



# HOTEP

Issue 54: October 2020

## Meetings update

With the many restrictions on socialisation, and the constant changes imposed by local and national government it now seems inevitable that face-to-face meetings will not resume at Oasis for the foreseeable future. We have drawn up a programme of on-line talks via Zoom for the remaining lectures of 2020-21. We are still holding on to the hope that we will be able to host Dylan Bickerstaffe for the Study Day in July 2021 but, as you will appreciate, plans may have to change at short notice.

The Zoom technology also allows us to host speakers from abroad without incurring huge transport and accommodation costs and so we have been able to approach lecturers who would normally be beyond our budget. We have had favourable responses from some eminent archaeologists and Egyptologists and our planned programme (October 2020 – June 2021) is now available on the website. That said, we must allow for the unexpected and changes may still be necessary depending on speakers' personal circumstances. The best advice is to keep checking the website for updates. Meanwhile, details of some of the talks we have confirmed will be found later in this issue.

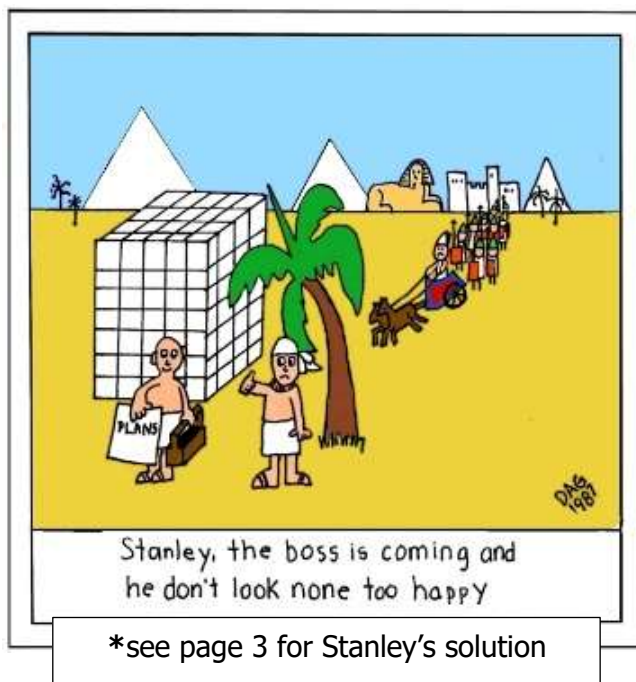
From the October meeting we will re-instate a meeting fee of £3 for Members or £6 for guests. If you wish, you can 'bulk buy' by pre-paying £15 for five meetings (Oct-Feb) or £30 for ten (Oct-Sep not including Aug or July Study Day). These payments are for the usual Saturday meetings and do not cover occasional evening meetings, courses or Study Days which will be priced individually. If you choose to pre-pay please be aware that, in the circumstances, there can be no refunds for missed meetings. Payments for meetings may be made by BACS transfer – see the website for details. When making a payment, please inform the Secretary at:

[saesinfo55@gmail.com](mailto:saesinfo55@gmail.com)

## The newsletter of The Southampton Ancient Egypt Society

to ensure **your payment is linked to your name and contact email for verification.** Payment of the appropriate fee is required before the meeting registration link can be released. The registration invitation will be sent to your email address about ten days before the meeting. Registration will only be approved once payment has been confirmed. The Zoom lecture link and passcode will be sent out in the week prior to the meeting and reconfirmed within 24 hours of the start time. While we are opening up these meetings to other Ancient Egypt Societies, priority will be given to SAES Members. However, there is a limit to the number of participants so **please register early to avoid disappointment.**

New Members may join SAES for the reduced price of £12. We are also offering Overseas membership at the introductory rate of £15, and arranging for various payment options, such as BACS transfer and Paypal, which may also be used for payment of meeting fees. For details contact the Secretary: [saesinfo55@gmail.com](mailto:saesinfo55@gmail.com)





Amarna workmen's village, 1922

17 October 2020: **'House and Home: Urbanism and Society at Amarna'**  
by **Dr Kate Spence**

Using published records of houses and suburbs at Amarna, this talk investigates what can be learned about ancient Egyptian society in the New Kingdom from the archaeological remains excavated in the first half of the Twentieth Century.

Dr Kate Spence is a Fellow of Emmanuel College and Senior Lecturer in Egyptian Archaeology in the Department of Archaeology, University of Cambridge. Her research interests are in the areas of the built environment and material culture of ancient Egypt and North Sudan, particularly during the New Kingdom. She has been involved in fieldwork projects in Sesebi, a walled colonial town in Nubia, and the North Palace at Amarna.



