

Friends of
the
EGYPT
Centre

Museum of Egyptian Antiquities



2017-18 Programme

Welcome



We are very pleased to share with you this interesting programme.

About us...

About the Society:

The Friends' interest in Egypt ranges from those with little or no knowledge, to those who are eagerly in search of more. An exciting programme of lectures, visits to other museums, and other social events are arranged annually to cater for all levels of understanding.

Whatever your age or level of interest why not come along and see what the Friends of the Egypt Centre can offer you?

History of the Collection:

Most of the items from the Egypt Centre were collected by the manufacturing pharmacist Sir Henry Wellcome around the turn of the Twentieth Century. When he died, in 1936, the collection was looked after by a group of trustees and housed in University College, London.

In the early 1970's, part of that collection was transferred to the University of Wales, Swansea. A small museum was set up in a room of the Department of Classics and Ancient History.

The University wished to make the collection more publicly accessible, and a grant was obtained during the mid-nineties from the European Regional Development Fund and The National Lottery, which allowed the construction of the Egypt Centre building to house the collection. The museum contains the largest collection of Egyptian antiquities in Wales.

About the Egypt Centre:

In September 1998, Swansea University opened an exciting museum of Egyptian artefacts. Over 1,000 objects dating from earlier than 3,500 BC to AD 500 are on display in two galleries. They include a coffin belonging to a lady musician from Thebes, statues of gods and goddesses, beautiful bead necklaces dating from around the time of Tutankhamun, mummified animals and a large number of everyday objects such as pottery, weapons, tools and toys. The museum has also introduced a popular under 5s area!

Please note from 6th June until further notice the museum will only be open on Saturdays due to refurbishment in the Taliesin Building.

Please check our website for further details and updates
www.egypt.swan.ac.uk

The Committee...



The Committee comprises of:

Chair - Syd Howells l.s.j.howells@swansea.ac.uk
Vice Chair - Gareth Lucas
Secretary - Amber Furmage
Treasurer - Sheila Nowell
Membership Secretary - Wendy Goodridge w.r.goodridge@swansea.ac.uk
Events Officer - Bev Rogers
Other members - Peter Jones, Diane Rowden, Tony Nowell, Krys Williams

The committee is made up of local people with an interest in ancient Egypt and museums. If you are interested in joining the committee please speak to any committee member.

Membership

Full Membership	£16.50 pa
Full family membership (2 adults and 2 children)	£26 pa
Concessionary individual	£10 pa
Concessionary family	£16 pa

Membership includes free entry into all Friends lectures (non-members £3), and other offers given by the Egypt Centre. For further information, or to join please contact the membership secretary Wendy Goodridge

Tel: 01792 295960 E-mail: w.r.goodridge@swansea.ac.uk

Meeting venue...

Swansea University Singleton campus

All lectures take place in Fulton House Room 2, unless otherwise stated.

Doors open at 6.30pm with lectures starting at 7.00pm.

By Car from the East:

1. Take the M4 heading West towards Swansea.
2. Leave M4 at junction 42
3. Take the A483 in the direction of Swansea Town Centre (passing Amazon on your right)
4. Cross the river bearing left, past Sainsburys, (A4067—Oystermouth Road)
5. Continue along A4067, upon passing St. Helens Stadium (on your right) move into the right-hand lane
6. Straight on at traffic lights and right turn at the next set of traffic light (300m) to enter Swansea University
7. Parking on-campus is free after 4.00pm
8. Fulton House is the central building facing the entrance to the university.
9. On entering Fulton House turn right go through first set of doors ahead is a second set of doors go through these then up the stairs to level 2
10. Room 2 is first door on the right

Public Lecture Programme

The charge per lecture is £3 for non-members and free to members.

Wednesday 13th September 2017

Dr Val Billingham Trustee of the Egypt Exploration Society Independent Researcher

Title: *A Thousand Miles up the Nile: Amelia Edwards' voyage of discovery.*

Abstract: In the winter of 1873-74, Amelia Edwards travelled up the Nile from Cairo to Abu Simbel, a journey described in her 1876 bestseller, "A Thousand Miles up the Nile". In this lecture, Val Billingham will draw on Amelia's own words and on images from the Egypt Exploration Society archive to tell the story of that seminal voyage.

