

Magazine





From the Chair, Lucia Gahlin

I have decided that rather than my 'usual' round up of Friends' and museum news I am going to open this anniversary year issue of the Magazine with part of my Chair's report to the Friends' 30th Annual General Meeting, followed by the introduction to the Harry Smith Study Day which explains why Harry is so central to what we do, and gives a background to the Friends that many new (and some older) members may not have. My apologies that I am taking up so much space in this issue, but I hope that you will agree that it is worth it.

Very best wishes, Lucia

Chair's Report to the PMF Annual General Meeting 20th July 2019

This AGM marks the 30th anniversary of the Friends of the Petrie Museum, founded on Petrie's birthday – June 3rd – by Barbara Adams, Curator of the Petrie Museum together with Harry Smith, Edwards Professor and head of the department of Egyptology with responsibility for the Petrie Museum, and George Hart of the British Museum (of which more later).

Thanks to the ideas and hard work of the committee, the willingness of so many Egyptologists to share their research with us, and all your wonderful support, this year has been another exciting year in the life of the Friends of the Petrie Museum. In many respects it has been an extremely exciting year for the Petrie Museum too, but I'm afraid that through no fault whatsoever of our dedicated museum staff, it has also been a really tough year.

The Senior Management Team (SMT) of UCL Culture proposed what can only be described as a destructive staff restructure, which so many of you, together with the great and good of the Egyptological world, combated with eloquent letters to the Provost. UCL Culture SMT decided not to go ahead as originally planned, but they continued with such changes as to make redundant Tracey Golding's Visitor Services Officer post and Susi Pancaldo's Senior Conservator post; and to change the job description of the Petrie Museum manager post to such an extent as to compel Maria Ragan to leave. This begs the question, can the SMT really understand the respect for the Petrie Museum within world Egyptology or the expertise that helps to make it such a vital research resource?

We are extremely dismayed to lose the two posts and desperately sad to lose these three special individuals, but of course the collection will prevail, and we are there to help make sure it does. We are assured that there will still be a museum manager and a less senior conservation post, but that is little comfort. We strongly believe that the conservator should have extensive experience of working with archaeological material.

I want to make a special mention of the Museum Curator, Dr Anna Garnett. Anna took up the post a year ago, and has had to deal with a quagmire of unexpected difficulties and upset caused by the changes. She has risen to this traumatic challenge with incredible capability and grace, and we thank and congratulate her for this.

Tracey Golding worked at the Petrie Museum for very nearly twenty years, and during that time she welcomed and assisted you on your visits to the museum, she made possible many of our events and seminars, and of course some of you chose to work alongside her as museum volunteers. When we announced Tracey's redundancy, your donations towards her leaving present, and messages for her leaving card came flooding in, making it clear how much you valued her presence and role at the museum. We will really miss her and wish her a fantastic next stage of her life.

We will also sorely miss the Senior Conservator Susi Pancaldo's overwhelming passion for the collection and the varied skills and experience she brought to her role. Maria Ragan had held senior posts at the Horniman Museum and the British Museum, and had a remarkable ability to get things done with the best interests of the Petrie Museum at heart in the often complex organization that is UCL.

Front cover:

The new display cases and papyrus storage cabinets funded by the *Papyrus for the People Project*, see the lecture report on Page 8 for more information. Photographs by Kirsten Holst.



Tracey with Lucia after the Friends' AGM

We bid the three of them a sad and extremely fond farewell. We will of course do all we can to support the new staff in the Petrie Museum, as they learn to work with this extraordinary collection that UCL is so privileged to house.



Susi Pancaldo and Maria Ragan

The end of the Friends' year was also marked by much joy. We were thrilled to be able to celebrate the 90th birthday of our President Professor Harry Smith, and we did this in style. George Hart gave us a wonderful lecture on Professor Smith's extremely significant career in Egyptology, followed by a reception in the museum, and then a further day of lectures in his honour.

We always have a long list of people to thank for giving their time and knowledge to us in a range of fascinating monthly lectures. I would like to thank Ashley Bryant for programming these lectures, and of course our visiting speakers: Gersande Eschenbrenner-Diemer, John Wyatt, Bernadette Brady, Valentina Gasperini, Hannah Pethen, Ben Pennington, Nicky Nielsen, Louise Bascombe, our Vice President Kasia Szpakowska, and of course, in anticipation of our AGM lecture, Campbell Price. I would particularly like to thank Chloe Ward for stepping into the breach so ably when Christina Riggs

found that she was unable to give her lecture; and George Hart for giving such a wonderful lecture on the career of our President Harry Smith.

Our study days have been really excellent this year, very much thanks to Jan Picton. We are very happy to have continued our close relationship with the Egypt Exploration Society, and for many of us Dr Cédric Gobeil and Dr Anne-Claire Salmas's study day on Deir el-Medina was a real highlight of our year.

