

THE RUNDLE FOUNDATION
FOR
EGYPTIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER
No.1



FEBRUARY
1981

Major Lecture Series

Mondays at 8.10 p.m. in the Macquarie Theatre

OFFICIAL OPENING	
23 March	Dr Naguib KANAWATI <i>Seni, the Celebrity Artist from Akhmim</i>
13 April	Professor E.A. JUDGE <i>Social Rank and Status in the Papyri</i>
29 June	Dr R.J. MORTLEY <i>Alexandria : the coming of the Greeks to Egypt</i>
28 September	Dr Naguib KANAWATI <i>The Macquarie Akhmim expedition and the History of the Old Kingdom</i>

Admission to each lecture is by membership card or entrance fee of \$2.50; reservations 88.9385. Supper will be served in the foyer on each occasion free of charge. The University may charge a parking fee of 40¢. Further details of these functions are on p.2 For other functions open to members, see p.3.

MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY

NOTES ON THE 1981 LECTURE SERIES

The Rundle Foundation has been formed in response to developments in the study of ancient Egypt at Macquarie University. In this first year its major lecture series introduces some members of the staff of the School of History, Philosophy & Politics who will present aspects of their current work on Egypt.

23 March Dr Naguib Kanawati first came to Australia after graduating M.A. at the University of Alexandria. He completed the Ph.D. degree at Macquarie with a thesis later published as *The Egyptian Administration in the Old Kingdom : Evidence on its Economic Decline* (Aris & Phillips, 1977). For several years he taught at the University of Auckland, writing another work entitled *Governmental Reforms in Old Kingdom Egypt* (Aris & Phillips, 1980), and launching the expedition to Akhmim in 1979. The report of the first season's finds is available as *The Rock Tombs of El-Hawawish : The Cemetery of Akhmim*, Vol.1 (Macquarie Ancient History Association, 1980). This is the first time that a field program in Egypt has been conducted from Australia.

The artist Seni was the most remarkable discovery of the 1979/80 season. He is only the second Old Kingdom artist for whom we have a biography, and he has presented us with the unique opportunity of comparing two works of the same hand. In the tomb of Tjeti-iker, Seni announces that he has also decorated the neighbouring tomb of Kheni. The opening of the latter tomb is one objective of the 1980/81 excavation program. At the time of going to Press, Dr Kanawati has already reported that the Macquarie team has successfully cleared the tomb and that the wall paintings are in a better condition than predicted. The tracings and photographs of these paintings will form the basis for Dr Kanawati's evaluation of the work of the artist, Seni, on the occasion of the public launching of the Foundation.

13 April Edwin Judge has been Professor of History at Macquarie since the introduction of the ancient history program in 1969. The documentation of ancient history (through the study of coins, inscriptions and papyri, and by means of archaeological field-work) has become a keynote of the Macquarie program.

Papyri are the sheets of writing material once produced from the reeds of the Nile delta, and used throughout the ancient Mediterranean for records of all kinds. Only in Egypt has the stable climate and pattern of settlement preserved substantial finds for the present. Professor Judge will be discussing some recently published examples which help us sort out the social hierarchy and rituals of Greek-speaking Egypt in the Roman period.

29 June Dr Raoul Mortley is a graduate of Sydney and of Strasbourg, where he completed a thesis (since published) on the doctrine of knowledge in Clement of Alexandria. Since coming to Macquarie he has written a number of other works touching in various ways upon the Platonic tradition in antiquity. He teaches an unusual advanced course on 'The Hellenistic Age', which runs from Alexander the Great to the fathers of the Greek church in Egypt.

Alexandria was the new capital of the Macedonian conqueror of Egypt. It brought Greek culture to its standard form and was the scholarly and scientific centre of the Mediterranean. For a thousand years it mediated a predominant Greek influence over Egypt and the Near East.

28 September Dr Naguib Kanawati will by this stage be in a position to present the full account of the second season at El-Hawawish, and to outline his expectations for the coming third season, scheduled for December 1981 and January 1982.

