

1882

The Egypt Exploration Society

News and Events Summer 2008

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LONDON STUDY DAY

The Men of The Gang: the village of Deir el-Medina and its inhabitants

Saturday 25 October 2008.

The Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, SOAS, Thornhaugh St, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG

Tickets: £27 (EES members), £30 (non-members) Students: £20 (EES members), £22 (non-members).

- 10.00 Doors open for registration and a sale of books in the foyer to the Brunei Gallery Theatre
- 11.00 Opening remarks by Dr Morris Bierbrier, who will chair the study day
- 11.20 Professor Jac Janssen, *Before and After the Strikes at Deir el-Medina*
- 12.10 Coffee/tea and biscuits
- 12.40 Dr Karen Exell, *The Tomb Scribe Ramose: the king's eyes?*
- 13.30 Lunch (please make your own arrangements)
- 14.30 Dr Mark Collier, *Villainy and Evidence. The Infamous Chief Workman Paneb: what do we really know about him and how do we know this?*
- 15.20 Coffee/tea and biscuits
- 15.50 Dr Ben Haring, *Tombs, papyri and ostraca: historical developments in the royal necropolis administration of the New Kingdom*
- 16.40 Summary of the day's talks and discussion chaired by Dr Bierbrier
- 17.00 Amelia Edwards Group Projects Launch - SEE NEXT PAGE

Speakers and Synopses.

Dr Morris Bierbrier is the Editor of *Who Was Who in Egyptology* and a former curator of the Egyptian Department at the British Museum.

Professor Jac Janssen is Emeritus Professor at the University of Leiden and one of the foremost writers on the economic and social history of Egypt. In year 29 of Ramesses III the workmen of Deir el-Medina left their work and seated themselves near one of the mortuary temples on the edge of the Nile Valley. They complained that they had not received their wages, which were partly paid in food; hence, they were hungry. Professor Janssen will investigate what happened before this strike, and whether or not the situation afterwards was improved.

Dr Karen Exell is Curator of Egypt and Sudan at the Manchester Museum. Ramose was one of the Royal Tomb Scribes, or administrators, of the community of royal workmen at Deir el-Medina. He came into post in year 5 of Ramesses II, and remained there until year 38. Ramose's period of service mirrors the dynamic first half of the reign of Ramesses II, when a number of royal policies were introduced to re-establish the authority of the kingship following the Amarna period, and to gloss over the non-royal origins of the 19th Dynasty. Through the activities of Ramose, recorded on his numerous monuments, Dr Exell will explore the private life of Ramose, and his role in the implementation of royal policy, and also the narrative of the actions of the king, and their effect on the social life and structure of the community.

Dr Mark Collier is Senior Lecturer in Egyptology at the University of Liverpool. The story of the infamous Chief Workman Paneb is perhaps well known: sex, intrigue, corruption and the abuse of power amongst the workgang building the tombs of the pharaohs in the Valley of the Kings in the late Nineteenth Dynasty. The central piece of evidence is P. Salt 124, increasingly supported by a more refined understanding of the considerable number of late 19th Dynasty ostraca (and some papyri) from the Theban area. Dr Collier will illustrate and discuss key elements of the original evidence, and investigate what new evidence and new research have to contribute to our understanding.

Dr Ben Haring is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Languages and Cultures of the Middle East, University of Leiden. When we try to visualise the community of necropolis workmen at Deir el-Medina and its rich documentation, it is usually the (middle or late) 20th Dynasty that dominates the picture because of its wealth of papyri and ostraca. Although there is also much material from earlier periods, it is not as plentiful and diverse, and it becomes more scarce the further we reach back in history. The sources available, however, are suggestive of differences through time in recording practices, and possibly in the organisation of the necropolis workforce as well.

AMELIA EDWARDS PROJECTS LAUNCH



Presentations and reception following the Deir el-Medina study day

At the Annual General Meeting of the EEF in 1885, Amelia Edwards addressed the membership as follows:

“Our work of exploration on Egyptian sites is of paramount interest in the estimation of a very large proportion of our supporters. Much has been done ... but ten times - or twenty times - as much work remains to be done ... I therefore very earnestly entreat you to help us in this direction.”

Egypt remains as threatened today as it was in Miss Edwards' time and in the spirit of her appeal to subscribers over a century ago we would like to invite you, our members, to become personal supporters and patrons of individual projects which will help preserve Egypt's heritage and maintain Miss Edwards' legacy. As this will be a new way of funding our work, and to emphasise the fact that the Society has always relied on the generosity of its members to support its endeavours, these projects will collectively be known as the 'Amelia Edwards Projects'.