We also recently enjoyed a fabulous afternoon of lectures by Dr Jean Revez on his work in the hypostyle hall at Karnak Temple. So the life of the Friends of the Petrie Museum continues to buzz with excitement, and we continue to support the museum we love. The prize for our most successful fund-raising event must as always go to our annual book auction organized by Jan assisted by Janet Johnstone, and Ivor Pridden. They do a huge amount of work to make this annual event such a success.

I know that lots of you value being a Friend for the privileged access it gives you to handling objects in our Petrie Museum seminars. The opportunity to closely study objects is a very special one. I would like to thank the following for giving our seminars this year: Wolfram Grajetzki, Jan Picton, John J Johnston, Hannah Pethen, Janet Johnstone, Jo Kyffin, Valentina Gasperini, and the Curator of the Petrie Museum, Anna Garnett.

I would also like to thank our committee for a year of service to the Friends. For all their great ideas, time and energy, hard work, support and good cheer, I thank: Hazel Gray, Janet Johnstone, Carolyn Perry, Hannah Pethen, Jan Picton, Ivor Pridden, Birgit Schoer, Chloe Ward and Tim Wilkins.

I'm sure we would all like to thank our President: Professor Harry Smith, our Vice Presidents Robert Morkot and Kasia Szpakowska, the Edwards Professor and Research Curator of the Petrie Museum, Stephen Quirke, and the staff of the Petrie Museum for their invaluable support: Maria Ragan, Anna Garnett, Alice Williams, Helen Pike and of course, Tracey Golding.

I want to end by thanking all of you for another exciting and eventful year in the life of the Friends of the Petrie Museum. As the museum's number one supporters your passion for the museum is so very much appreciated. I look forward very much to sharing in this passion with you over the coming year.

Petrie archive at the Griffith Institute, Oxford

In 2017 the Friends provided funding towards digitising and cataloguing online the archive of Petrie documents and photographs held by the Griffith Institute. The photos are now available and work on Petrie's journals is ongoing. See: <http://archive.griffith.ox.ac.uk/index.php/petrie-collection>

Introduction to the Study Day in Honour of Professor Harry Smith, given by the Chair, Lucia Gahlin

It is very special that Harry's 90th birthday coincides with the 30th anniversary of the Friends of the Petrie Museum, the Friends organisation he founded with the Petrie Museum's then Curator Barbara Adams, and their dear friend and colleague George Hart at that time at the British Museum. George went on to serve as the first Chair of the Friends, a post he held for 12 years. Harry has been our President for these past 30 years.

Harry's role in the formation of the Friends of the Petrie Museum was enormous, and his support ever since has been monumental. Harry had been Edwards Professor of Egyptology at UCL and head of the department of Egyptology with responsibility for the Petrie Museum. In 1988 the Edwards professorship was transferred to Geoffrey Martin, and Harry stepped down from the head of department (although he continued to teach at UCL until 1996), this coincided with the completion of a refurbishment of the Petrie Museum.

And this was when Harry, Barbara and George founded the Friends, on June 3rd, Petrie's birthday, having come up with the idea over dinner in a Soho restaurant.

In the first Friends newsletter of Autumn 1988, an address to the Friends by Geoffrey Martin appeared on the front-page. Speaking of Harry he wrote: "My distinguished predecessor as Edwards Professor, after years of selfless and dedicated labour, has left me in the enviable position of inheriting a flourishing Museum and lively and active Department of Egyptology".

He was clearly also referring to the formation of the Friends, as he writes: "Those of us who were there at the inaugural meeting of the Friends of the Petrie Museum in June will doubtless look back on that evening in years to come as a notable event in the long history of the Petrie Collection". There was clearly a sense of real excitement.

In the same newsletter, George Hart wrote of this inaugural meeting that it "must rank as one of the most vital in Egyptology for years", and he stressed that "the launch of the PMF has become possible only through the determination, vision and enthusiasm of Professor H.S. Smith, then Head of Egyptology at UCL, and Mrs Barbara Adams, Curator of the Petrie Museum".

The thinking behind the formation of the Friends was to raise funds for the desperately needed completion of the conservation of the Petrie Museum's Roman Period Hawara Mummy Portraits, although the first object to



Harry enjoying a lunchtime joke with George Hart

be conserved with funds raised by the Friends was in fact a 21st dynasty coffin base (UC8899A).

From the outset, and for many years, Harry has played a vital role in the life of the Friends, attending events, giving lectures, teaching our much loved museum seminars, and offering invaluable advice and guidance along the way. As Elizabeth Blyth wrote in the Friends magazine following her attendance at Harry's museum seminar for the Friends on Sacred Animal Cults in 1994: "If there is a subject about which you feel totally ignorant, there can be no better way of being introduced to it than by the Friends' President, Professor Harry Smith. The depth of his knowledge and the clarity of his instruction are guaranteed to fill you with interest and enthusiasm". And so many Friends have been!

The staff of the Petrie Museum and the Friends have always acknowledged this tower of support we have been so privileged to have. In 1998, the new gallery at the Petrie Museum was opened by Harry. His jaw literally dropped when the curtain parted and he realized that it was named the 'H.S. Smith Papyrus Gallery and Study Room'. Funded by the Friends and others, it gave Barbara Adams satisfaction to honour her mentor, commenting in that Winter's PMF newsletter that: "It has been a great source of satisfaction and pleasure for us to begin to look after this part of the collection as Professor Harry S. Smith, Emeritus Professor of the Egyptology Department, had always wished".

