

Editorial

We apologise for the delay in publishing this volume of *Buried History*. The good news is however that the next volume is already in preparation and will be produced before year end with amongst other papers, the 2006 Petrie Oration by Kathryn Eriksson.

This edition begins with the text of a lecture delivered at the Institute by Rosalind Janssen. Rosalind is an Egyptologist who has formally studied Gerontology, the study of ageing. As a result of this background, Rosalind has some interesting re-interpretations of material. Ageing seems to become of interest to everyone eventually and on the night of the presentation questions continued for a considerable length of time. One of the reasons for re-establishing the Institute was to provide a place for retired people to remain active in the study of the ancient world.

The unpacking of the Institute's museum collection has given rise to many discoveries and one is described by Lisa Mawdsley. Lisa is a doctoral student at Monash University and a member of the International Potmark Workshop established by Edwin van den Brink. The identification of pot-marks draws us to the recognition of individual potters who laboured so long ago on mundane objects that we now treasure.

In previous editions we have appreciated the papers on Kellis and its virtual reality reconstruction by the Centre for Archaeology & Ancient History, School of Historical Studies, and the Faculty of Information Technology, Monash University. This paper has an accompanying website that can be accessed to explore the reconstruction described in

the text. No excavation today can be reported without an attempt to visualise the place as it once was. This process is a discipline that all excavators now must embrace.

Scott Charlesworth breaks the Egyptology theme by discussing Christian manuscript practices. While his subject may continue to promote some controversy, we are pleased to have been able to support Scott's work and to publish this interesting and detailed paper.

Rupert Mann's essay on the cartonnage of the Institute's mummy was originally prepared as an undergraduate thesis. It has a number of interesting and useful observations and is accompanied by recently taken professional photographs. Rupert will not develop the subject further and in the context of undergraduate study was limited by the comparative material he had available. We thank those who have commented on his work and we include it as a student essay to assist those who may take up the subject in future.

Lamia al-Gailani Werr has honoured us with a review of Magnus Bernhardsson's recent book about the significance of archaeology in Iraq. Lamia worked in the Baghdad Museum as a young archaeologist and returned there after the looting as a consultant. She now advises UNESCO on matters relating to heritage in Iraq.

We acknowledge the work of our reviewers and thank them for their constructive comments.

Christopher Davey