



# The Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology

NEWSLETTER NO. 48

April 1994



*Detail from reliefs in Broad Hall, Tomb of Amenemope:  
Amenemope's grandmother, Henutmety*

From the end of November to early January work continued on the excavation, conservation and recording of the 20th Dynasty tomb of Amenemope in Dra Abu el-Naga, Thebes (Theban Tomb 148). A start was made on the excavation of the courtyard, which brought to light a number of re-used blocks, some with decoration of Hatshepsut and one even with the cartouches of Ramesses II. In the course of cleaning and conservation work in the Broad Hall a relief was uncovered depicting Usermont, one of the viziers of Tutankhamun who lived some 180 years earlier. Usermont is also depicted in two other Ramesside tombs, those of Khons (Theban Tomb 31 of the time of Ramesses II) and Hatia (Theban Tomb 324). Since he appears in a series of reliefs depicting members of Amenemope's family, Usermont may have been a distant relative of our tomb owner.

## EXCAVATIONS AT SAQQARA

During the months of January/February 1994, Professor Kanawati with a small team excavated at Saqqara, continuing the work in the area north-west of Mereruka's tomb in the Teti Pyramid cemetery. A number of undisturbed, intrusive burials dating from Dynasty 18 were discovered before reaching the lower level where three new mastabas dating from the Old Kingdom, were found. Typical of this area, the mastabas were built of mud brick with the addition of inscribed pieces of stone.

The Australian Centre has recently reached an agreement with the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation for a joint project to the north-east of Teti's Pyramid. This area had been partly uncovered earlier in this century and proved to contain the tombs of very important officials and members of the royal family as well as pyramids of Teti's queens.

The new excavation will no doubt shed new light on the turbulent reign of Teti and his son and successor, Pepy I.

Professor Kanawati is currently in Egypt conducting the first season of this joint work which is planned to take place from mid-April to the end of May. The results of the two excavations will be presented at the Conference *Revealing Egypt's Past* on Saturday 20 August at Macquarie University.

## COURSES FOR SECOND SEMESTER

An 8 weeks course, *Egyptian Religion*, will be conducted by Dr Boyo Ockinga each TUESDAY from 7-9 pm commencing 26 JULY. This is an introduction to the religious beliefs of the ancient Egyptians. As well as examining a number of Egyptian deities in detail, the course will also cover topics such as creation concepts, myths and personal religion.  
Cost: \$70 (members \$65).

An 8-weeks course, *From Womb to Tomb*, will be conducted by Mrs Gael Callaghan each WEDNESDAY from 7-9 pm commencing 31 AUGUST. This course will be a look at the life of the average Egyptian, dealing with such aspects as birth, contraception, education, career opportunities, medicine and death.  
Cost: \$70 (members \$65).

### CONFERENCE: *REVEALING EGYPT'S PAST*

A public conference on the most recent excavations in Egypt by Australian and overseas Egyptologists, will be held in the MASON THEATRE (E7B T1), Macquarie University, on SATURDAY 20 AUGUST 1994, from 9.30 am to 5 pm.

Cost: \$30 (School Students, \$25).

All lectures are richly illustrated with slides and drawings.

The keynote speaker will be DR RITA FREED, Curator of the Department of Ancient Egyptian, Nubian and Near Eastern Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Dr Freed will speak on her recent excavations at El-Bersheh (Middle Egypt) and Saqqara. She is one of the leading authorities on Egyptian art, with special interest in the Middle Kingdom.

As this Conference is organised in conjunction with the Continuing Education, we expect an enthusiastic response and members are advised to book as soon as possible.

Refreshments will be available at a reasonable cost.

### PUBLIC LECTURE BY VISITING FELLOW, DR RITA FREED

Dr Freed will give a public lecture on WEDNESDAY 24 AUGUST in PRICE THEATRE, commencing 8.15 pm. The topic of the lecture will be *Schools of Middle Kingdom Reliefs*.

Cost: \$5 (members \$3) including supper.

### ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner will be held at the HYATT KINGSGATE HOTEL, William Street, Kings Cross, on FRIDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 1994.

Tickets: \$45.

Booking is essential. Please contact Joan Beck.

### CONFERRING OF DEGREES

At the graduation ceremonies in April, two PhDs will be awarded in Egyptology. One to Gae Callender and the other to the late Dr Jim Walker.

## MACQUARIE ANCIENT HISTORY ASSOCIATION (M.A.H.A.) LECTURES

On WEDNESDAY 27 APRIL at 8 pm in W6A 325, Dr Terence Mitchell will lecture on *Early Alphabet Scripts*.

On THURSDAY 12 MAY at 8.15 pm in W5A T2, Dr Gae Callender will lecture on *Recent Finds at the Tomb of Queen Iput the First*. Dr Callender has published books and articles on her researches in Greek and Egyptian history and this lecture will include recently discovered and unpublished material on which she has been given special permission to lecture. She will also be speaking at the Teachers' Conference on SATURDAY 16 APRIL, on Minoan society and religion.

## SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF EARLY CHRISTIANITY

The Society for the Study of Early Christianity is holding a seminar on *Acts in its First-Century Setting*, FRIDAY evening 29 APRIL and SATURDAY 30 APRIL. Enquiries: Mrs Pat Geidans - 805 7512.

## DISCUSSION GROUP

The Discussion Group meets each FRIDAY in W6A 420 from 7-9 pm. Everyone is welcome and there is no charge.

## PUBLICATIONS

The following publications are now available and the cost is \$35 per volume (members \$30) plus \$5 postage. Overseas postage is \$9 surface mail per volume. Please note: Publications can be obtained by overseas members through Aris & Phillips.

*Akhmim in the Old Kingdom*, Pt. I, Kanawati & McFarlane, Sydney, 1993.  
*The Tombs of El-Hagarsa*, Vols. I & II, Kanawati, Sydney, 1993.  
*Deshasha: The Tombs of Inti, Shedu and Others*, Kanawati & McFarlane, Sydney, 1993.

Copies of the *A.C.E. Bulletin* Vols. 1, 2, 3 and 4 are also available at \$10 each (members \$8), plus \$3 postage per volume.

**ALL ENQUIRIES: MISS JOAN BECK - (02) 805 8848**