Wednesday 11th October 2017

This month's lecture will follow the **Friends of the Egypt Centre AGM**, which begins at 6.30pm and is held at the same venue as the lecture. All Friends are welcome and are encouraged to attend.

Dr Kasia Szpakowska Swansea University

Title: *A Magical Mystery Tour through the Ancient Egyptian Afterlife with Ra*

Abstract: Have you ever wondered what happened to the sun-god Ra when he set in the West each day? Come on a journey with him on his barque through each of the 12 hours of the Duat (the Afterlife). Each section had a different theme (each portal even had its own name) and tasks that had to be performed. Meet the gods, goddesses and fabulous strange creatures that inhabited the afterlife that was so richly described in the text known as the Composition of the Hidden Chambers (aka the Book of Am Duat).

Wednesday 15th November 2017

Professor Paul Nicholson and Dr Steve Mills Cardiff University

Title: *Views of an Antique Land: Photographing Egypt and Palestine in the First World War*

Abstract: Photographs of Egypt and Palestine taken during the First World War offer an untapped resource to both archaeologists and military historians. Not only are they taken, or purchased, in a clearly defined time period and so offer - literally - a snapshot of the condition of monuments at that time, but they are usually taken by individuals with no historical training and so may show areas of monuments not commonly photographed. Official photographs of the military campaign number only about 600, whilst the 'Views' project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, has collected over 2000 'soldier photographs' which offer a valuable addition to the military history of the Palestine Campaign.'

Wednesday 13th December 2017

Syd Howells Egypt Centre

Title: *Dr William Price and the Welsh Pharaohs: A look at the influence of Egypt on the Life of Wales' Greatest Eccentric*

Abstract: A look at whether ancient Egypt had any influence upon Wales' Greatest Nineteenth Century Eccentric, and pioneer of the reintroduction of cremation to the United Kingdom, Dr William Price.

Christmas Get Together: After the lecture there will follow the Friends' Christmas get together. Don't forget to pop this event into your diary!



Wednesday 24th January 2018

(please note this lecture will take place in Fulton House 3—not Fulton House 2)

Amber Furrage Swansea University

Title: *The Role of Magic in Egyptian Medicine*

Abstract: To the Ancient Egyptian, magic permeated almost every aspect of life, with many natural phenomenon being attributed to supernatural influences. Whether deity or demon, the belief in liminal entities as the cause of a number of illnesses logically led to the use of equally mystical treatments. As such, physicians came equipped with an arsenal of medical and magical remedies, a collection of powerful objects and an assortment of incantations. This presentation explores the relationship between magic and medicine when treating ancient ailments, as detailed from the surviving medical papyri.

Wednesday 21st February 2018

Dr Carolyn Graves-Brown Egypt Centre

Title: *Magic Wands and Serpopards*

Abstract: Taking the fragment of the apotropaic wand in the Egypt Centre which is kindly on loan



from the British Museum, I discuss the possible meanings surrounding these enigmatic artefacts and the strange and wonderful beasts depicted thereon. This includes the so-called ‘serpopard’, part snake and part leopard, or maybe something else entirely?

Wednesday 21st March 2018

Professor Alan Lloyd

Title: *Uneasy lies the Head that Wears the Crown: Ancient Egyptian Conspiracies*

Abstract: Throughout Pharaonic history the king was regarded as a god, the incarnation of the god Horus. These ideas dominate overwhelmingly the large corpus of surviving iconographic evidence as well as the texts, inscriptional and otherwise, which have survived into modern times forming part of the Pharaonic media image of kingship which has often been described, not without reason, as the ‘propaganda of kingship’, and it is easy to get mesmerized by this image into thinking that all always went well with Pharaoh. This lecture will take us into a very different world and make it clear that, despite the loud silence so often maintained on the matter, this rosy picture is very far from the truth and that conspiracies against the king certainly could take place and probably a great deal more frequently than the current evidence allows us to perceive.

