



Welcome

Message from the ACE Director

Dear Member,

Finally the pandemic lockdown appears to be ending with a slow resumption of normalcy. In the meantime, enjoy this month's e-Newsletter featuring the work of Dr Fred Hardtke and team at Wadi el-Hosh, along with other news. Sadly, we report the death of stalwart Rundle Member Dianne Herbert, recognising her valuable efforts over a very long period. Like Dianne, perhaps you might consider volunteering to support the work of the Australian Centre for Egyptology? I'll have more to say on this in early 2022.

Best wishes, Karin

Dr Karin Sowada
Australian Centre for Egyptology

In this issue

- A chameleon at the rock-art site of El-Hosh
- Member News
- Digging deeper: metaphor and narrative
- Lecture Series – Lecture 7, 2021
-

A chameleon at the rock-art site of El-Hosh



Located in Upper Egypt, 600 km south of Cairo, the site of El-Hosh is known for its rock art which originates from the Late Palaeolithic to recent times. The site is being investigated under a collaborative mission between the Belgian Royal Museum of Art and History (Brussels) and Macquarie University, directed by [Fred Hardtke](#). The earliest motifs on the site are part of a tradition dated to greater than 15,000 BP and thus represent the oldest rock art in North Africa. This, in addition to the Epi-palaeolithic and Predynastic art, is of immense importance to our understanding of prehistoric activity along the Nile during these times. The majority of petroglyphs depict motifs and scenes typical of the Predynastic. Thus we see a multitude of boats and African fauna including giraffes, gazelle, felines, bovids and hunting scenes.

A very unique petroglyph amongst the vast repertoire is what we believe to be a representation of a **chameleon**, a morphologically distinct type of lizard. Representations of reptiles are relatively rare in Egyptian rock art. In evaluating the

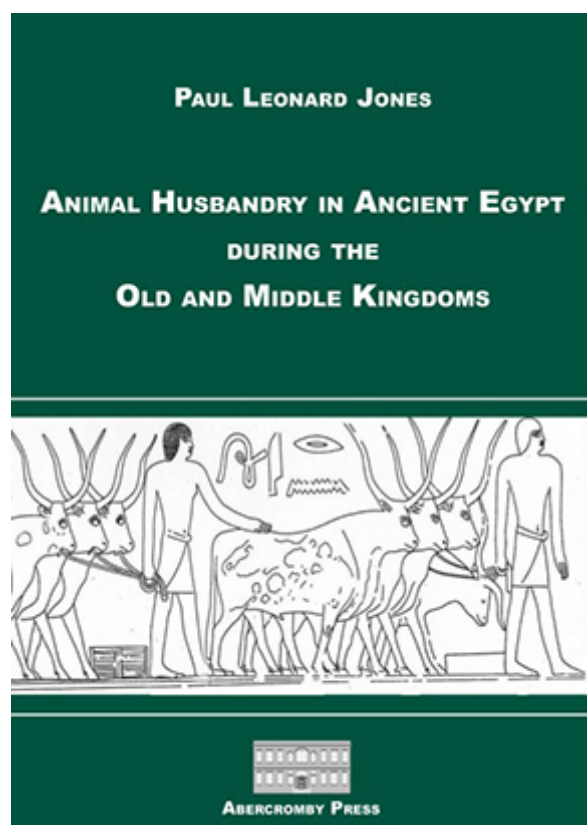
image, we conducted a comprehensive review of the limited evidence for chameleons in other Egyptian graphical depictions and texts, revealing previously unrecognised examples found in New Kingdom tomb decorations. We have concluded that the depiction of the El-Hosh creature was probably executed during the Dynastic period or later, and was inspired by the observation of a chameleon, the precise species of which cannot be determined. (Fred Hardtke)

Dr Fred Hardtke – is Honorary Fellow in the Department of History and Archaeology and a member of CACHE (Centre for Ancient Cultural Heritage and Environment). Assoc. Professor [Linda Evans](#), [Emily Corbin](#) and [Wouter Claes](#) have collaborated with him in solving the mystery of this rock-art motif.