Each will have a clearly defined goal, something that can be achieved within a short space of time and for a relatively small amount of money. The projects will be distinctive from the Society's major ventures, but nonetheless in line with its mission statement, established research identity and strategy for the future. They will not receive funding from the Society's Excavation, Centenary or Lucy Gura Funds; the funding for each will be drawn entirely from members' contributions. Any project that does not receive sufficient contributions will be postponed or abandoned.

The inaugural projects will be launched after the Deir el-Medina study day to be held at SOAS on 25 October (see previous page). They have been selected with great care to take into account the Society's heritage, the current state of Egypt and the threats to its past. We want you to feel part of these projects and heirs to former EES patrons and contributors. The projects are as follows:



Gebel Ramla: understanding the Qesna archaeological area in its wider context (Joanne Rowland). Test excavations and geophysical survey will be used to further understanding of the nature of the community that used the site of Gebel Ramla, and the date of the earliest settlement and/or use of the site. See Jo's articles in *Egyptian Archaeology* 28 (2006) and 30 (2007) respectively for further background information.

Left: Dr Rowland directing a ground survey at Kom el Ahmar



Karnak Land- and Waterscapes Survey (Angus Graham). Building on previous work at the site this study season will allow Angus and his team to understand more clearly the chronology of the development of the islands on which the Karnak temples were built and to trace the migration of the river away from the site. Angus reported on work supported by the Society's Centenary Fund in *Egyptian Archaeology* 27 (2005).

Left: Examining ceramic deposits at Karnak



Oral History of Egyptology (Christopher Naunton). This project's work will be to record interviews with senior colleagues to capture their memories for future generations, and to make these available in traditional and digital format. The former Edwards Professor of Egyptology at UCL, director of the Society's excavations at North Saqqara and currently its vice-president, Professor H S Smith will be among the first interviewees.

Left: (L-R) Ricardo Caminos, W B Emery, David O'Connor and H S Smith at Buhen in 1960

Further details are available online at www.ees.ac.uk/fieldwork/otherprojects.htm

The project directors will present their proposals following the lectures, and afterwards members will have the opportunity to discuss the proposed work with those involved at an informal reception in the Brunei Suite at SOAS.

Anyone contributing £250 or more will become a member of the 'Amelia Edwards Group', although donations of all sizes are encouraged. Group members will be invited to a special event in the year following the launch, where they will hear presentations on the results of work undertaken, and be given the opportunity to talk to the project directors and other EES representatives about the kind of work that might be undertaken with their support in future.

Members who are unable to attend the launch but are nonetheless interested in making a contribution or joining the Edwards group should contact Chris Naunton (chris.naunton@ees.ac.uk, +44 (0)20 7242 2266, address on the front of this newsletter). Those attending the study day are automatically entitled to attend the launch. Any members wishing to attend the launch but not the study day should apply for a separate, 'launch only' ticket (see the application form on the back of this newsletter or contact the Society).



LONDON SEMINAR

From Excavation to Exhibition - ancient Egypt in museums

Saturday 22 November 2008, 11 am – 4 pm (including a one hour lunch break)

The Committee Room, The Egypt Exploration Society, 3, Doughty Mews, London WC1N 2PG

Tickets (available to members only): £20 (EES members), £15 (EES student members).

This seminar will look at the formation of Egyptian collections and the role of museums in bringing ancient Egypt to the public and as the interface between research-based Egyptology and the public's perception of ancient cultures. The seminar will be led by:

Dr Ashley Cooke, Head of Antiquities & Curator of Egypt & the Near East, National Museums, Liverpool
Dr Karen Exell, curator of Egypt and Sudan, the Manchester Museum

Attendance at EES seminars is limited to 20 and early application is strongly recommended. Coffee and tea is provided on arrival and during the afternoon session, and there is a one hour break for lunch. Lunch is not included but there are many restaurants/café's in the nearby Lambs Conduit Street and Grays Inn Road. Members may also bring sandwiches to eat in the Office.

LONDON STUDY DAY

Every Beautiful Thing: materials, craft and technology in ancient Egypt

Saturday 13 December 2008

The Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, SOAS, Thornhaugh St, Russell Square, London WC1H 0XG

Tickets: £22 (EES members), £25 (non-members) Students: £15 (EES members), £17 (non-members).