Wednesday 18th April 2018

Dr Linda Steynor Trustee of the Egypt Exploration Society

Title: *Undercurrents and Inklings: Behind the Words of an Ancient Egyptian Literary Classic*

Abstract: EES Vice-Chair Dr Linda Steynor explores the subtleties and enigmas in the Ancient Egyptian poem *The Tale of Sinuhe*. The poem, which some read as an adventure story and others as an autobiography, contains a nuanced narrative, full of ambiguity, which raises more questions than it answers. As Sinuhe tries to come to terms with the life-changing events he experiences he presents us with an insight into an Ancient Egyptian’s view of himself and his place in society

Wednesday 16th May 2018

Dr Troy Sagrillo Swansea University

Title: The Qing Dynasty and Egypt: the Egyptian collection of Duanfang

Abstract: In 1905–1906, the Chinese Governor-General of Zhejiang and Fujian provinces, Duanfang (1861–1911), was sent by the Qing government as part of a delegation to the West in order to learn about Western forms of governance, preparing the groundwork for a constitution for the Qing Empire. While abroad, Duanfang acquired a number of ancient Egyptian antiquities, including stelae, statues, and coffins. He published many of these as *tàpiàn* (ink-rubbings) shortly before his death during the 1911 revolution that overthrew the Qing Dynasty and established the Republic of China. This talk will examine Duanfang's life and present a *tàpiàn* rubbing of an ancient Egyptian statue recently acquired by Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, as well as other rubbings from his collection.



Wednesday 20th June 2018

Lee Charlton Independent researcher

Title: *Letters from the Desert: The Story of Amice Calverley and Myrtle Broome*

Abstract: This lecture tells the story of the two important women who worked in the 1930's, recording the great Temple of Seti I at Abydos. Not only do we have the wonderful work from the Temple produced by the women, we also have over 400 letters written by Myrtle documenting the life experienced by them in Egypt. Myrtle also painted many scenes of native life and landscapes. The presentation will be illustrated with photos and beautiful paintings by the artists.

Come dine with the speaker!

After most talks we take the speaker for a meal. The Patti Raj is the usual restaurant and we would love it if you could join us and come along and mingle with the speaker. If you would like to attend a meal let one of the committee know before hand and we will

Inscriptions - Newsletter

The Friends produce a newsletter called *Inscriptions*. We welcome contributions, whether interesting chatty snippets, or scholarly! If you would like to write an article or have any news or information you want to contribute please contact the Editor Mike MacDonagh. The success of the newsletter depends on the Friends contributions.

You can email Mike Mike_Mac_Donagh@msn.com

or post a hard copy to the Egypt Centre marked for the attention of Mike MacDonagh.

Museum Gift Shop



There's plenty to keep the children occupied, including a range of stationery, statues, toys, books, games and much more!

For adults we have beautiful jewellery including our exclusive Sarah Elam range, inspired by the styles and materials used for thousands of years.

You can find fine scarves, recycled Egyptian glass wear and replica Egyptian statues, just like the ones on display in our galleries!

Friends members get **10% off all items at the Egypt Centre Christmas Sale**. A perfect opportunity for you to buy unique gifts at great prices!

We will also have wine and mince pies to get you in the festive mood while you browse.

Wide range of gifts
perfect for
the whole family!

Volunteering Opportunities!

You can meet new friends, learn new skills, get on a career path, and have the satisfaction of helping run Wales' only museum of ancient Egypt!

The adult volunteer program runs Tuesday - Saturday, 10am - 4pm and is open to anyone over the age of 18.

We rely on volunteers to maintain our galleries, ensuring the gallery is safe and clean and that all equipment is working.

Volunteers talk to our visitors, welcoming them, answering enquiries and giving guided tours.

They can also work as educational leaders for visiting school groups and are closely involved with the development of hands-on activities with the Education Officer.

We have also recently introduced some new roles, including administration assistants who help with the basic day to day admin of the Museum.

We have special free training events for you including the opportunity to handle artefacts normally only on display behind glass and even some that are usually kept in storage!

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