

The Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology

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October 1990



Dr. Rosalie David with Dr. B. Ockinga and Prof. N. Kanawati

**Dr Rosalie David,
Visiting Fellow of the Australian Centre for Egyptology
and the Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology**

Dr Rosalie David's visit to Australia was certainly a great success. Wherever she lectured a large and interested audience was in attendance. The Conference, "Temples, Tombs and Mummies, organised by the Australian Centre for Egyptology, attracted double the 1989 enrolment - nearly 400 participants. Two very interesting lectures were given by Dr David and, in addition, Dr Colin Hope, Dr Boyo Ockinga and Mr Piers Crocker gave stimulating talks. Dr David also lectured at Macquarie, Sydney and Newcastle Universities before flying to Melbourne to give another full program of lectures there.

The Macquarie Mummy Project

An initial agreement was reached between the Australian Centre for Egyptology and Manchester University Museum for a joint project to examine the six mummies belonging to members of one family. The mummies were discovered by the Centre's excavation team in one undisturbed burial chamber at the site of El-Hagarsa in January, 1989.

The Manchester Museum's medical team, which is now recognised internationally as the most experienced team following their previous unwrapping and examination of the Manchester mummies, will apply all the latest techniques in examining the Macquarie mummies. No such number of mummies has ever been discovered in a single intact burial chamber, and the examination is therefore likely to shed new light on the cause of the presumably simultaneous deaths of this family, as well as providing other information of an historical and medical nature.

The Annual Dinner

The Annual Dinner was held in the Function Rooms at Macquarie University on Friday, 3 August, and a very happy and interesting evening was attended by 163 members and their friends. The Dinner celebrated the establishment of the Australian Centre for Egyptology and Professor Barry Leal, the Deputy Vice-Chancellor of Macquarie University, spoke of the Centre's activities and work at Macquarie, and of its branch at Sohag in Upper Egypt which he personally visited in January, 1990.

The Dinner was followed by an After-Dinner Address by Dr Rosalie David, who spoke of Sir William Matthew Flinders Petrie's connection with Australia.

Activities Completed

The "Advanced Hieroglyphs Course" was very well attended and was completed at the end of August.

"Ancient Egypt and Her Neighbours" evening Course also attracted an interested group and finished on 10 September.

Courses in Progress

Mr Naguib Victor is conducting a class in "Advanced Arabic", and Mr Michael Birrell a course on "Egyptian Burial Customs".

Dr Morris Bierbrier

On Thursday, 20 September, Dr Morris Bierbrier gave a lecture "The Tomb-Builders of the Pharaohs" in W5A T1 at 8 p.m. Dr Bierbrier of the British Museum visited us on his way to Melbourne to supervise closing of the "Civilization" Exhibition and the return of the objects to England.

Coming Events

On Tuesday, 30 October, Ms Joanna Slater, well known for her work in the Macquarie Teaching Collection, will lecture on "Coptic Textiles" in W5A T2 at 8 p.m. Cost: \$5 (members \$3).

The Discussion Group

The Discussion Group is meeting every Friday from 7 - 9 p.m. in W6A 420 until December. Further meetings will be held commencing Friday, 8 March 1991. There is no charge and everyone is welcome.

Introduction to Hieroglyphs

Professor Kanawati will give an 8-weeks Course, "Introduction to Egyptian Hieroglyphs", each Friday from 7 - 9 p.m. commencing Friday, 29 March 1991. Cost: \$65 (members \$55).

An 8-weeks Course for those who have done "Introduction to Hieroglyphs", either in 1991 or on previous occasions, will commence in May/June following the 'Introduction' Course. This Course will examine the hieroglyphs, reliefs, architecture and art of the beautifully decorated XVIIIth Dynasty tomb of Neferhotep at Thebes. The information contained in this tomb provides us with many insights into Egyptian religion and funerary beliefs. Cost: \$65 (members \$55).

"Life on an Egyptian Dig"

The Australian Centre for Egyptology is planning a full day of lectures and discussions about the digs in Egypt. The excavators, staff and students will talk about their work on various sites and about life on the digs. They will also answer questions asked by the participants. The date and venue will be announced in the January, 1991 issue of the Newsletter, but it is expected to take place on a Saturday early in 1991.

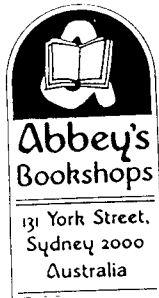
Visiting Fellow and Conference, 1991

An announcement will be made in the January, 1991 Newsletter regarding the name of the Visiting Fellow and the date and venue of the Annual Conference which is expected to be held in August.

Queens of Ancient Egypt

An 8-weeks Course on "Queens of Ancient Egypt" is being planned for early 1991. Date and venue to be announced in the January Newsletter.

ALL ENQUIRIES: JOAN BECK, 805 8848



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