



# The Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology

NEWSLETTER NO. 49

July 1994



For Egyptology, 1994 was a vintage year. At the Graduation Ceremony which took place in April, two doctorates and twelve masters degrees were conferred. In addition to the late Dr Jim Walker, whose degree was awarded posthumously, the following candidates received their degrees at the ceremony.

Gae Callender PhD; Kerri Jepson MA, Cheryl McCombie MA, Mary Demovic MA, Michael Birrell MA, Shireen Chidiac MA, Virginia Stone MA (partly hidden), Peter May MA, Mellita Ilich MA (partly hidden), Catherine Arends MA, Richard Tidyman MA, Michael Cantlon MA. Absent from picture, Greg Judd MA.

Dr Boyo Ockinga attended the Graduation Ceremony. Professor Kanawati was excavating in Egypt at the time.

Training in Egyptology at Macquarie University is now well established and is attracting a record number of interested candidates.

## EXCAVATIONS IN THE TETI CEMETERY AT SAQQARA

Professor Kanawati spent from mid-April to early June excavating a new concession to the N-E of the pyramid of Teti, founder of Dynasty VI. The cemetery to the north of the pyramid contains:

- a. pyramids of the queens
- b. tombs of high officials
- c. tombs of the lower officials

Members might recall that Macquarie had previously excavated (in the mid-80s) the cemetery of the lower officials to the north of the well-known mastaba of Mereruka. This new concession in the section of higher officials is a joint project between the Australian Centre and the Egyptian Supreme Council of Antiquities (Egyptian Antiquities Organisation).

The excavation continues the work of the Belgian Egyptologist, Lorat, who was excavating around the turn of the century.

Like a town, the cemetery was divided into streets and Lorat excavated three tombs in what turned out to be the most important of these streets, which he called "une rue de tombeaux a Saqqara".

In this first excavation the team discovered two important tombs. One belonging to a man called Ka-Aper, an overseer of the scribes of the royal documents and overseer of all works of the king. The other tomb belongs to a woman named "Tit" who was a priestess of the goddesses Hathor and Neit. These two tombs were covered with up to ten metres of sand and debris which contained a number of undisturbed, later burials from the First Intermediate Period and the New Kingdom. Although belonging to people of modest position in life, these later burials are of great interest because of the richness of funerary objects they yielded.

A fully illustrated report of the excavation will be presented at the Conference, *Revealing Egypt's Past*, on 20 August.



**CONFERENCE: REVEALING EGYPT'S PAST**

The public Conference will be held in MASON THEATRE (E7B T1), Macquarie University on SATURDAY 20 August, 1994, from 9.30 am to 5 pm. (Registration from 9 am to 9.30 am)

COST: \$30 (School Students \$25)

**Speakers:** (Lecture topics subject to modification)

Dr Rita Freed (Curator, Department of Egyptian, Nubian and Near Eastern Art, Boston Museum of Fine Arts) will give two lectures:

1. *Excavations at El-Bersheh (Middle Egypt)*
2. *Excavations at Saqqara*

Professor Naguib Kanawati: *Recent Excavations in the Teti Pyramid Cemetery at Saqqara.*

Dr Boyo Ockinga: *The Tomb of Amenemope, Third Prophet of Amon, at Thebes.*

Dr Colin Hope: *Recent Excavations in the Oasis of Dakhleh*  
(precise title to be announced).

Mrs Gael Callaghan: *Problems in Restoration at Macquarie University Sites in Egypt.*

All lectures will be richly illustrated.

Please complete enclosed form and return it with your cheque (made payable to Macquarie University) to: Miss Joan Beck.

Refreshments will be available at a reasonable cost.

**PUBLIC LECTURE TO BE GIVEN BY DR RITA FREED**

Dr Rita Freed will give a public lecture on WEDNESDAY 24 August, in Price Theatre, commencing 8.15 pm. The topic of the lecture:  
*Little Known Treasures of Middle Kingdom Art*

COST: \$5 (members \$3)

Please complete enclosed form and return it with your cheque (made payable to Macquarie University) to: Miss Joan Beck.

## ANNUAL DINNER

The Annual Dinner will be held at the Hyatt Kingsgate Hotel, William Street, Sydney, on FRIDAY 2 September, 1994 at 7 pm for 7.30 pm. Dr Rita Freed will be Guest of Honour and "After-Dinner Speaker".

COST: \$45. Booking is essential. Please complete the enclosed form.

## COURSES FOR SECOND SEMESTER

*EGYPTIAN RELIGION:* Dr Boyo Ockinga will conduct an 8-weeks course, from 7-9 pm each TUESDAY, commencing 26 July. The course 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.

*FROM WOMB TO TOMB:* Mrs Gael Callaghan will conduct an 8-weeks course, from 7-9 pm each WEDNESDAY, commencing 31 August. This course will look at the life of the average Egyptian, dealing with such aspects as birth, contraception, education, career opportunities, medicine and death.

THE COST FOR EACH COURSE: \$70 (members \$65).

## FREE LECTURE BY DR ASHRAF SADEK

After graduating from Cairo University, Dr Ashraf Sadek studied at the Sorbonne in Paris where he obtained his doctorate in Egyptology for his research on "The Amethyst Mining Inscriptions of Wadi el-Hudi". Following this he went to Liverpool (England) where he studied under Professor K.A. Kitchen and obtained another doctorate for his research on the "Popular Religion in Egypt in the New Kingdom". Both books are now among his many publications.

Dr Sadek has also particular interest in the Coptic language and civilisation and he is editor of the popular magazine *Le Mond Copte*.

His illustrated lecture will be held in X5B Theatre (new building next to W6A) at 8 pm on WEDNESDAY 28 September.

The title of the lecture: *Asceticism Before Coptic Monasticism*  
(Hermits Before Monasteries)

**ALL ENQUIRIES: MISS JOAN BECK - (02) 850 8848**