of her chief official Senenmut, due to be published in late 2024.

Campbell Price undertook his BA, MA, and PhD in Egyptology at the University of Liverpool, where he is now an Honorary Research Fellow. After undertaking fieldwork at Zawiyet Umm el-Rakham, Saqqara and the Egyptian Museum, Cairo, in 2011 he became Curator of Egypt and Sudan at Manchester Museum, part of the University of Manchester and one of the UK's largest Egyptology collections. In 2021 he was elected Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Egypt Exploration Society, the foremost UK charity supporting Egypt's cultural heritage. Campbell has published widely on ancient Egyptian material culture and maintains special research interests in views of the past during the First Millennium BCE.

#### 11 March VENUE Geoffrey Killen

### William Arnold Stewart: How he reconstructed the royal furniture of Queen Hetepheres.

In 1925 the tomb of Queen Hetepheres, the mother of the pharaoh Khufu, was discovered at Giza by a team from the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and Harvard University led by George Andrew Reisner. The Queen's tomb was found in a poor state of preservation, but it became apparent that it contained the Queen's royal furniture. All the wood had decayed to a fine powder which Reisner suggested resembled cigar ash. He decided that the furniture should be reconstructed using the surviving material. He employed William Arnold Stewart, a British artist and director of the Cairo School of Arts and Decorations, to attempt the furniture's reconstruction. Stewart was to develop a number of innovative techniques to reconstruct the furniture and wrote a detailed conservation diary. Unfortunately, Stewart died before his manuscript could be published.

Dr Geoffrey Killen, together with the assistance of Helen Farrar and Julie Dawson, has completed and edited Stewart's manuscript which will be published shortly by the Griffith Institute. This lecture discusses Stewart's imaginative and pioneering work that should be seen as an important contribution to the early preservation of ancient artefacts. The lecture will include replicas made by Dr Killen to analyse the techniques developed by Stewart in a small mud brick workshop in the shadow of Khufu's Great Pyramid.

Geoffrey Killen is a leading ancient furniture historian, technologist and Egyptologist. He has studied the collections of Egyptian furniture at most of the major world museums and has written four major works on his specialism, as well as being a contributor to Nicholson and Shaw's: "Ancient Egyptian Materials and Technology"; Redford's: "The Oxford Encyclopedia of Ancient Egypt" and Anderson's: "A Cultural History of Furniture in Antiquity". He has also led in the field of experimental archaeology where making and using replica woodworking tools and equipment has generated and tested archaeological hypotheses. His practical work is now displayed together with those original artefacts in several British museums.

## March ZOOM STUDY DAY AMARNA

An online study day with Aidan Dodson, Anna Stevens and Paul Docherty exploring Amarna, its history and discoveries.

#### Aidan Dodson (double lecture): Amarna: Sunrise to Sunset

The second half of the 14th century BC saw one of the most remarkable periods in Egyptian history — the so-called 'Amarna Period' and its aftermath. Over less than two decades, one man upended millennia of tradition in religion and art only to have his revolution reversed within perhaps weeks of his death. An ensuing 'counter-reformation' nominally returned matters to normal, yet actually reset the Egyptian state for the coming centuries. In these two lectures will take an overview of the history of this period, from the reign of Amenhotep III down to the accession of Rameses I, which marked the end of one era, and the beginning of a new one.

Prof. Aidan Dodson is honorary Professor of Egyptology at the University of Bristol, where he has taught since 1996, and was Chairman of the Egypt Exploration Society from 2011 to 2016. He is the author of some thirty books, including Amarna Sunrise (2014), Amarna Sunset (2nd edition 2019), Nefertiti, Queen and Pharaoh of Egypt (2021) and Tutankhamun, King of Egypt (2022), all published by the American University in Cairo Press.

## **Anna Stevens: Amarna's North Desert Cemetery**

In late 2022, the Amarna Project undertook a final season of excavation at the cemeteries of Amarna. The excavation of Amarna's cemeteries has provided one of the largest assemblages of non-elite burials from ancient Egypt. Their study sheds important new light on health, quality of life and burial customs in ancient Egypt, and on how the people of Amarna reacted to Akhenaten's religious reforms. Lecture attendees will be one of the first public audiences to hear the results of the 2022 season, held at the North Desert Cemetery, one of the most unexpectedly diverse of the Amarna cemeteries. With large shaft-and-chamber tombs, a unique assemblage of burial goods, and a surprising bioarchaeological find, the North Desert Cemetery showcases the richness of Amarna's burial grounds as a source for understanding the lives and deaths of the people of ancient Egypt.

Dr. Anna Stevens has worked as an archaeologist in Egypt, Sudan, the UK and Australia is the assistant director of the Amarna Project (University of Cambridge, and Lecturer in Archaeology at Monash University. She specialises in the study of ancient Egyptian settlements with research interests in urbanism in the ancient world, lived religion, cultural interaction and the archaeology of cult.

