



The Society for the Study of Ancient Egypt

27th July 2020

Dear Fellow Members,

When the outbreak of Covid-19 started earlier this year, who would have thought we would still be in a situation in late July where it's effects would involve every one of us, leaving us in a state of uncertainty. Although the Government has slowly reduced the lockdown of many establishments, unfortunately, as a Society we are still impacted by the restraints and rules governing the ease of lockdown.

Your Committee is working tirelessly to get our meetings back on track. Unfortunately, although the Nottingham Mechanics Institute is planning to reopen, it is with a much smaller group arrangement and for the present will only operate from Monday to Friday. This obviously puts us out of the equation, although as time goes by, this will hopefully change. **We are constantly in touch with the Management but at this time, sadly, I have to tell you that our August Lecture on the 8th at Nottingham is cancelled.** Our speaker Prof Rosalie David has kindly agreed to come to us at a later date.

Chesterfield Library Lecture theatre, together with the Library itself is closed; only operating a click and collect system for books. In spite of several conversations with them, they are not able to give me any kind of forecast or assurance as to when the Theatre will reopen. In spite of this we still have to plan so that we are ready. Our next Chesterfield meeting is on the 10th October and although we have no assurance we are hoping that there will be better news before then. Our speaker Bill Manley is still able to come to us if/when the situation changes. Although the management have promised to keep me informed, I am phoning the Library weekly.

I want to thank those of you who have renewed your membership, it's very much appreciated. Many Societies are struggling financially because members haven't renewed causing future financial problems. Your Committee is planning a very special event which will be scheduled early next year and will be free to all those who have paid their full Membership Fee for this current season. Of course this will be subject to the Covid-19 situation and the reopening of the venue concerned.

I will keep you informed on a regular basis of any progress made and of future plans. Please accept my heartfelt thanks on behalf of myself and the Committee for your patience and understanding during this time of crisis and uncertainty.

Keep well and keep safe

Rhoda