



# The Chesterfield Egyptology Society

Are proud to present a Day School on

## Tagging Temples “Egyptian temple graffiti in Karnak and beyond”

**Date:** Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> July at 10.30am.

The lecture lasts approximately 5hr and will include a break and Question and Answer session

**Speaker:** Dr. Elizabeth Froid: Associate Professor of Egyptology:

**Location:** Chesterfield Library

**Price :** £12 to all on the Door

£12 + Eventbrite fee if watching via the ZOOM platform

When was it okay to tag a temple? At an initial glance, in ancient Egyptian contexts, it seems like the answer might be “all the time.” This study day gives us the opportunity to explore whether or not this really is the case and, if even partially true, who these graffiti creators were, and why they chose the places they did to scribble their names or draw pictures. Often, when Dr Froid tells people she studies temple graffiti, after initial surprise they ask whether the graffiti is ever subversive; this is another question Dr Froid would like you to bear in mind over the course of the day.

Dr Froid will begin with an overview of graffiti practice in ancient Egypt more generally, especially in temples. She will also discuss recent developments in our recording techniques and the varying approaches taken to interpretation. More focused analyses will follow, drawing on case studies developed out of her fieldwork in the Amun temple complex of Karnak, undertaken in collaboration with the Centre Franco-Égyptien d'Étude des Temples de Karnak and codirected with Chiara Salvador (Montpellier). Through these case studies, we will examine, for example, possible distinctions between hiddenness (secrecy?) and visibility through placement and paint, interplays of text and image, clever graphic puns, and the relationship of graffiti to other traditional forms of non-royal self-presentation we are used to seeing (or imagining) in temples such as stelae and statues. These topics will, she hopes, reveal something of what different types of graffiti might do and mean for the many busy, bustling lives within a temple.



Elizabeth Froom is Associate Professor of Egyptology in the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, University of Oxford, Fellow of St Cross College, and Honorary Fellow of The Queen's College. Born in Aotearoa New Zealand, she received her first degrees from the University of Auckland-Waipapa Taumata Rau and her doctorate from the University of Oxford.

She writes on many aspects of nonroyal self-presentation and display, particularly for the late New Kingdom and Third Intermediate Period. Elizabeth codirects (with Chiara Salvador, Université Montpellier Paul-Valéry) the Karnak Graffiti Project in collaboration with the Centre Franco-Égyptien d'Étude des Temples de Karnak. She is the author of *Biographical texts from Ramesside Egypt* (2007) and articles on topics ranging from potters to religion.

The lecture can also be view via the ZOOM platform in the comfort of your own home.

Tickets for the ZOOM version can be purchased from Eventbrite using the below link.

[https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tagging-temples-tickets-1382030563619?aff=oddtcreator&utm\\_campaign=50532833](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/tagging-temples-tickets-1382030563619?aff=oddtcreator&utm_campaign=50532833)