In June 2003 the Friends celebrated Petrie's 150th birthday and Harry's 75th, by gathering in Harry, Sue and Mike's garden for the most wonderful party. Another occasion when George regaled us in his imitable style, while Harry and Sue and Mike Davies, were hosts with the mosts.

In June 2008, we celebrated our 20th Anniversary of the Friends, and of course Harry's 80th birthday, with a fabulous champagne reception and gala dinner here at UCL, at which Jan Picton presented Harry with the Friends-funded publication "Unseen Images: Archive Photographs in the Petrie Museum", published in his honour, with the dedication "with love, respect and gratitude for his unfailing support of the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, and to mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Friends of the Petrie Museum".

We know just how much it meant to Harry that we published this extremely important photographic archive, the core of which is Petrie's own experimental field archaeology.

In 2013 Harry wrote to Jan and me saying "you both know how much the Petrie Museum and my Presidency of the PMF have meant to me", but suggesting it was time he stood down. I'm afraid we didn't let him!

In the last five years we appreciate that it hasn't been possible for Harry to join us for events, but just knowing that he is our President, always there for us, forever wise, and supportive, the very roots and backbone of the society, has been enough for us to grow and flourish.



Conservator Richard Jaeschke discussing treatment of coffin base UC8899A, the first funded by the Friends, at an early PMF event in the museum

It was Harry who suggested that we nominate Vice Presidents to take the active role in the Friends that he is no longer able to do, and so Robert Morkot and Kasia Szpakowska were elected as our Vice Presidents.

But we know that Harry is ever involved ... from a distance, but keeping a very close eye on what we are doing.

Harry dearly loves the Petrie Museum and the Friends, and we dearly love him, happy birthday Harry!



Joint Friends of the Petrie Museum / EES Study Day in honour of Professor Harry Smith's 90th birthday. From left: Jan Picton*, Joanne Rowland*, Robert Morkot*, Sue Davies*, Harry Smith, Cédric Gobeil, Paul Nicholson, David Jeffreys, George Hart, Elsbeth van der Wilt, Lucia Gahlin*. Missing from the photo is Stephen Quirke who spoke about the importance of institutional memory and knowledge within museums, and the enormous role Harry had played in the Petrie Museum, and that the Friends continue to play. On stage were 5 (*) former students of Harry, and others who had worked with him in Egypt who spoke of Harry's role in their careers and the continuing work at sites with which he was most closely involved. (Photo: Paolo Scremin).

Deir el-Medina: News from the Field and Beyond

In hindsight we should not be surprised that the first Joint Friends of the Petrie Museum and EES Study Day held in December 2017 was sold out weeks before the event: it proved to be a fabulous day, even for those of us who thought they knew all about this famous site. Birgit Schoer discusses the lectures given by Cédric Gobeil and Anne-Claire Salmas. Cédric is not only the new director of the EES, he is also currently directing work at Deir el-Medina under the auspices of IFAO. Anne-Claire is a member of the French mission based at the Griffith Institute Oxford.

Cédric started the day with a fascinating history of work at Deir el-Medina, which had seen a string of early treasure hunters/archaeologists from the early 19th century onwards. Maspero's main concern was to stop tomb robbing (but he did discover the tomb of Sennedjem, TT1); he soon handed over to Schiaparelli, who found the tomb of Kha and Merit (TT8) and was followed by Baraize, who concentrated on the Ptolemaic temple. Möller's German team managed one season before the outbreak of WWI, focusing on the northern part of the village.

Since 1914 the IFAO has held the concession for a very large area including all parts of the village and its associated cemeteries. Using rarely seen material from the IFAO archive, Cédric traced the history of the crucial period of the rediscovery, study and conservation of this unique site over the last century. Things really took off from 1921 onwards, when Bruyère arrived on site. At that time only a small part of the village had been mapped, with most of it remaining buried, including the Great Pit and the votive chapels around the Ptolemaic temple. Bruyère used a rail system to remove the overburden and employed a large workforce including many children. This enabled him to move huge volumes of debris rapidly. They excavated the western necropolis from north to south before starting on the eastern necropolis where more than 100 simple undecorated rock-cut tombs were found in the 1930s, 20 of which survived intact. Due to the practice of workmen bringing finds to Bruyère at the end of the day, the context of many items from these excavations is missing. Finally Bruyère tried to excavate the entire village in a single season just before the outbreak of WWII. Many things were found, including stone basins, pottery vessels set into floors, and domestic altars. Due to his method of trying to restore as he excavated, using the original rubble found



Hilda and Flinders Petrie visiting Bernard Bruyère at Deir el Medina in the 1920s. Archive photograph courtesy of IFAO.

within remains of the houses, it is not always clear now what is original and what was rebuilt during the 1930s. Decorated features excavated were left exposed to the elements and did not survive. Fortunately the IFAO archives have large numbers of excavation photographs taken at all stages of the work, which help us to understand how the village gradually emerged from the rubble. We were treated to some fabulous images, including snapshots of Bruyère's beautifully illustrated notebooks showing the content of Sennefer's tomb found intact in 1928. Many New Kingdom structures were identified below the foundations of the Ptolemaic temple, extending beyond the enclosure wall into the surrounding area. The Great Pit was Bruyère's last excavation in 1952 – he initially took it for a rich tomb, but this 50 metre deep failed attempt at accessing groundwater had been turned into the village rubbish tip, full of priceless ostraca, papyrus fragments and other ephemera of everyday life. Fortunately it was excavated by hand, using the original spiral staircase.