If you have access to Macquarie University Library, then why not follow through to the full article: Linda Evans, Fred Hardtke, Emily Corbin and Wouter Claes, ["Camouflaged chameleons: a new discovery at the Egyptian site of el-Hosh" in: Archaeological and Anthropological Sciences 12 \(7 July 2020\)](#)

Member News

Today, we take the opportunity to congratulate two of our members on successful completion of projects that are testimony to their enthusiasm for ancient Egypt and their interest in academic research.



Dr Paul Jones has experience of farm animals - having lived on a dairy farm in his formative years - and also with the various aspects of sheep farming and the raising of beef cattle in an Australian context.

His PhD thesis, [*Animal Husbandry in Ancient Egypt during the Old and Middle Kingdoms*](#), was published in March, 2021 and explores the practices and their relevance in the daily life of the Egyptians of the Old and Middle Kingdoms and their modern day parallels, of which there are many. Such a study is paramount to appreciating how the ancient Egyptians managed their herds and developed their unique

understanding of farmed animal
behaviour.

More about Paul ...

Paul Jones always wished to be an archaeologist but family circumstances in his younger years prevented him following this vocation. However, in the days after he left school, manufacturing industry in Newcastle NSW offered many opportunities for employment so he obtained a traineeship at BHP Steelworks and completed certificates in Chemistry and Metallurgy. He later graduated with a Bachelor of Science from the University of Newcastle, going on to work in the metals and chemicals industries.

When his circumstances changed later in life and he was able to follow part of his dream by completing a Master of Arts (Egyptology) in 2009, Post Graduate Certificate in Research Preparation in 2010 and a Doctor of Philosophy (Egyptology) at Macquarie University in 2019. He is a member of [Macquarie University Alumni](#).

Paul has been a loyal member of the Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology for many years. As Paul says: "You are never too old to follow your dreams"- [Newcastle Weekly, 21 May 2021](#). We say, congratulations, Paul, on completing this enormous journey!

Macquarie University is now widely offering internship opportunities for undergraduates and post-graduates in **research training**. One of the Master of Research candidates, in their Year 1, contributed to on-going research by Macquarie Egyptologists on Saqqara in the New Kingdom by working with Dr Karin Sowada on a PACE Internship. **Trent Hugler's** outstanding work in 2020 was awarded recognition with a "highly commended" in the [Judyth Sachs Pace Prizes](#). Congratulations, Trent! Here is his citation:

"This research project, entitled 'Publishing the Past: A New Kingdom Cemetery at Saqqara', gave Trent a unique opportunity to enhance his Egyptological and archaeological knowledge and skills, all while obtaining crucial professional academic experience. This project involved the digitisation of legacy excavation material and the transcription, transliteration, and translation of hieroglyphic texts from the burial assemblage, a previously unattempted endeavour. The main outcome of this project was a draft manuscript for a publication of 'minor' burials from the Teti Cemetery at Northwest Saqqara, excavated by Macquarie University in 1996."

And then there is also sad news ---

We are letting you know of the passing of **Dianne Herbert** after a long period of illness.

Dianne joined the Rundle Foundation in 1987 and was a Life member. She contributed to the Activities Committee for a long time as its Treasurer and helped out at events as much as she could. In the early days of Egyptology at Macquarie University, she was involved with the evening discussion groups, and organised bus tours to exhibitions at the National Gallery in Canberra.



Many of us were fellow-travellers with her to her beloved Egypt, last in 2003, and became life-long friends. Her other passions were her dogs and her magical garden where she nurtured her love and knowledge of roses.

Scarlett, we miss you already!

(compiled by Susanne Binder)

Digging deeper: metaphor and narrative



A "school of scribes": collage from the figures of scribes in the Old Kingdom tomb of Hesi in Saqqara. N. Kanawati and M. Abder-Raziq, *The Teti Cemetery at Saqqara*, vol. V: *The Tomb of Hesi*, The Australian Centre for Egyptology: Reports 13, Warminster: Aris & Phillips, pl. 56.

Were you part of the group on zoom for our last lecture presented by **Dr Camilla Di Biase-Dyson**? The lively discussion leads us to now send you links to articles by Camilla. Here you will find plenty of further reading on the topic of text, narrative and metaphor studies. By way of introduction to these articles, Camilla writes ...

