

## JANUARY 2021 Newsletter from Lady of Ma'at



Hello everybody. Welcome to 2021. Your Committee send their very best wishes to you and your families. I think we were all happy to see the end of 2020 and can now look forward with some optimism to a fruitful 2021.

Now that the vaccine supplies are being sent to hubs throughout the country we can look forward to a little more security and peace of mind. As of today's news the first 4 categories are receiving the inoculations. Although in my 70's, the Prime Minister has promised my group should be done by the middle of February but we still have to do our part in obeying the rules that the scientists have laid down even after we have received our inoculations. Some of our members in their 80's have already received their appointments which is a great relief.

However, we are still in a severe lockdown and as I'm typing this on the 14<sup>th</sup>, news is that the restrictions could get more severe because of the more transmittable new Covid-19 strain.

As most of you will have expected, and in view of the extended lockdown, the 6<sup>th</sup> February lecture with Lee Young is now cancelled.

Although Nottingham Mechanics Institute has advised me that most bookings have been cancelled until the Autumn, although it is unlikely that the April meeting will go ahead we are keeping the April 24<sup>th</sup> AGM/Lecture date in their diary at this time; but as we get more news and of course depending on the Covid-19 situation, you will be informed nearer the time.

In spite of the lockdown and the disruption and concern affecting all of our lives in one way or another, we have to be positive and make plans and with this in mind Kate our Programme Secretary has secured an excellent programme of lectures. Please put the dates below in your diaries:

### 2021

*April 24 <sup>th</sup>	Nottingham	John J Johnson	Lunar Lore in Ancient Egypt
June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Chesterfield	Dr Joyce Filer	Diseases and Ailments of Royalty
and			Nobles
August 7 <sup>th</sup>	Nottingham	Prof Rosalie David	Egyptian Mummies and Modern
			Science; the contribution to Egyptology
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	Chesterfield	Dr Robert Morkot	Pyramids and Elephants: The Kingdom
		of Meroe	
December 4 <sup>th</sup>	Nottingham	Dr Katherine Zinn	Women in Ancient Egypt

2022

February 12<sup>th</sup> Chesterfield Dylan Bickerstaff title to be advised

*\*likely to be cancelled but you will be notified nearer the time*

There is some exciting news. The Local Chesterfield Group has, as a tester, organised along with Dr Joanne Backhouse, a ZOOM lecture on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of this month entitled 'A Beautiful Death: The Decorated Nobles Tombs of Thebes'. Entrance to the lecture is free for current members. It is exciting to note that many of our members have already booked for the event. You have already received the information via Paul on how you can access the event. If you need further information please contact David Hay on 07447 967958.

However, a word of caution, although we send out The Scribe and Newsletters to all members we have included the handful of people who have not renewed their membership for this current season which finishes on 31<sup>st</sup> March, I would urge you to renew your membership NOW before this date in order to receive the advantages; not only your free access to ZOOM lectures but also to receive your free ticket to a special Conference planned for the end of this year, Covid willing. Also your membership fee will be extended to include the 2021/22 season ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Please note that the February Scribe will be the last that will be sent out to people who have not renewed this current season.

Unfortunately I have some sad news. Some of you will remember Jeff Bargh who along with Margaret, who was our Chairman, were members from the very beginning of the Society. I remember Jeff had a wonderful talent for poetry and when asked to deliver the Vote of Thanks would regale us with wonderful and often funny verses. He also had a beautiful singing voice and was an enthusiastic member of his church choir. He was a lovely gentleman and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts are with Margaret and the family.

Finally as we enter a new year, with two vaccines being administered and the news that two others are nearing approval, we can look forward to a year of optimism and some kind of normality. It won't be as it was before the pandemic but after a year of severe restrictions and sad losses, we cannot just see the light at the end of the tunnel but as one of the medical experts working with the Government, Professor Jonathan Van-Tam announced, instead of the train being in the tunnel "the train is coming out of the tunnel".

If you have any questions or just want to chat, please don't hesitate to contact any of the Committee who would love to hear from you.

Keep safe and well.

Your Committee and I send you our very best wishes.

Rhoda

*See attachments*