The French mission resumed work from 1970 onwards. Castel's team focused on Qurnet Murai. In 1974 and 1975, Bonnet and Valbelle carried out new excavations with the aim of refining the available information. They showed how the village had evolved and changed over a period of 500 years since the reign of Thutmose I. They were able to identify the plan of the original 18th Dynasty settlement below the Ramesside remains we see today. First called 'The Great Place' before being named 'The Place of Truth', the village was continuously occupied until about 1070 BCE, with a short hiatus of around 14 years during the Amarna Period.

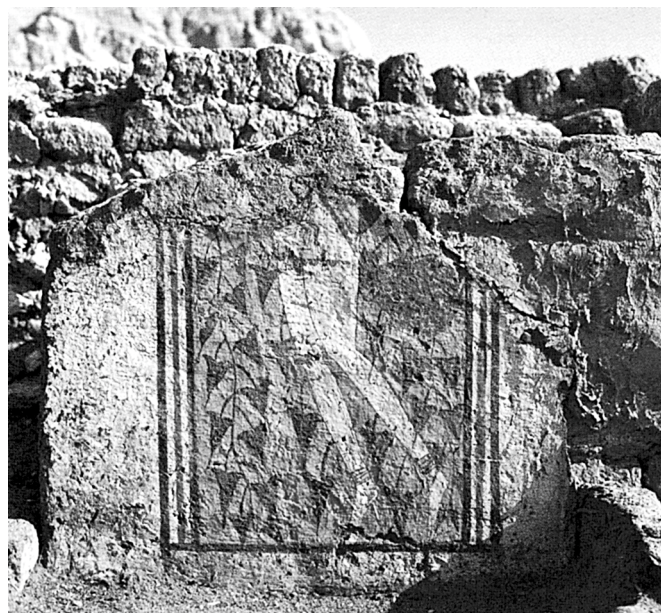
In his second talk Cédric updated us on recent discoveries made since 2011. The brief of the current mission is three-fold: to restore and conserve the monuments, to continue the study of monuments and artefacts, and to protect the site with a site management programme. The remains of the village

itself are the most vulnerable part, with 20% of the walls at risk. During recent clearance and restoration works, some new features came to light, including small finds like stela fragments and inscribed ostraca. The ownership of 17 houses could be established. The original map of the village has been improved with much more added detail on the basis of a new survey, and a 3D model was produced. Additional work has also been done on the votive chapels surrounding the Ptolemaic Temple. As a result of conservation and restoration works, one of them could be opened to the public. In addition several tombs were re-examined using modern technology, which allowed the identification of new features. Some of Bruyère's finds were rediscovered stored in tombs, including labelled human remains. In 2014, two painted shrouds were found among them. The most exiting discovery of that season must be the torso of a heavily tattooed female mummy in TT290. The motifs included a seated baboon, *wadjet* eyes with and without *nefers*, cobras, a lion sniffing a lotus and Hathor cows. These are the first known examples of figurative tattoos from Ancient Egypt. On the basis of the iconography it has been proposed that this woman may have been a wise woman, healer or priestess of Hathor, but this cannot be proven. Even so, this find allows us a tantalising glimpse of the physical reality of a New Kingdom village woman, a rarity indeed.



Tattooed female from TT290. Photo: IFAO.

Anne-Claire zoomed in on the family of Sennedjem. Sennedjem's famous tomb, TT1, is located on the lower level of the southern part of the Western Necropolis. Most people don't realise that TT2, two chapels designated North Chapel and South Chapel respectively, a courtyard and funerary pits are also associated with his family. We saw his complicated family tree, dating from late Dynasty 18 to Dynasty 20. Some members of Sennedjem's family, including his parents, wife and children, are shown in the painted scenes of TT1. Modern research suggests that the South Chapel was probably a cenotaph for Sennedjem's



Conserved painted wall plaster in a house. Photo: IFAO.

father; the North Chapel belonged to Sennedjem's son Khonsu. TT2 is one of the largest tombs in the necropolis but was cut into poor quality limestone and damaged by later occupation. Only one chamber was decorated, in the so-called monochrome style, but featured rare and unique scenes, including a feast scene at the Karnak Mut Temple and a procession with the statue of a deified Pharaoh. On the south wall, Anubis is shown mummifying a fish. The decoration indicates a family connection with Karnak. TT2 was probably commissioned by Sennedjem's sons Khonsu and Khabekhenet, but Khonsu was buried in the North Chapel of Sennedjem, together with his wife. Other family members may have been buried in shaft graves in his courtyard.

