Welcome

Message from the ACE Director

Dear Member,

The recent Conference was an outstanding success! I am still recovering from the excitement. The quality of the papers, the well-functioning hybrid mode, the enthusiasm of our Gale Visiting Fellows, the efforts of dedicated volunteers and well-planned organisation, delivered a world-class event. It was evident that people were keen to meet in person after a long hiatus, and I thank Rundle Members for attending in large numbers. We have more events planned for the second half of 2022, including a Lecture on Tuesday 2 August, so save the date and stay tuned.
Thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes, Karin

Dr Karin Sowada
The Australian Centre for Egyptology

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Conference Reports
…and just like that another Australasian Egyptology Conference and Annual Rundle Foundation Conference has come and gone!

The much-awaited 6th Australasian Egyptology Conference was held Thursday 9 June – Saturday 11 June at the Arts Precinct, Macquarie University. This marked the first time since 2014 that Macquarie University hosted the conference and the first major multi-day event held at the new Arts Precinct building at Macquarie University’s Wallumattagal Campus.

With over 70 presentations, from post-graduate students to professors and pre-dynastic pottery to Roman period coffins the conference had something for everyone!

SEE THE OFFICIAL IMAGE GALLERY OF THE CONFERENCE HERE.

The conference featured special lectures from Dr Anna Stevens (Monash University), and international speakers, Dr Simon Connor (formerly Université de Liège), Emeritus Professor Anthony Spalinger, and Dr Dimitri Laboury (Université de Liège).

Our thanks go to the army of volunteers who helped the day run smoothly and we offer a very hearty congratulations and thank you to the Organising Committee, Dr Susanne Binder and Dr Sue Kelly (Co-Chairs), Dr Georgia Barker, Dr Thérèse Clarke, Dr Kim McCorquodale, Shyam Lee-Joe, Dr Karin Sowada and Scientific Committee, Professor Martin Bommas (Chair), Dr Anna Stevens, Dr Anna-Latifa Mourad, and Dr Carlo Rindi Nuzzolo.

Following the conference, the 2022 ANNUAL RUNDLE FOUNDATION CONFERENCE was held on Sunday 12 June. This gathering of Rundle Foundation members and friends featured a series of lectures from Dr Anna Stevens (Monash University), Dr Simon Connor (formerly Université de Liège) and Dr Dimitri Laboury (Université de Liège). These lectures commemorated the 100th anniversary of the re-discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun and explored Amarna archaeology, post-Amarna and New Kingdom artwork, and recent exhibitions celebrating Tutankhamun.

As always, our ACE / Rundle Bookshop saw many visitors through its doors and our thanks goes to Carmel and Peter Amos who manned the shop. Remember that you can purchase ACE publications all year round at our website.
The visit of Dr Anna Stevens, Dr Simon Connor, Emeritus Professor Anthony Spalinger, and Dr Dimitri Laboury is supported by the Gale Visiting Fellowship, made possible by the generosity of Dr Janet Gale.

Image: Dr Dimitri Laboury presenting his paper, *On literacy and education of ancient Egyptian Artist*, on Thursday 9 June. Photo: ACE.

Image: HDR student Meredith Stewart presenting her research on experimental archaeology and black topped pottery. Photo: ACE.

Image: Organising Committee members Dr Kim McCorquodale, Shyam Lee-Joe, and Dr Susanne Binder. Photo: ACE.
Egyptology on ABC Radio National

The Conference generated a lengthy discussion with well-known journalist and Egyptophile Phillip Adams AO, host of Late Night Live on ABC Radio National. In a studio interview, MQ Research Fellow Dr Anna-Latifa Mourad-Cizek, Dr Dimitri Laboury and Dr Karin Sowada had a lively conversation with Phillip about the future of Egyptology, the Tutankhamun centenary, and shared stories of how they ended up in the discipline. Listen to the podcast here.

New Award:
The Carmel and Peter Amos Egyptology Scholarship

Thanks to the generosity of a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, the Department of History and Archaeology is offering a scholarship to enable a student to support research costs in a program of study or research to advance the study of Egyptology.

The donor requested that the award be named in honour of our erstwhile volunteers,
Carmel and Peter Amos, who work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep the ACE / Rundle office ticking along.

We offer our deep thanks to the donor and congratulate Carmel and Peter on this recognition of their service!