21 November 2020: **'A Scribe's Life'**  
by **Hana Navratilova**

The author of the Egyptian text *'In Praise of Scribes'* advised 'Be a scribe, put scribedom in your heart that you name might be made by it'. Scribes are omnipresent but still somewhat mysterious figures in the



Egyptian record. How many people in ancient Egypt could read and write? Was every literate person a scribe? What was life like for a scribe? This talk introduces different people using the scribal title and follows them from school years through their professional careers, when scribes were fundamental to the administrative structure and the maintenance of Egypt's cultural memory.

Dr Hana Navratilova is a Sessional Lecturer in the Department of Classics at the University of Reading. Her particular interests lie in the fields of epigraphy and interdisciplinary studies. She has published works on the Egyptological career of fellow Czech, Jaroslav Černý, and on the role of literacy in ancient Egyptian society.

19 December 2020:

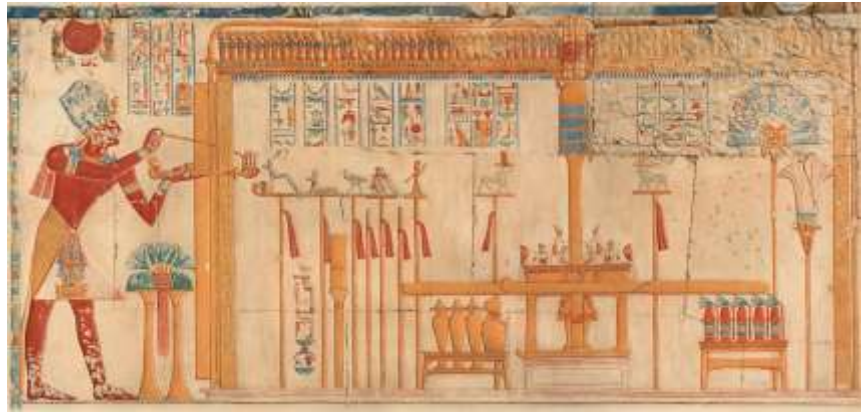
***'Letters from the Desert:  
the story of Amice Calverley  
and Myrtle Broome'***

by **Lee Young**

This lecture tells the story of the two women who worked in the 1930s, 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 is illustrated with photos and beautiful paintings by the artists.



Lee Young is an independent lecturer and researcher specialising in the work of archaeological artists in Egypt. Her particular interest is in the women artists and her book on Myrtle Broome, *'An Artist in Abydos'* is due for publication in January 2021.



16 January 2021:

***'Art of the Old Kingdom'***

by **John Billman**



By the time of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Dynasties, Egyptian artistic conventions and the canon of proportion were well established. Old Kingdom tombs, especially those at Saqqara, contain some of the most vivid images which provide a wealth of information about everyday life. This talk will examine the ways in which the Egyptian artist conveyed layer upon layer of detail within each scene and includes material from tombs only recently opened to the public.



John Billman holds a Masters in Egyptian Archaeology from UCL and teaches Egyptology for the Continuing Education Department of Oxford University and the WEA. John is Chairman of the Thames Valley Ancient Egypt Society and Chairman of the South Asasif Conservation Trust.

**\*Perhaps Stanley (see page 1) should have taken this advice**

***'How to Draw a Pyramid'***

by Anthony Etherin

A zig.

Now one zag.

Gaze now on Giza.

18 April 2021: **'Egyptian Mummies and Modern Science: Research at the KNH Centre for Biological Egyptology, University of Manchester'**

by **Professor Rosalie David**

The KNH Centre for Biomedical Egyptology is a unique university facility which has developed the use of scientific and biomedical techniques to examine Egyptian mummies and human remains to gain a better understanding of what life was like in Ancient Egypt. The lecture will demonstrate how medical and scientific tools can be utilised to investigate disease, diet, medical and pharmaceutical treatments, and religious beliefs and practices. Professor David will also describe current fieldwork being undertaken by the KNH Centre Missions in Egypt, and will provide information about the new online MSc Degree in Biomedical Egyptology offered by the KNH Centre.



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. She has authored/edited more than 30 books and has consulted/ contributed for television documentaries. In 2003, she was awarded an OBE for services to Egyptology.

**Sep/Oct Quiz Answer**

No one identified the new hieroglyph in this picture, but the solution might be found in another of Anthony Etherin's remarkable poems, below.



**'Lockdown'**

Put it on  
Knot it up  
Walks a man in a mask...  
Law: Put it on  
Knot it up.

**October Quiz:**

What do Etherin's remarkable poems and Egyptian hieroglyphs have in common?

We are looking forward to you joining us for our Zoom meeting on 17 October. If you are still uncertain about the mechanics of the process please look at the *Quick Zoom Guide* which was sent with the Aug/Sep issue of Hotep.