The complex of houses inhabited by Sennedjem's family (SO IV, SO V and SO VI), located within the extension added under Horemheb, was identified on the basis of an inscribed column base, a false door and door jambs by Bruyère. SO IV and SO V may have originally been part of one house sub-divided during late Dynasty 19. Sennedjem's father originally worked at Karnak, with the family relocating across the river during Horemheb's reign, presumably directed by superiors wanting to strengthen the royal tomb workforce after the return from Amarna. This case study shows how much fascinating detail can be extracted from scattered fragments by painstaking research, drawing together diverse lines of evidence.

Those of us who managed to secure a ticket for this study day came away with much more knowledge about the history of Deir el-Medina's excavation and its most famous resident, and the memory of many unique archive images used to illustrate the talks.

'This is your life': the Petrie Museum Papyrus Project



Louise Bascombe with Ilona Regulski at the project launch in April. Photo: K. Holst. Susan Biddle reports.

Louise Bascombe's lecture whetted the Friends' appetite for the new papyrus exhibition with her talk about the Petrie Museum's Arts Council funded *Papyrus for the People Project* which started in November 2017.

Prior to this, the Petrie Museum had recently displayed only two of its large collection of papyri, so it was keen to increase access to, and knowledge of, the collection. The project also offered the opportunity to conserve papyri, improve storage, and to make the database more user-friendly for a lay audience.

An initial survey assessed the current condition and conservation needs of the papyri, which ranged in size from a few centimetres to more than a metre long. Some were unmounted, others were mounted in glass or Perspex, some were backed, some glass was broken or frames were loose. In 1998 the Friends had funded two painted wooden cupboards (which looked lovely, but whose doors and drawers jammed due to the weight of the glass so the contents were shaken every time they were opened); they now needed replacing.

Forty-one papyri were conserved – re-taping and re-framing, removing backing and some old repairs, consolidating pigments, and re-uniting two fragments which Stephen Quirke had identified as from the same document. As part of this work, a fold in one papyrus was noticed and when unfolded a new line of text was revealed. The museum participated in other UCL research projects on whether the papyri could be dated by ink analysis through glass (with the UCL Bartlett Faculty), and multi-spectral imaging research which reveals text below the plaster in mummy cartonnage.

Language specialists translated 120 of the texts: 70 in Hieratic and others in Demotic, Greek, Coptic and Arabic. The collection was previously translated by Stephen Quirke and Mark Collier but the current project was an opportunity to re-translate the texts and to add commentaries making them more accessible to a lay audience. The hieratic texts included a hymn to Senwosret (UC32157) which was perhaps written for a royal visit, and a mathematical papyrus (UC32160) calculating the volume of a cylindrical granary in 'sacks'.

Another favourite was a letter (UC32124) from a honey thief whose defence was that he 'could not resist its sweetness'. The 12 Demotic translations included a funerary stele of a sistrum player from 43BC (UC14357, now on display). An ostrakon 'receipt' (UC32706) shows a Greek-speaking Egyptian businessman called Apollo son of Panes from Coptos was importing dye from India in Year 23 of Tiberius, illustrating the cultural and linguistic melting pot of 1st century AD Egypt.

Thirty-three Coptic texts were translated, including ostraca about debts (UC62872 and UC62879): one threatening the debtor with estrangement from the gods if payment was not made, and the other written to the debtor's superior and so rather more polite! Three 9th century Arabic texts from a bundle of manuscripts (UC71040) relate to cures for diseases of the mouth (a burnt tongue and stutter), and include a treasure story linked to the Arabian Nights, and Koranic teachings.

Information has also been added to the database, including creating part records and part numbers where necessary. After conservation, many of the papyri look different so 227 papyri were photographed, which also helps in identifying fragments which belong together, and new high quality reproduction means the text can be read from the photos. The PMF Committee have agreed to fund completion of photography for the Project.

New specialist storage cabinets have been installed, and the first of a series of exhibitions is now on display which shows how the papyri relate to other objects in the collection. The new cabinets have also made possible the display of Petrie's shabtis 'en masse' for the first time since the first Petrie Museum! (Cover photo.)

A wide-ranging series of events supported the project, including research-based events, museum staff training, story-telling, craft events for children, performances based on some of the texts, and a lecture on women which ties in with part of the current exhibition focussing on their role in ancient Egypt as well as with the current suffrage centenary.

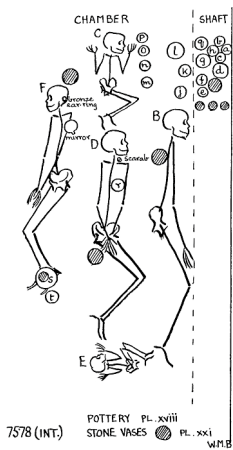
As well as its own display, loans of papyri went to three very different exhibitions, increasing the reach of the collection. The veterinary papyrus (UC32036) from Lahun went to UCL's Grant Museum of Zoology for its *Museum of Ordinary Animals: the boring beasts that changed the world* exhibition; the Will of Wah (UC32048) was one of the items in the UCL Octagon exhibition *What does it mean to be human? Curating heads at UCL*, and the Gurob shrine papyrus (UC27934ii) went to The Atkinson in Southport for its *Adventures in Egypt: Mrs Goodison & Other Travellers* exhibition.