UCLA Encyclopedia - Metaphor

This article gives an **overview of metaphor research in Egyptology** to date and introduces the reader to the method I developed for analysing Ancient Egyptian figurative language. It also includes a helpful bibliography for further research.

[Read more...](#) →

Narratives by ancient Egyptians

In this work, I consider how **narrative structures are used by the Ancient Egyptians** (in myths and in stories, for instance) and then critically assess how Egyptologists impose narrative structure on Ancient Egyptian material, from potsherds to linguistic structures.

[Read more...](#) →

Lecture Series 2021 – Lecture 7



Please join us for the upcoming event, via Zoom.

Building Bridges with Timber: Egypt and the Levant in the Bronze Age

Wednesday 13 October 2021, 6:30pm – 8:00pm AEST

Dr Anna-Latifa Mourad (Macquarie University)

Register now

During the reign of Senwosret III, an expedition of sailors travelled to Byblos. As we know from preserved material, the ruler of this famed city allowed them to dock at its harbour. Thereafter followed mediations and interventions to help secure a prized commodity for Egypt: 'š-wood. This episode adds to a growing body of material on the mechanisms of long-distance exchange between Egypt and the Levant from the Middle to early New Kingdom. But how did such exchange emerge following periods of state 'collapse'? How was it maintained? Why was it even important? Dr Anna-Latifa Mourad draws from her ongoing research into ancient cultural interactions to explore these questions, and looks into the roles of diverse individuals and groups who contributed to 'building bridges' across the Mediterranean.



Dr. Anna-Latifa Mourad is a postdoctoral fellow at Macquarie University. In 2014, she was awarded a PhD from Macquarie University for her research on the 'Rise of the Hyksos' and Egyptian-Levantine relations from the Middle Kingdom to the early Second Intermediate Period. She later joined the ERC Advanced Grant project, '[The Enigma of the Hyksos](#)', directed by Manfred Bietak at the Austrian Academy of Sciences (2017–2020) in Vienna.

This postdoctoral project examined 'Multidirectional Cultural Interference Studies' and the influences of Egyptian-Near Eastern relations on Egyptian culture and society. Its research findings have been recently published in a new monograph on [Transforming Egypt into the New Kingdom](#). Now focusing on the development of networks of contact and exchange across Egypt and the Near East, Anna is currently working on her Macquarie University Research Fellowship Project, 'The Ties that Bind: Negotiating Foreign Relations in the Second Millennium BCE' (2019–2022). Alongside her research, Anna has taught courses at three universities, including Macquarie University, the University of New England, and the University of New South Wales. She has also worked with the Australian Centre for Egyptology on several projects, participating in excavations at Saqqara and Beni Hassan.

Save the date: the last ACE/Rundle Lecture in 2021



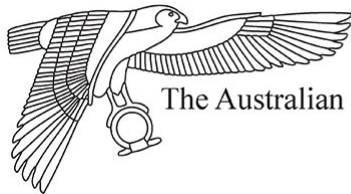
The Right Ox for the Job:

Figural Proportions and the Roles of Cattle in Elite Tomb Imagery

Wednesday 10 November 2021, 6:30pm – 8:00pm AEST

Dr Nikki Leary is an early career researcher at Macquarie University and a member of the *Antiquity in the Archive* project. In this presentation we will hear about the fascinating findings of her PhD project. Details with the link to register and the zoom link will be made available to members directly and in the next e-Newsletter.

Contact us



The Australian Centre for Egyptology



The Rundle Foundation
for Egyptian Archaeology

The Australian Centre for Egyptology

The Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology
25 Wally's Walk, Building B, Level 1
Macquarie University NSW 2109 – Australia

Email: egypt@mq.edu.au

Phone: +61 2 9850 8848

You are receiving this email as a Member of the Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology. Our aim is to keep you informed about Egyptology at Macquarie University, of the fieldwork and research undertaken, of news, events and other activities.

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Macquarie University NSW 2109 Australia



T: +61 2 9850 7111 | [Ask a question](#)

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