- 09.30 Doors open for registration and a sale of books in the foyer to the Brunei Gallery Theatre
- 10.20 Opening remarks by the Society's Chairman, Dr Ian Shaw, who will chair the study day
- 10.30 Dr Elizabeth Bloxam, *Ancient quarrying in dynastic Egypt: fresh perspectives on the technological, logistical and social organisation*
- 11.15 Ms Janine Bourriau, *The story of a wall and a drain: amphorae, the non-biodegradables of antiquity*
- 12.00 Coffee/tea and biscuits
- 12.20 Dr Felicity Wild, *Qasr Ibrim and the Textile Revolution*
- 13.05 Dr Janet Ambers and Dr Rebecca Stacey, *The Colours of Eternity: pigments and techniques used in the wallpaintings of Nebamun*
- 13.50 Summary of the day's talks and discussion chaired by Dr Shaw
- 14.00 Lunch (please make your own arrangements)

SYNOPSIS OF THE TALKS WILL BE SENT IN THE AUTUMN MAILING

The Annual General Meeting, Lecture and Reception

The 2008 Annual General Meeting will take place in the Brunei Gallery Lecture Theatre, SOAS at 3 pm on Saturday 13 December 2008. The meeting will be followed at 4 pm by the annual lecture to be given by the Society's Vice-chairman, Dr Paul Nicholson on *An Ancient Industrial Estate at Amarna*. Attendance at the AGM and lecture is free of charge to members. The lecture will be followed by a reception for which tickets must be purchased. Full details will be mailed to members in the autumn and made available online in due course.



LONDON SEMINAR

The Island of Amun - the Delta site of Tell el-Balamun

Saturday 28 February 2009, 11 am – 4 pm (including a one hour lunch break)

The Committee Room, The Egypt Exploration Society, 3, Doughty Mews, London WC1N 2PG

Tickets (available to members only): £20 (EES members), £15 (EES student members).

As the British Museum project at Tell el-Balamun draws to a close the seminar will review its achievements since 1991. The seminar will include a 40-minute film shot on site in 2006.

The seminar will be led by the directors of the British Museum Tell el-Balamun project:

Dr Jeffrey Spencer, Deputy Keeper of the Dept. of Ancient Egypt and Sudan, The British Museum
Dr Patricia Spencer, Director of The Egypt Exploration Society

For information on the number of places available, refreshments, lunch etc. at EES seminars please see the previous page under 'From Excavation to Exhibition'.

EVENING CLASSES

An Introduction to the Origins of Ancient Egyptian Society

Thursday 9th October – Thursday 26th November (6 lectures and 1 fieldtrip), 7.15 - 9.15 pm

The Egypt Exploration Society, 3 Doughty Mews, London, WC1N 2PG

Fee: £100.

In response to members' suggestions, Dr Alice Stevenson will be running a course on Predynastic Egypt this autumn. Dr Stevenson is an archaeologist specialising in the prehistory of Egypt (4000 – 3100 BC) and currently works as a Research Associate at UCL. She was previously Librarian and Archivist at the EES and has participated in the excavations of the Early Dynastic cemetery of Helwan.

Course outline: The Pyramids of Giza often epitomize our notions of antiquity, but these great monuments are the end product of a long period of development that begins in prehistory when the first groups began to settle by the Nile at the close of the fifth millennium BC. This course will act as an introduction to this prehistoric period, from 5000 to 2700 BC. Through a series of presentations and informal discussions, together with close study of key excavation reports, students will explore the social practices of Pre- and Early Dynastic Egyptian communities, their art, funerary rituals, settlement structures and their interactions with their neighbours.

Although the course is unaccredited and as such written work is not compulsory, participants have the option to undertake project work, essays and/or workbooks under the supervision of the tutor to enhance their learning and engagement with the course material. All participants who complete the lecture series will be awarded a certificate of participation. The provisional schedule is as follows:

9 October	Lecture 1: Background to the first Egyptians: The Egyptian Neolithic
16 October	Lecture 2: Temples, tombs and settlements: Predynastic Upper Egypt
23 October	Lecture 3: Rivals in the north? Predynastic Lower Egypt and unification
30 October	BREAK no class
6 November	Fieldtrip to a major museum collection: The origins of writing
12 November	Lecture 4: Early Egyptian art & the influence of the Near East
19 November	Lecture 5: Sacrifice and the state: Egypt's first rulers
26 November	Lecture 6: The mysterious Second Dynasty and the origins of the pyramids

Enquiries should be addressed to Dr Stevenson (alice.stevenson@ees.ac.uk) or c/o The EES (details on the front of this newsletter). Places are limited to 20 and early application is strongly recommended. To book a place on the course please complete and return the application form on the back of this newsletter with your payment.