Those who missed these delights can fortunately make up for lost opportunities at the Petrie Museum.

Selected museum seminars

A Brunton tomb group from Qau, Hannah Pethen.

Hannah shared with us selected items from a Second Intermediate Period tomb, excavated by Guy Brunton in 1926. This tomb group was described in more detail than many recorded in the British School of Archaeology in Egypt's memoir *Qau & Badari Volume III* (1930). Even so, the combination of information and omission left us plenty of scope for speculation and discussion of changes in excavation techniques and recording over time.



Tomb 7578 was a reused Old Kingdom chamber and shaft, with six skeletons in the chamber and one about 18 inches higher up in the shaft: three adult females (bodies B, D and F), two children (C and E), one adult male perpendicular to the other bodies against the north wall of the chamber. (Drawing left taken from *Qau & Badari III*).

The grave contained a lot of pottery of the Second Intermediate

Period. The first items Hannah had chosen for us were two clay vessels found in the shaft outside the burial chamber: a small 'saucer' (UC18783) and a larger cylindrical vase (UC18785) found inverted in the saucer. A hole had been made in the bottom of the up-turned pot, leading to debate about whether this was a 'ritual killing' or simply an example of repurposing a cracked pot. Both were wheel thrown, but made 'on the lump', that is the pot was shaped on the top of a larger lump of clay from which it was then cut, rather than (as today) all the clay on the wheel being used to make a single pot. The third red-slipped vessel (UC18799) was found on the chest of female D and had contained beads – though the record failed to make clear which beads were found here.

The next two items were strings of beads: one of fairly basic faience beads (UC26050) and one a rather more elegant mixture of carnelian, garnet, amethyst, ostrich eggshell and faience (UC26053). The necklace of semi-precious stones was beautiful, and one which several of the group would happily have worn today. It had been restrung on two threads with the beads of the same type grouped together. The record includes no explanation for this choice of order, or why the beads had been strung on 2 threads although the spacers found with the beads included spaces for 4 threads. Unfortunately the record does not make clear where these beads were found – body D had beads on its head (perhaps an early bead headdress), and most of

the bodies had bracelets, with some also having rings and anklets of beads. All the adult females and one of the two children had a necklace – which led to a debate as to why the remaining child did not.

Four calcite pots were found in the tomb. Handling UC18805 enabled us to appreciate just how heavy it was, despite its small size. The inside was a simple cylinder with traces of residue – probably kohl – remaining. The lid was beautifully carved with a slightly raised central circle to fit inside the top of the pot.

Our seventh item was a curious little bowl with 3 'lug' handles, two still decorated with what appeared to us to be four 'claws' (UC18804). Because it was recorded only as one of the 'stone' vessels, we do not know exactly where it was found. Although unfired, it was burnished, and carefully made. Unlike the earlier wheel-made pots, this had been modelled and one could just see where fingers had shaped it more than 3,500 years ago: a real moment of connection with the past.

Our next item was a copper mirror (UC26069, 8.9cm wide) which had been wrapped in fabric, whose weave was now preserved in the verdigris corroding both sides of the mirror. A high status object, the mirror was found near the shoulder blade of adult female F, who also had a bronze earring and beads.



We were by now beginning to form a view of the people whose grave goods we were examining. They were not wealthy enough to be part of the court, but had been relatively well-off within their community. Many of the Qau tombs had been robbed and so it was impossible to know whether the number and quality of the goods in tomb 7578 was typical of this period or whether this tomb was unusually rich, suggesting its occupants were perhaps the local 'bigwigs'.

Our next object was a tiny fragmented 'paddle doll' in roughly-made unbaked clay, found near body D's pelvis (UC26043). Hannah suggested this was because it was a functional item, which did not need to be more detailed in order to perform its job, whatever that was.

Our final item was perhaps the 'cleverest' – a bone pin (UC26040) found in the shaft near the scanty remains of the seventh body. It was in handling the pin that the group realised just how expertly it had been carved – viewed horizontally, the head of the pin was a convincing crocodile, complete with eyes. Turned vertically, the head became a hippo/Tawosret figure.

We were all grateful to Hannah for sharing her expertise and guiding our discovery of these objects and the related records.

Susan Biddle

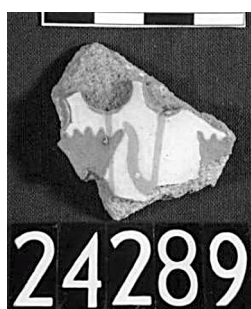
Objects from Amarna to the Petrie Museum via the Wellcome Collection, with Lucia Gahlin.