#### Paul Docherty: Amarna: 3D, using digital archaeology to explore and archive Amarna.

Paul Docherty will showcase several ongoing 3D projects presently taking place at Amarna. In autumn 2023, we began an ambitious 3-year ARCE funded project entitled "Akhenaten's city: Protecting Amarna's urban heritage", led by Dr Anna Stevens. This project has several goals, one of which is a 3D survey of the city landscape along with detailed 3D captures of selected urban structures. Paul will give a first look at the work done so far on this part of the project and what can be expected once it is completed. He has also completed several surveys of the Great Aten Temple, along with the development of a series of reconstructive visualisations of how the temple may have looked in antiquity. These reconstructions of the temple and the early 3D reconstructions of the central city area will be presented, along with a summary walkthrough of the construction process. The talk will conclude with an example of how digital archaeology is being used to reconstruct the fragments of the Boundary Stela 'S', which was destroyed in 2004.

Paul Docherty is currently a doctoral student under the supervision of Professor Elizabeth Frood at the University of Oxford. He is a specialist in 3D modelling and reconstruction using various technologies including 3D laser scanning, photogrammetry, and Reflectance Transformation Imaging (RTI). Alongside his DPhil research, Paul is a Digital Archaeologist for the Amarna Project where he is conducting several 3D photogrammetric surveys of the ancient Egyptian city of Tell el-Amarna (Akhetaten) and working towards an accurate 3D reconstruction of the city as it may have appeared during Akhenaten's reign.

## April ZOOM Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones

### The Cleopatras: the Forgotten Queens of Egypt

One of history's most iconic figures, Cleopatra VII, is rightly remembered as a clever and charismatic ruler. But few today realise that she was the last in a long line of Egyptian queens who bore that name. In this talk we learn the dramatic story of the seven incomparable women, all named Cleopatra, recapturing the lost world of Hellenistic Egypt and tracing the kingdom's final centuries before its fall to Rome. The Cleopatras were Greek-speaking descendants of Ptolemy, the general who conquered Egypt alongside Alexander the Great. They were closely related as mothers, daughters, sisters, half-sisters, and nieces. Each wielded absolute power, easily overshadowing their husbands or sons, and all proved to be shrewd and capable leaders. Styling themselves as goddessqueens, the Cleopatras ruled through the canny deployment of arcane rituals, opulent spectacles, and unparalleled wealth. They navigated political turmoil and court intrigues, led armies into battle and commanded fleets of ships, and ruthlessly dispatched their dynastic rivals. This lecture restores these queens to their deserved place among history's greatest rulers.

Professor Lloyd Llewellyn-Jones is Chair of Ancient History in the School of History, Archaeology and Religion at the University of Cardiff. His research interests include ancient Greek socio-cultural history, especially women's history and gender-issues, dress, and visual culture, and he has spent extensive time in Iran where his books on Persian Studies have been translated into Farsi. He is the author of the recent Sister-Queens in the High Hellenistic Period: Kleopatra Thea and Kleopatra III, (Routledge) and his new book, The Cleopatras: the Forgotten Queens of Egypt is due out in May 2024.

#### 13 May ZOOM Sofia Aziz

## The Human Brain in Ancient Egypt: A Re-evaluation of its Function and Importance

Biomedical investigative techniques are gradually changing our understanding of mummification methods. Sofia's research refutes long held claims that the brain was of no relevance to the ancient Egyptians. She will discuss how CT imaging, the medical papyri and archaeological records provide a wider understanding of ancient Egyptian medicine and the importance of the human brain in the afterlife.

Sofia Aziz is a Biomedical Egyptologist with a lifelong passion for ancient Egypt. Her focus has been on understanding the health of the ancient Egyptians and the diseases from which they suffered . She

has been involved in a range of publications, media consults and has appeared in a variety of TV documentaries. Her current research looks at neuroscience in ancient Egypt.

#### 10 June ZOOM Michael Tunnicliffe (preceded by AGM at 7:30pm)

### **Egypt and the Byzantine World**

In 395 the Roman Empire split into two, with Egypt firmly part of the Eastern Roman or Byzantine Empire Christianity was now the official religion and as the last pagan temples were closed churches and monasteries rose in their place. But in the 5th and 6th centuries Egyptian personalities would be at the heart of the controversies that rocked the Byzantine world. Eventually a distinctive form of Egyptian Christianity would emerge in the form of the Coptic Church. Then in the mid-7th century the new religion of Islam erupted onto the scene and Egypt was ripe for conquest. This presentation will give an overview of these, often neglected 250 years.

Michael Tunnicliffe studied Theology at Birmingham and Cambridge and completed the Certificate in Egyptology at Manchester. He is a member of MAES and served on the Committee for 6 years. He teaches a variety of courses face to face in the North West and by Zoom for a number of Adult Education providers.

#### 8 July VENUE Renee Friedman Bob Partridge Egyptology Lecture

#### Hierakonpolis 40 Years On: My Favourite Discoveries

In 1983 Renee Friedman joined the Hierakonpolis Expedition, and over the years, progressing from pot-girl to site director, had the privilege to be part of many remarkable discoveries that have enhanced our understanding of ancient Egyptian civilization in the predynastic as well as later times. In this talk she reflects on her favourite (if not always the most famous) discoveries from over the past 40 years and shares some of the personal stories that surround them.

Dr. Renée Friedman has directed the expedition to Hierakonpolis since 1996, fielding annual campaigns to explore various aspects of this vast site, the large of the Predynastic period still extant and accessible anywhere in the Nile Valley, Former Heagy Research Curator at the British Museum, she is currently a Senior Research Fellow of the Griffith Institute, University of Oxford.