MANCHESTER

Enquiries: Professor Rosalie David, KNH Centre of Biomedical Egyptology,
School of Biological Sciences, University of Manchester, Manchester M13 9PT.
Phone: +44 (0)161 275 2647. E-mail: rosalie.david@man.ac.uk

The Northern Branch lecture programme is currently suspended pending the outcome of ongoing discussions with the University of Manchester. Members will be informed as soon as it is possible to arrange lectures again.

BOLTON

Bolton Museum & Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton, 7.30 pm.
Details: Mr Tom Hardwick: +44 (0)1204 332212. E-mail: tom.hardwick@bolton.gov.uk

11 September 2008. Mrs Nettie Adams, *From Ibrim to Bolton: Rags to Riches*

CAIRO

EES lectures are held in the auditorium of the British Council at 7.00 pm.
Enquiries: Mrs Faten Saleh, EES Cairo Office, c/o British Council,
192 Sharia el-Nil, Agouza, Cairo.
Phone: +20 (0)2 3001886. E-mail: ees.cairo@britishcouncil.org.eg

20 October. To be announced

27 October. Dr Abdel Rahman el-Eidi, *The SCA excavations at el-Lahun*

10 November. Dr Neal Spencer, *At the Limits of the Ramesside Empire: British Museum fieldwork at Kom Firin (Western Delta) and Amara West (Sudan)*

24 November, Dr Nabil Swelim, *The Dry Moat of the Step Pyramid Complex*

For details of EES field trips to the Qattara depression and el Moghra-Oasis, The Gilf el-Kebir and Minya province please contact Faten at the above address.

BISI / BIRKBECK / EES JOINT STUDY DAY

From Babylon to Amarna: Ancient Middle Eastern Interactions in the Days of Akhenaten

Saturday 7 February 2009.

Birkbeck College, University of London, Malet Street, London WC1

Tickets: £40 (£20 concessions).

This event, organised in association with the EES, is the fourth in the Birkbeck and British Institute for the Study of Iraq (BISI) Mesopotamia series.

The 14th century BC was a period of vibrant cultural relations throughout the Middle East and the eastern Mediterranean. Exotic goods were widely traded and triggered distinctive international styles, while the Mesopotamian cuneiform writing system was adopted in large parts of the Middle East to write local languages. Babylonian, which was the international language of the age, was also the language of the Amarna letters of Pharaoh Akhenaten. These letters have been the most famous witness of this dynamic time since their discovery in the late 1880s. Important new discoveries in Middle Eastern archaeology now allow us to bring this fascinating international age into sharper focus.

Speakers: Dr Paul Collins, (British Museum), Dr Jack Green (Ashmolean Museum), Dr Frances Reynolds (University of Oxford), Dr Daniel Schwemer (School of Oriental and African Studies), Dr Kate Spence (University of Cambridge). ZIPANG performance - Nergal & Ereshkigal and The Ballad of the Former Heroes. Organized and Chaired by Mariana Giovino and Frans van Koppen, Birkbeck College, Faculty of Lifelong Learning.

Places are limited so early enrolment is advised. To enroll by telephone (full fee only) or to ask about concessions please ring 020 7631 6627, quoting course code FFAR146NO ACB. Application forms are available from the EES.

EXCAVATION FUND



The Society is now inviting applications for grants of up to £7,000 from its Excavation Fund. It is expected that most of the funds awarded will be expended in the field. Preference will be given to projects which fall within the Society's current research strategy to fill gaps in current knowledge through non-invasive surveys and geophysical studies, together with the epigraphic recording of standing monuments and, where possible, targeted excavations. Applications for projects which bring novel approaches to clearly-defined research questions, and which demonstrate advance consideration of possible outputs, are especially welcome.

Full terms and conditions and the application form are available here:
http://www.ees.ac.uk/fieldwork/Excavation_Fund_Grants_2008.htm

The closing date for applications is 30 September 2008. Interviews will not be held and all applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by 31 October 2008. Completed application forms must be submitted electronically to: application@ees.ac.uk.

EES E-NEWSLETTER and WEBSITE

The Society sent out its first electronic newsletter in mid-June, and feedback received so far has been very positive. Any members who did not receive the newsletter are encouraged to send their e-mail addresses to chris.naunton@ees.ac.uk for addition to the mailing list.

We are currently in the process of rethinking the Society's website and the ways in which we use the web to communicate with members and others. While ees.ac.uk is being overhauled we are using Tumblr, a blog service (<http://egyptexplorationsociety.tumblr.com/>) to upload news to the web. Reports on the Society's recent fieldwork and events, an exhibition in Reading, and the CT scanning of a mummy excavated by the Society at Abydos in 1911 have already appeared.