There are about 9,000 18th Dynasty Amarna objects in the Petrie collection, but not all were excavated by Petrie. Some 226 were from the EES excavations which took place from 1924 to 1936. They were originally part of a collection belonging to Sir Henry Wellcome, and housed in the Wellcome Historical Medical Museum.

So how did those items come to be part of the Petrie collection? Lucia told us the remarkable story of how W.B. Emery, Edwards Professor at UCL, persuaded the Trustees to donate all the Egyptian items in Wellcome's immense collection to the Petrie Museum. An astonishing 350 crates arrived at the Petrie. It was decided to keep only those objects that had been excavated at sites where Petrie, or his School, had worked. The remainder were dispersed to other museums, such as Liverpool and Swansea.

Lucia explained that the EES had developed a grid of the site of Amarna, and had plotted on it exactly where objects had been found. This gave them a precise archaeological context. The objects that Petrie had found were described as coming from 'Amarna', although we do not know exactly where in the site most were found.

Our first one was part of a bowl made from local Nile silt (UC24494). It had a depiction of Hathor on the front, although it was fairly crudely drawn. The group were interested in the Hathor connection, which demonstrated that the old gods did not totally disappear during this time. From the EES grid, we know that it came from house T36.78 in the south-west corner of the North Suburb. Lucia explained that at Amarna you would often have an elite house surrounded by those of workers. There was not a specifically designated elite and poor quarter.



We went on to examine some pieces made of faience. The first one was part of the head of a duck (UC24331). Although the bill was missing, the

decoration was beautifully painted. It is assumed to have come from the Great Palace. This was contrasted with another faience piece (UC24289) which was very striking, with inlaid pieces and having lovely colours. It depicted flowers, possibly cornflowers. This was found in a house in the North City. Our next piece was a faience bunch of grapes (UC47031) whose dark blue colour was from the cobalt used in its making. It had clearly been moulded in two halves, as the join could be detected. There were holes at each end, so it was likely to have been one of a number, which could have been strung up to add 3D elements to a 2D picture.

Our next object was very different; a piece of quartzite with a carving of a figure (UC24279). Although the figure had a side-lock of youth, it was very clearly showing a princess, carved in a typical Amarna style. Quartzite was very popular at this time as it sparkles, and therefore has a type of 'solar' association. This stone is quarried at Gebel el-Ahmar, east of Cairo. We then moved on to our 'mystery object' (UC46977). It was small and delicate, made from bronze and was found in a house in the North Suburb. The group discussed various possibilities and the favoured solution was that it was some sort of tool, although what was it used for? The mystery remains.



Finally back to faience for our last two items. The first was a terminal for a necklace (UC24333), triangular in shape portraying a lotus flower, with small blue inlays. It had several small holes at the top and one at the bottom, showing that it must have pulled together a

number of strings, perhaps containing beads, into the terminal. Our final object was part of a glazed tile, depicting the top of a papyrus plant (UC24287). It was definitely from a royal location, as it was found on the bridge which connected the Palace and the King's House.



Amarna is a fascinating subject for many people, and this session was no exception. This time it had added interest from understanding how these objects actually came into the Petrie from the Wellcome Collection.

Marilyn Smith

Eric Parrington Uphill, archaeologist and educator

15th September 1929–11th March 2018.



After National Service Eric read History at Emmanuel College, Cambridge 1950-54 and gained his MA in 1957. He studied Egyptology with Professor Stephen Glanville. He did post-graduate research at UCL's Department of Egyptology under Professor W.B. Emery, Dr A.J. Arkell and Dr R.O. Faulkner.

He participated in the EES excavations at the First Dynasty tombs at North Saqqara under Emery (1954-55), and at Buhen fortress, Wadi Halfa, Sudan 1959-60. He loved his time working with Emery, and had some great tales of the UNESCO expedition to Nubia, and Saqqara. In addition to supervising excavations he was responsible for recording the pottery, and his drawings appear in the Saqqara and Buhen publications. Eric recorded an oral history for the EES with John J Johnston which runs to over 8 hours, discussing his work and meetings with many icons of Egyptology. This has yet to be published but I am grateful to Clare Lewis (UCL PhD student) for access to her notes, and to the EES for permission to use the material.

He was appointed an Honorary Research Fellow at the Institute of Archaeology, a role he held until his death. A long-time member of the EES, he was on the Committee 1965-1985. He was one of the founding members of the Friends of the Petrie Museum in 1988, but had long been a dedicated volunteer at the Petrie Museum. As a student he assisted with moving objects from wartime storage in 1957 and remembered 'tray-loads of Badarian and other pottery carried at high risk across the courtyard' (Janssen 1992: 77). As Research Associate he helped with accessioning and cataloguing the collection. On 15th July 1963 he attended Margaret Murray's 100th birthday party.

Eric was Lecturer in Egyptology, Archaeology and Hieroglyphs for the Centre for Extramural Studies, Birkbeck College, for thirty-four years (1960-1994), and then served as an examiner from 1995. He lectured for various weekend schools, study days and evening classes over most of Greater London and beyond, teaching almost every day of the week. Eric visited Egypt over 40 times, often leading group tours to Egypt and other areas of the Middle East. He was frequently accompanied by his wife Pat (Patricia Ann Read), one of his Birkbeck students, whom he married in 1980.