SOME OTHER FUNCTIONS

Members of the Rundle Foundation are invited to attend the following functions held under the auspices of the Macquarie Ancient History Association:-

Monday, 2 February, 8.10 p.m. The P.G. Price Theatre

A public lecture sponsored jointly with the Conference on Medieval and Renaissance Studies, by Dr Rupert BRUCE-MITTFORD, F.B.A., of Great Britain,

Classical Elements in the Sutton Hoo Ship Burial

Saturday, 7 February, 7.30 p.m. Art Gallery of N.S.W.

Members of the AUSTRALIAN POMPEII EXPEDITION will introduce

The Pompeii Exhibition

Reservations \$6.00 each by returning the enclosed form by Friday, 23 January (for later vacancies ring 88.9385)

Tuesday, 28 April, 8.10 p.m. Macquarie University W6A.420

A restricted seminar (reservations 88.9385) by Mr David PHILLIPS, lecturer in History at Macquarie,

The Strategia and Athenian Politics during the Peloponnesian War

Tuesday, 19 May, 8.10 p.m. The P.G. Price Theatre

A public lecture by Jaroslav PELIKAN, Sterling Professor of History at Yale University,

Reactions of its Contemporaries to the Fall of Rome

Admission by membership card or entrance fee \$2.00; reservations 88.9385.

COMING EVENTS

Country branches: The Foundation hopes to be able to arrange for films on ancient Egypt to be available to country branches. Arrangements are being made for lectures : Cootamundra - May; also Orange and Bowral.

Nile cruise, February, 1982: Members interested in the proposed study tour of Egypt in February, 1982, when Dr Kanawati is expected to be able to conduct a Nile cruise at the end of the third season at Akhmim, should make contact as soon as possible with Mrs Noble (88.9285). A brochure will be available later.

Purchase of Coptic and Greek Documents

The following collections of texts are offered for sale, described by the restorer, Michael Fackelmann of Vienna, as 'the best available for many years'. For photographs and further details ring Professor E.A. Judge, 88.9358.

- A. Twelve items, including a complete 'book' of waxed wooden tablets, an illustrated Coptic parchment codex on how to construct amulets, and other magical and astronomical texts in Coptic or Greek US \$45.000
- B. Six items, including a 'book' of tablets and other single wooden 'leaves', bearing documents, a writing exercise, and a letter US \$ 8.000
- C. The correspondence of Pnepheros, a village official of the third century B.C., embracing 37 Greek and 12 Demotic texts, dealing with administrative matters ... US \$10.000
- D. Fifty Ptolemaic Greek documents, mostly second century B.C. US \$20.000
- E. Twenty Greek documents of the later Roman period, including a major text demonstrating the continued importation of elephants by sea from India in the third century A.D... US \$ 7.000

Apollo Magazine at Discount Rate

If ten members are interested, the Foundation can arrange a group subscription to the London collectors' monthly *Apollo Magazine* at a substantial discount. Details from Mrs Noble (88.9385).

Membership of the Rundle Foundation

A brochure is available describing the purpose and program of the Foundation, and containing membership forms for individuals or for corporate bodies. Enquiries : 88.9385 (Mrs Noble).

School Membership

Particular attention is drawn to the advantages of the \$20.00 School membership. This enables the average school class to attend even one of the Foundation's lectures at a cost considerably below the entrance fee payable at the door.

General Committee of the Foundation

The committee chaired by Mrs J.T. Muston is meeting at 120 Wolseley Road, Point Piper, at 11.00 a.m. on 11 February, when arrangements for the opening of the Foundation will be completed. The Committee has the following items for sale, personalised with the insignia of the painter Seni and his wife:-

Playing cards	\$12.00
Bridge scorers	\$6.50
Telephone Jotters	\$1.50
Correspondence Cards	\$1.25

Orders may be placed with Mrs Muston (36.2523) or Mrs Noble (88.9385).