



# The Chesterfield Egyptology Society

Are proud to present an illustrated lecture on

## Saqqara-Secrets in the Sand

**Date:** Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30pm.  
The lecture lasts approximately 1hr 45mins and will include a break and Question and Answer session

**Speaker:** Colin Reader

**Location:** Live at the Chesterfield Library New Beetwell St, Chesterfield & ZOOM

**Price:** £5 to all

### Saqqara-Secrets in the Sand

Today Saqqara is a very crowded site, with many tombs and temples from all periods of the pharaonic civilisation. But what was Saqqara like when the earliest pharaohs chose to build there and what influenced where they chose to build?

As an engineering geologist, I'm fascinated by the way the ancient Egyptians worked with the landscape and used the stone they quarried to build some of the most wonderful and enduring monuments man has ever conceived. As I did with the Great Sphinx of Giza, I've examined the famous necropolis of North Saqqara from an engineering geologist's perspective and have been surprised at what I found.

## About Colin..

As an engineering geologist, Colin was first attracted to Ancient Egypt as a result of the controversy over the age of the Great Sphinx at Giza and what its weathering and erosion could tell us about its age.

For four years he undertook geological mapping with the Saqqara Geophysical Survey Project.

Features he noticed while working at Saqqara led him to re-investigate the origins of the causeway in Egyptian pyramid complexes and to explore the earliest phases of development at Saqqara - the period before the Step Pyramid was built.

Colin's experiences in Egypt led him to research wider issues associated with the geology of this fascinating country and, during lockdown,

He wrote a book focussing on what the geology and landscape of Egypt meant for the people of the Nile Valley. "A Gift of Geology" was published in January 2023 and is available from most good on-line retailers.

It can also be viewed via the ZOOM platform in the comfort of your own home.

