



**ACCES 1-Day Seminar**  
**'More Than Musty Mummies: Novel Approaches to**  
**Egyptology and the Public'**  
**The Egypt Centre, Swansea University 15<sup>th</sup> June 2012**

The Subject Specialist Network  
for museum curators looking  
after archaeological collections  
from Egypt and Sudan in the UK

**Abstracts & biographies**

**Thomas Cadbury & Jenny Durrant**

*A learning process: the creation and use of a new Ancient Worlds gallery at the Royal Albert Memorial Museum*

The Royal Albert Memorial Museum (RAMM) was opened in 1869 and like many regional museums it has built up a small but interesting Egyptology collection. There has never been a specialist curator of Egyptology but at times staff have had a special interest in the subject.

From 2001 to 2011 RAMM underwent a major redevelopment to restore the building and refit galleries with new displays. Displays on life, death and the afterlife in Egypt were incorporated into a new Ancient Worlds gallery. Unlike most of the other new galleries this work was done in-house rather than by the museum's main designers. With the help of a lot of external advice and assistance the new gallery is a great success.

This paper will outline the development of the project and talk about some of the current and future projects that make use of the new gallery.

Tom Cadbury is Curator of Antiquities at RAMM and Jenny Durrant is Assistant Curator. Both are local archaeology specialists but take a wider role as the museum demands it. Jenny led the delivery of the Ancient Worlds Gallery project.

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**Sue Giles**

*The Egypt Gallery at Bristol: the philosophy behind the displays*

Opened in 2007, the Egypt gallery at Bristol is a popular and much praised (and criticised) display of life and death in ancient Egypt.

It was the result of integrated working between the design team, the curators and the Learning section: the different disciplines all had input into the philosophy of the gallery, and the discussion and debate focussed our thinking, changed our ideas and improved the final result. This paper will talk about the development of the philosophy and the planning process for the gallery.

Sue Giles was curatorial lead for the gallery redevelopment. As Senior Collections Officer World Cultures at Bristol Museums, Galleries & Archives, her specialism is Ethnography. The Egyptology collection falls within the World Cultures collection (previously within the Archaeology collection) and has never had a full-time, specialist curator.

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**Jane Marley BA, Dip Archaeol., MA, AMA.**

**& Lisa Mitchell BA, Post-grad Dip Museums Studies.**

*Unwrapping the Past: Concept to creation of a new gallery at the Royal Cornwall Museum.*

Through the development of an Ancient Civilisations gallery and the stories we have to tell, we aim to provoke curiosity and interest, relate to everyday lives of our audiences and reveal new concepts and ideas. Using a cross-disciplinary in-house team we hope to demonstrate how we create a novel approach to interpreting a broad range of museum collections.

Jane has over 30 years' experience in the heritage sector and has specialised in archaeological curation and museum development. Since 2004, Jane has been Curator of Archaeology and World Cultures at Royal Cornwall Museum. Jane was Project Manager for the successful *Masters of Mathematics: The Rhind Mathematical Papyrus* exhibition in 2008 at the Royal Cornwall Museum.

Lisa has over 15 years' museum experience, specifically in learning, interpretation and audience development, 7 years of which have been at Senior Management level. She has worked both in local authority and independent museums and has over 8 year's project management experience, developing high quality exhibitions and galleries.

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### **Campbell Price**

*Egyptology and the Public at the Manchester Museum*

In October 2012, 100 years to the day after the first Egypt galleries opened in the Manchester Museum, a new suite of Ancient Worlds galleries will be unveiled. This has provided an opportunity to reassess how ancient Egypt (and the wider ancient World) is presented to the public, using one of Britain's largest collections from Egypt and Sudan. This presentation will give a short historical overview of strategies for public involvement at Manchester and describe new methods of interpretation and engagement.

Dr. Campbell Price is Curator of Egypt and the Sudan at the Manchester Museum, having been Curatorial Assistant at Liverpool University's Garstang Museum of Archaeology. Between 2010-2011 he was also a project assistant for ACCES.

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### **Ashleigh Taylor BA hons, MA.**

*Volunteers: Inspiring Engagement with Egyptology.*

The Egypt Centre, museum of Egyptian antiquities, has an award winning volunteer program. The structure, training and roles of the program are all designed to enhance the museums mission statement: to preserve, educate and entertain. But more than this, as well as encouraging the public, volunteers themselves are inspired to engage more fully with Egyptology through the program. This talk will look at Volunteers as a target audience to engage, as well as how volunteer are motivated to make Egyptology more accessible to the public.

Ashleigh has over 6 years' museum experience and has been the Volunteer Manager at the Egypt Centre since 2008 and organises a team of over 100 award winning volunteers, including child volunteers! Ashleigh has completed a level 5 Leadership and Management course and her main interests include; museums and widening participation, creativity and the imagination in ancient Egypt, mythical and composite animals and archaeological illustration.