The award is soon to be advertised on the Department website along with the Michelle McLean Egyptology Travelling Scholarship. Interested students and Early Career Researchers should stay tuned!

Get to know: Carmel and Peter Amos

In honour of The Carmel and Peter Amos Egyptology Scholarship, Carmel and Peter spoke to Rundle Member Rachel Nawar about how they got involved with Egyptology and the Rundle Foundation and the behind-the-scenes work they do to keep the ACE/ Rundle office running.

RN: Tell us about yourselves...
Both Peter and I have a background in banking and Peter in Accounting and I.T. I
also worked part-time as a Presiding Officer for the HSC and the "old" School Certificate for many, many years. In between, I used to make and decorate Wedding cakes and loved China painting.

RN: When did you both become interested in Egyptology?
My interest in Egyptology, I suspect like most of the members, started in high school. I would read any books on Egyptology (or history) that I could lay my hands on, definitely in preference to reading a novel.

After we attended our first Conference in about 1989, Peter suggested we become members of the Rundle Foundation, although it was mainly my interest at that stage.

RN: When and how did you become involved with the Rundle Foundation/Australian Centre of Egyptology?
In early 1998, Joan Beck who ran the Rundle office (from the very beginning of its existence), wished to retire and asked for volunteers in an "add" in the Rundle Newsletter. Carol Allen and I turned up on the first day, me with a long list of why I would not be of much help, plus a much shorter list of my abilities. None of that mattered to Joan anyhow, Carol and I were "in"!

Over the next 14 years, Carol and I worked every Monday (occasionally an extra day when required), and then Carol retired to Victoria. Volunteering for the Rundle Foundation was always so enjoyable (although I felt like a fish out of water – knowing virtually nothing compared to everyone else), but it took some years to realise that the Rundle office did not need another Egyptologist but needed an office organizer. We always had wonderful support from Professor Kanawati, Assoc Professor Boyo Ockinga and the other academics which made us both feel welcome and appreciated.

Also, the other volunteers over the years were so helpful and friendly and many became good friends.

RN: Tell us a bit about what you do behind the scenes...
Peter started by helping set up our banking procedures on the computer, this was undertaken mainly on a Saturday as he was still at work, but when he retired, he occasionally came in to pack up the very large dispatches of publications we sent to Oxbow Books in the U.K. At this stage, he also took over the website of the Australian Centre for Egyptology.

Naguib also asked Peter to help with the scanning of tracings. Covid, of course, stopped us from coming in for a while, but work could still be done from home. It was at this stage that the other volunteers could not come in, so the office requirements
changed to some degree, plus changes by Macquarie University have altered the
day-to-day functioning. This has led to us designing the Gateway Payment System
and online Membership Renewal/Application which has enabled members to pay
more securely. Now with the help of Wendy Burnham, the office still looks after
Membership, Sales Reports from our distributors, help with Conferences and handle
the publication sales and assists with registration of Zoom lectures.

*Pop by the Rundle Office on Level 1 (east wing), Building B, Arts Precinct (25
Wally’s Walk) to chat more with Carmel and Peter – they are usually there on
Tuesdays!*  

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**Rundle Member News**

Congratulations to Rundle Member, Robert Gardiner who has received an OAM in
the June Queen's Birthday honours! Robert has been a Rundle Member since it’s
founding and is a very regular attendee at all Rundle events. His contribution to the
Australian Egyptological community was noted in his very well-deserved award.

**READ MORE ABOUT ROBERT’S OAM HERE AND OTHER MQ OAM
AWARDEES HERE**

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**Save these dates**

In the second half of the year, we will be continuing to hold lectures on zoom and will
move to a hybrid format as soon as suitable. Please reserve the following
**Wednesdays 6.30–8.00 pm Sydney time (AEDT)** for the ACE/Rundle Lecture
Series:

**Semester 2**

- Tues 2 August 2022
- Wed 10 August 2022
- Wed 14 September 2022
- Wed 12 October 2022
- Wed 9 November 2022
Rundle Foundation e-Newsletter 11 was compiled by Rachel Nawar and Gillian Smith, on June 29, 2022. Many thanks to all who contributed to this edition.

Support us

Like what we do? Please support the work of Egyptology at Macquarie with a tax-deductible donation to the Rundle Foundation for Egyptian Archaeology. Thank you!

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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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