The Society also now has a profile on Facebook (<http://tinyurl.com/4ofceb>) which by mid-July had attracted almost 600 members. In addition, various images, mostly from the Society's archives, are beginning to appear on the the Society's page at the photo-sharing site Flickr (<http://www.flickr.com/egyptexplorationsociety>).

ONLINE SURVEY

The Society is very keen to ensure that members receive the best possible return for their support. We'd like to know what you think of the Society's work in Egypt, our publications and events, and the other services and facilities we offer, and also how you think we can improve. We'd also like to know how you might be able to help us. Financial constraints mean that the Society is run by a very small staff in London and Cairo and all other work is undertaken on a voluntary basis. While we are able to draw on the expertise of many of the country's top Egyptologists we do not always have access to experts from other fields such as law, finance, fundraising, marketing, public relations, IT etc., whose skills are essential to running a charitable organisation like the Society. In short, we want to know a little more about you, and a little of what you think about us, and to help us achieve this we have set up a survey online which you are all encouraged to complete.

The online survey is here: <http://tinyurl.com/58tpcr>

Those unable to access the survey via the internet are encouraged to apply for a paper form from the London office.

LONDON OFFICE / LIBRARY HOURS

The London Office and Library will be closed from Monday 18 August for the summer break and will reopen on Tuesday 2 September at 10.30 am.

Members are also reminded that the London library will be open on the first Saturday of each month during 2008, from 10.30 am to 4.30 pm, except in August and December.

SALE of BOOKS

A separate leaflet with details of a special sale of EES publications is included in this mailing. In addition the Society is now selling a selection of second hand book at the London offices. We regret that we are unable to sell the books by post but members are welcome to visit Doughty Mews to browse what's on offer. We intend to hold an online auction of the more valuable second-hand books, details of which will be announced in the autumn mailing.

DATES for the DIARY and BOOKING FORM

Saturday 25 October 2008. The Men of the Gang. Deir el-Medina study day. (See p. 2)
 Tickets: £27 (EES members), £30 (non-members) Students: £20 (EES members), £22 (non-members).

Saturday 25 October 2008 EVENING ONLY (5 - 8 pm). Amelia Edwards Projects Launch. (See p. 3)
 Tickets: £6

Those attending the Deir el-Medina study day are automatically entitled to attend the launch; those who would like to attend the launch (project presentations 5 - 6 pm, reception 6-8 pm) only may purchase the separate ticket.

Saturday 22 November 2008. From Excavation to Exhibition: a seminar on ancient Egypt in museums. (See p. 4)
 Tickets: £20 (EES members), £15 (EES student associate members)

Saturday 13 December 2008. Every Beautiful Thing: materials, craft and technology study day. (See p. 4)
 Tickets: £22 (EES members), £25 (non-members) Students: £15 (EES members), £17 (non-members).

Saturday 28 February 2009. The Island of Amun: a seminar and film on work at Tell el-Balamun in the Delta. (See p. 5)
 Tickets: £20 (EES members), £15 (EES student associate members)

STUDY DAY TICKETS include refreshments mid-morning and mid-afternoon. Lunch is not included but there are many restaurants/café's on Southampton Row, just a few minutes walk from SOAS.

SEMINAR TICKETS include tea/coffee on arrival and mid-afternoon. Lunch is not included but there are many restaurants/café's in the nearby Lambs Conduit Street and Grays Inn Road. Members may also bring sandwiches to eat in the Office.

Please send me the following tickets:

EVENT	TICKET RATE	No. of tickets	Total £
Deir el-Medina study day	members' rate (£27)		
	non-members' rate (£30)		
	student tickets at members' rate (£20)		
	student tickets at non-members' rate (£22)		
Amelia Projects Launch	ONE PRICE ONLY (£6)		
Egypt in Museums seminar	tickets at members' rate (£20)		
	student tickets at members' rate (£15)		
Technology study day	tickets at members' rate (£22)		
	tickets at non-members' rate (£25)		
	student tickets at members' rate (£15)		
	student tickets at non-members' rate (£17)		
Balamun seminar	tickets at members' rate (£20)		
	student tickets at members' rate (£15)		
'Origins' evening classes	Registration fee £100		
	TOTAL		

Cheques should be made payable to 'The Egypt Exploration Society'. **Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.** Additional copies of this form are available from the London office on request. An electronic application form is available here: <http://tinyurl.com/647uxr>

Name

Address.....

.....

Day-time telephone number

E-mail address