



**The Southampton Ancient Egypt Society (SAES)** was founded in 1998 to provide an opportunity for local enthusiasts to share their Egyptological interests in a friendly and informal social setting. Our discerning membership and a growing reputation amongst other UK societies have ensured that we continue to secure lectures from top class speakers.

Our meetings usually take place on the third Saturday of the month (excluding August) at the **Oasis Academy, Lordshill**, in a comfortable, modern and welcoming environment, with disabled access and ample on-site parking. (For directions see the back of this leaflet) We also arrange trips to museums, special exhibitions and other places of Egyptological interest, and occasional informal short evening classes. Whatever your age or level of interest, why not come along and see what **SAES** has to offer? If you have any questions regarding our annual programme of meetings, membership or any other aspect of the **SAES** please contact the **Secretary**:

Tel: 07729 627901 or email: [info@southamptonancientegyptsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@southamptonancientegyptsociety.co.uk)

## Lecture Programme 2016-17

**10 September 2016: AGM followed by :**

**Lee Young: 'The Lure of the East: Artists and Epigraphers in Egypt.'**

Telling the story of travellers to Egypt, from Napoleonic times to the 20<sup>th</sup> century; gentlemen travellers accompanied by artists acting as cameras, scholars who tried to record as much as possible before it all disappeared, and the influential group of artists called The Orientalists. People like Giovanni Belzoni, John Bankes, John Gardner Wilkinson and Edward Lear left us a treasure trove of records of their adventures, providing the illustrations for this talk.

**15 October 2016 David Marriott: Egyptian Odyssey: Ancient Egypt in 90 minutes!**

Ancient Egypt has left its mark on modern Egypt from the Mediterranean Sea to the border with Sudan and beyond! Starting in the north of Egypt, this talk looks at some of the sites in Egypt, both well-known and the more obscure, showing what ancient Egypt has to offer enthusiasts of all ages & levels of experience. Perfect entertainment for all Egyptophiles, both those who have just embarked upon a study of this absorbing subject and the long-term members of the SAES.

**19 November 2016: Tessa Baber 'The 'Mummy Pits' of Ancient Egypt'.**

'Mummy pits', containing mass burials of huge numbers of bodies, and once a common feature of Egypt's burial landscape, have largely disappeared from the archaeological record. Descriptions of these pits occur in the accounts of early travellers reveal their exploitation for souvenirs and for the manufacture of mummy-based products like fertilizer. Such writings provide details which allow examination of the practice and aid research into the reasons behind this type of burial, as well as potentially locating mummy pits in the field.

**10 December 2016: Glenn Worthington 'Theban Holidays: the festivals of Thebes'**

Thebes was a great ceremonial city and home to two of ancient Egypt's most popular religious celebrations, the Festival of the Valley and the Festival of Opet. This talk will look at what these and other festivals celebrated and how the backdrop of Thebes was used as a giant stage set. There was food, beer and wine so a good time was had by all. **Followed by Christmas Social with board game competition**

**21 January 2017: Alan Reiblein 'Egyptian Wall Paintings'**

The wall paintings of Egypt, in both tombs and temples, are some of the most vivid images of ancient Egyptian culture providing insights into everyday life, religious practice and social structure. This talk examines the nature, style and symbolism of Egyptian wall paintings including the materials used and methods employed, with reference to the relationship in time with other neighbouring cultures.

**18 February 2017: Paul Collins 'Egypt and the Assyrian Empire'**

The relations between Egypt and the kingdom of Assyria can be traced in some detail between c.1300 - 600 BC. The splendour of Egypt's New Kingdom helped shape Assyria's identity as its armies expanded across the Near East, ultimately invading Egypt to confront the rulers of the picture of interaction between the two great powers of the 1st millennium BC.

**18 March 2017: Paul Nicholson 'The Sacred Animal Necropolis at North Saqqara'**

The Sacred Animal Necropolis at North Saqqara is the resting place of a vast number of animals associated with particular cults. The Apis bull is the most famous of these creatures, but there are many others - dogs, cats, ibises, falcons among them - which are less well known. Many were re-discovered by Walter Emery in the 1960s and have since been worked on by Professors Smith, Martin & Nicholson. This talk summarises some of that work & discusses some of the work taking place at the Dog Catacomb.

**22 April 2017 John Wyatt: 'Djehutihotep : Great Chief of the Hare Nome'**

Djehutihotep was Governor of the Hare Nome, centred at Ashmunein, during the mid-12th Dynasty, and was buried across the Nile at el-Bersha. His tomb still contains many magnificent painted scenes and others can be remembered through the work of artists like John Gardiner Wilkinson and Ippolito Rosellini. This talk examines Djehutihotep the man, looks at the tomb in detail, and tells the story of its discovery, bringing its archaeological history right up to date

**20 May 2017: Campbell Price 'Statues, Sailors and Strategy in Saite Egypt'**

Egypt's 26<sup>th</sup> Dynasty, based at the Delta city of Sais, saw a resurgence of international military activity. High ranking officials, notably those in the newly-formed navy, have left numerous monumental records of their participation in royal campaigns. This lecture reviews some of these figures, and their motivation for setting up monuments

**17<sup>th</sup> June 2017 Penny Wilson 'Sais: Biography of an Ancient Egyptian Royal City'**

This talk will present a summary of what has been achieved at Sais, the capital of Egypt in the 26th Dynasty, after nearly 20 years of survey & excavation work at the site. From the discovery of Neolithic and Predynastic levels, to 26th Dynasty royal shabtis, Greek pottery and two Late New Kingdom cities, one on top of the other, Sais has proven to be richer in history than previously anticipated.

**15 July 2016: Study Day Details to be confirmed**

It is hoped that we will offer three **Informal Evening Meetings**, in November, April and June. as well as a **short evening course** in the half-term after Easter. Suggestions for subjects and volunteer speakers welcomed. Please contact any Committee Member if you can help.