As Prof. Stephen Quirke writes of Eric in the Institute of Archaeology's *Archaeology International* 2018 "Remarkable publications accompanied these three decades of teaching. His series of articles on the main kingship festival remain standard points of reference in debates on that central but enigmatic event. His 1972 analysis of the palace was years ahead of other 'Court Society' approaches to the Egyptian evidence. He co-edited the international *Who Was Who in Egyptology*. His monographs on dismembered temple sites powerfully recreate the pyramid complex at Hawara, thought to be the Labyrinth described by Greek historians, and the royal city Per-Ramses (1984), which he effectively mapped in anticipation of current UCL fieldwork at that site. His 1990-1 paper on the longest preserved Egyptian papyrus succinctly demolished the Eurocentric Church-State model of ancient Egypt, by showing that it lists donations of Ramses III not to the temples of the main god, but to the maintenance of the king's own cult. Such research fundamentally changes our perceptions of an ancient society." The Online Egyptological Bibliography lists Eric's publications as 37 articles and books but there are probably a few missing!

Eric lived for research: his latest ('in press') paper is full of equations and calculations of the capacity of lakes and dams. According to Dr Geoffrey Tassie, this was one of his many strengths, looking at how the Egyptians came up with practical solutions to complex problems.

Eric's tweed-jacketed figure was a familiar sight in London Egyptology but more than that, he was a caring and knowledgeable teacher who started many on the road to Egyptian archaeology. Shared memories of him from former students mention this, and his ability to talk at length on his favourite topics bringing himself back to the point with '...and more of that anon'.

Jan Picton

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LECTURE / EVENTS LIST 2018-2019

All lectures start at 6.30 and are held in Lecture Theatre G6, Institute of Archaeology, 31 Gordon Square WCI, unless otherwise indicated. Free to members, no booking needed unless the event is ticketed. Occasional guests welcome. Enquiries to pmf@friendsofpetrie.org.uk

Friday 5 Oct **Claudia Näser** *Provisions for the dead, ritual implements, luxury objects? Conceptualising burial equipment in New Kingdom elite contexts.*

Sat 20 Oct **STUDY DAY 10.00-17.30**
Hourig Sourouzian, with Anna Garnett, Willem Toonen *Amenhotep III and his funerary temple, a 'House for Millions of Years'. Tickets £35 PMF / £45 other / £20 students, applications enclosed with mailing and on the website.*

Friday 16 Nov **Kate Fulcher** *Painting Amara West: colour in New Kingdom Nubia.*

Mon 26 Nov **Friends of the Petrie book auction.** See notice with mailing and updates on website. (Venue **Petrie Museum**)

Friday 7 Dec **Stephanie Boonstra** *Politics of production: the manufacture and influences of scarab amulets in the second millennium BCE.*

Friday 25 Jan **Omniya Abdel Barr** *The Mamluks of Cairo, a legacy at risk.*

Friday 22 Feb **Kathryn Piquette** *Becoming the Narmer Palette: a research update.*

Friday 29 Mar **Angela Stienne** *Encounters with Egyptian mummies at the Louvre.*

Friday 26 April **Diane Johnson** *Exploring the massive fossil funerary collection of Qau el-Kebir.*

Friday 24 May **Penny Wilson** *Earthquakes and rat-traps: how Sais became capital of Egypt.*

Friday 14 June **Kelly Accetta** *Overseer of what is and is not: work of the Middle Kingdom Theban Project on the tombs of high officials at Deir el-Bahari.*

Friday 12 July **AGM** starts at 6pm, followed by a lecture from **Anna Garnett** *An update from the Petrie Museum.*

HANDLING SEMINAR DATES (places selected by ballot, form enclosed with mailing)

17 October **Wolfram Grajetzki** *Objects of daily life in Egyptian tombs? The change in burial customs under Ramses II*
14 November **Anna Garnett** *Material Culture of Ancient Sudan: from the Neolithic to the Meroitic Period*
12 December **Chloe Ward** *Archiving the excavation – tomb-cards, objects, and pencil marks*
30 January **Ellen Swift and Jo Stoner** *Musical instruments from Roman Egypt*
13 February **Hannah Pethen** *Rifef: Local and national fashions in the Middle Kingdom*
13 March **John J Johnston** *A glaring pride: representations of the feline in the Petrie Museum*
10 April **Lucia Gahlin** *Nefertiti in the Petrie Museum*
8 May **Jan Picton** *Representing women in the Petrie Museum*
12 June **Valentina Gasperini** *The New Kingdom pottery from the Fayum*

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Magazine edited and designed by Ivor Pridden and Jan Picton.

Contributions are welcome from Friends for possible inclusion in the magazine, but they may be edited. Please contact the Secretary.

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ISSN 1751-7079

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Museum website:

www.ucl.ac.uk/culture/petrie-museum

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www.friendsofpetrie.org.uk