



The Egypt Exploration Society *working in Egypt for 125 years*

Dear friends,

Welcome to the sixth instalment of the Society's occasional e-newsletter. As so often we have been intending to write to you for some time, and with every week that passes it seems there is more to tell you about!

SURVEY of MEMPHIS

In the last e-newsletter we drew your attention to a series of [regular updates](#) posted from the recent Survey of Memphis season by Tina Paphitis, a member of the Survey team, and we hope you enjoyed following the team's progress this way.



David Jeffreys and Tina Paphitis measuring the baseline at Saqqara

A fuller [report on the season's work](#) with photographs has now been uploaded to the Society's website. Shortly after the end of the season the Director of the Survey, Dr David Jeffreys and Dr Judith Bunbury of Cambridge University gave a seminar on 'Climate change in Ancient Egypt' drawing on their work at Memphis and elsewhere. Those in attendance enjoyed the day immensely, as did our speakers! Although we are only able to accommodate limited numbers at Doughty Mews for events such as this, they do allow for more discussion between audience and speakers and we have been delighted that those in attendance have been so enthusiastic in participating! We are very keen to get you, our members, as involved as possible in what we do and our seminars seem to have been a great success in this regard.

SEMINARS

We were delighted therefore to announce three new seminars for the first few months of 2010 in the autumn mailing, which was sent to members during October (an online version is available [here](#)). The first, to be given by the Society's Vice-Chair Dr Paul Nicholson on 30 January 2010, also focuses on research related to EES fieldwork, this time at Saqqara:

- *Falcons, Ibises, Baboons and Dogs: new research at the Sacred Animal Necropolis, North Saqqara*

There are still a few places available for this event, and also for the seminar on *Coptic Thebes: life in the 7th and 8th centuries AD* (Dr Jenny Cromwell) on 17 April 2010 – to book for any of our events please [contact the Society](#) or [book online](#):

Please note however that the seminar on *The Night of Counting the Years: royal mummies and robbers* has now **sold out**.

NEW FIELDWORK for 2010

We are delighted to report that the Society will be supporting a series of new projects in 2010. The following will be supported from the Excavation Fund:

- Photographic and Epigraphic documentation of the tomb of Nakht-Min in the Abusir-Memphite Necropolis (directed by Khaled Daoud);
- Trial magnetometry survey at Sesebi (Kate Spence);
- Survey of the Wadi Tumilat (Geoffrey Tassie).

Secondly, the following early-career researchers' work will be supported from the Centenary Fund:

- William Carruthers, for a visit to various archives in Cairo in connection with research on W B Emery;
- Maria Correias Amador, for a survey of mud-brick buildings in the Qena Governorate;
- Jacqueline Hyman, for Analysis of the collection of Egyptian textiles given by Newberry to the University of Leeds and now housed in The University's International Textiles Archive;
- Veronica Morriss, for the hire of deep-drilling equipment to further her research into the Nile harbour at ancient Thmuis;
- Kei Yamamoto, for visits to the major museums in the US which include objects from Ayrton's (EEF) excavations of Cemetery F at Abydos, which remain unpublished.

As in 2009 we will be keeping you informed of the progress of these projects in [Egyptian Archaeology](#), online, and at our [events](#).

OXYRHYNCHUS PAPYRI

The latest volume to be produced as part of [the Society's longest-running research project](#) appeared during November 2009:

- *The Oxyrhynchus Papyri LXXIV (Nos. 4968-5019)*. Edited with Translations and Notes by D. LEITH, D. C. PARKER, S. R. PICKERING, N. GONIS and M. MALOUTA.
EES Graeco-Roman Memoir 95. 2009. ISBN 978-0-85698-183-8. Price £65.



P.Oxy 4977 of the late 2nd or 3rd century which preserves a medical recipe

This is the volume for the 2007-2008 year and has now been mailed to all members who paid the relevant subscription at that time.

EGYPTIAN ARCHAEOLOGY

One other publication has appeared since the last e-newsletter: *EA* 35 was published at the end of October and mailed to all subscribing members. A list of the main articles to be included in *EA* 36 (spring 2010) is now available on the website: www.ees.ac.uk/publications/egyptian-archaeology.html



The front cover of Egyptian Archaeology 35.

FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN – THE LUCY GURA ARCHIVE

The Society has launched its fundraising campaign for 2009-10 since the last e-newsletter. This year we are focussing on raising funds to improve the facilities for housing and providing access to our archives, a unique resource for the study of ancient Egypt and the history of archaeology and Egyptology.



An image from the Lucy Gura Archive showing workmen at Deir el Bahri in the mid 1890s.

Members will by now have received the campaign leaflet which was included in the Autumn mailing; further information is also available [here](#). The response to the campaign has so far been very positive, and we are now confident that we will be able to undertake some vital renovation work at Doughty Mews, and to purchase new storage equipment to ensure that the primary material is conserved, and can continue to be consulted by researchers without risk of damage. This is very much a long-term project however and we are hoping to raise further funds during the year; the more money we can raise the more we will be able to do with the collection. If you would like to make a contribution please contact us by replying to this e-mail or visit www.ees.ac.uk/support/donate.html.

ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The Society's Oral History Project reflects the growing interest in the history of our subject. Four new videos featuring excerpts from the interview conducted with Professor Smith early in 2009 were uploaded to the [Society's page at Youtube](#) in recent weeks.



The Society's page at [Youtube](#)

They also feature material from the Society's archives and some wonderful film footage shot by EES member Anthony Hovenden during a visit to the now-lost site of Buhen in 1961, which shows the Society's field director of the time, Bryan Emery amongst the ruins of the fortress.

Furthermore, John J. Johnston has now conducted an interview with Eric Uphill, and the digitisation of Rosalind Janssen's cassette-recorded interviews from the 1990s has now been completed. We are hoping to make some of this material available early in 2010. Watch this space!



John J. Johnston and Eric Uphill at the Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology

BOOKS BOUGHT and SOLD

Funds raised through the sale of second hand books, many from the collection of Edwina Iredale, have again enabled us to purchase significant numbers of new books for the library at Doughty Mews. Lists of recent acquisitions are available [here](#).



Four boxes of books being prepared for shipment to Swansea

At long last a shipment of the most valuable books in the Iredale collection was transferred to the University of Swansea at the beginning of November for use by students. Finally, after months struggling to accommodate the 900+ books from the gift(!) we are now in a position to see exactly what remains that can be sold via [eBay](#), at our [events](#) and at to visitors to Doughty Mews. A new group of duplicates will be on sale on [eBay](#) from **Friday 4 December**, and at some point in the next few weeks we will be offering a new batch of more valuable duplicates including some older EES memoirs (Deir el Bari, Abydos, Ehnasya, Beni Hasan, Meir etc.). We will be sure to let you know when this particular sale is due to begin!

EVENTS

As we prepare for Christmas we have one very important day of events left in 2009: on 12 December we will be hosting a study day at the School of Oriental and African Studies:

- *In The Time of the Demigods Egypt in the Pre- and Early Dynastic Periods*



Figure of a king, probably of the First Dynasty, discovered by the Society at Abydos. From a photo in the Lucy Gura Archive.

The study day will feature lectures by Alice Stevenson, Liam McNamara, Sonia Zakrzewski and Helen Whitehouse, and will be followed by the Society's AGM and annual lecture (Dr Penny Wilson, *Water, Water Everywhere... The Dynamics of Life in the Nile Delta: Past and Future Prospects*), and finally, at the end of the day, by the Society's Christmas party. There are still a few tickets available for both the study day and party; if you would like to come to either event please [let us know](#) or [book online](#) as soon as possible to secure your place. As always, we are looking forward to seeing those of you who are able to attend!

NEWSLETTERS

Finally, the Society's website now hosts an archive of previous issues of 'News & Events' (our print newsletter), the e-newsletter and also The EES Newsletter of the late 1980s and early 1990s, which includes articles on various aspects of the Society's research and history, including a series on the Society's dig-houses. To visit the page please click [here](#).

To all our members and friends we'd like to wish you a very merry Christmas and happy new year, and we look forward to getting back in touch with you in 2010!

Best wishes,
The EES team.