Tell el-Amarna, 2014
By Barry Kemp

In the spring of 2014 the expedition returned to work at the Great Aten Temple. The programme combined re-clearance and fresh study of more of the area towards the front of the temple, accompanied by a continuation of the scheme to represent, in new materials, the original outlines of the building. This was followed by a period of study and conservation which embraced human bones and hair from the South Tombs Cemetery, decorated stone and mortar samples from the Great Aten Temple, and pottery from the South Tombs Cemetery and North Palace. Geological prospection in the desert hinterland was done to further understanding of the sources of gypsum and of indurated limestone at Amarna.

Theban Harbours and Waterscapes Survey, 2014
By Angus Graham, Kristian D. Strutt, Morag A. Hunter, Benjamin T. Pennington, Wilhelm H. J. Toonen and Dominic S. Barker

Report on the 2014 season of the Theban Harbours and Waterscapes Survey. The paper discusses topographic survey and data correction for the West Bank of Thebes and geoarchaeological investigation of the Temple of Millions of Years of Amenhotep III and the area to the east of the Ramesseum.

Prehistoric Sites along the Edge of the Western Nile Delta: Report on the Results of the Imbaba Prehistoric Survey 2013-14
By Joanne Rowland and G. J. Tassie

In the winter/spring of 2013 a new project was initiated by the lead author in the region of Merimde Beni Salama: the Imbaba Governorate Prehistoric Survey. This interdisciplinary survey focussed along the western Nile Delta desert edge, from the registered archaeological site of Merimde Beni Salama in the south, northwards to the modern town of el-Khatatbah and the el-Ahmes quarry area. This survey developed from previous research in the region by the EES Minufiyeh Archaeological Survey, when members of the team first visited the region in 2008. A second study season was also undertaken in the winter of 2014, and the third in autumn 2014; the results of the latter are not included here.
In 2009 the shaft of governor Djehutinaukht IV or V at Dayr al-Baršā was re-excavated. This tomb with its well-preserved funerary equipment had been discovered by George Reisner in 1915, and most of its contents are housed at the MFA in Boston. While the primary objective was the documentation of the architecture of the tomb, a deposit was found inside the shaft that had not been touched by Reisner (see Part 1 of this report in JEA 98 (2012), 55–72). Fowl bones, belonging to ducks and cranes, and pottery inside this deposit form the sole surviving remnants of food offerings in the burial of this Middle Kingdom governor. In addition, a number of human remains that had been carefully placed in the eastern side chamber of the shaft may have belonged to the wife of the governor, also named Djehutinaukht.
The Workmen’s Huts and Stratigraphy in the Valley of the Kings
By Stephen W. Cross

It is well known that at various locations and at various depths around the Valley are foci of workmen’s huts. As in some cases it is possible to date the hut horizons, these horizons themselves are extremely useful for recovering the stratigraphy of the Valley, especially the Central Area, in what otherwise would have been an unrecorded mass of levels. In a previous paper the writer described a flash flood that hit the Valley roughly around the end of the Eighteenth Dynasty.1 From the stratigraphy presented here, it is now possible to date this flood to an actual king’s reign. Correlation of excavations in the Valley also allows the construction of a new Stratigraphic Section of the Central Area with surprising consequences.

News from Parahotep: The Small Finds from his Tomb at Sedment Rediscovered
By Henning Franzmeier

In 1920/21, a team led by W. M. F. Petrie worked in the vast cemeteries of Sedment in Middle Egypt. Among the tombs discovered, tomb 201 is outstanding in size and can be compared to contemporary elite tombs at Saqqara. The complex contained the burial of the Ramesside vizier (Pa- ) Rahotep. Although the vizier and his family relations have been the subject of various discussions, the small finds from his tomb, today kept at Chicago’s Oriental Institute Museum, were never taken into account. This article presents the results of a re-examination of all known finds from the tomb, including the architectural elements. It focuses, however, on evidence of the people presumably buried in the tomb, as derived from the small finds. Of particular significance are two shabtis of a high priest of Osiris named Tjay. As Tjay was most probably not buried in tomb 201, the presence of these two figures points to new interpretations of the meaning of shabtis and the use of shabtis by a group of high-ranking officials in Ramesside Egypt.

Crocodile Breeding in the Crocodile Cults of the Graeco-Roman Fayum
By Michal Molcho

The discovery of thousands of crocodile mummies during excavations in the Fayum town of Tebtunis has raised questions as to where they were produced and by whom, and whether they were produced in an organised manner as part of the local crocodile cults. This article examines the textual and archaeological evidence for the breeding of crocodiles for mummification as votive offerings, and offers a reconstruction of what this practice may have entailed. The textual evidence in both Greek and Demotic is fragmentary, and sources related to contemporary animal cults complement the picture and provide an insight as to how this cultic practice operated. A recently discovered crocodile nursery in the town of Naromithus and the multitude of crocodile mummies discovered in crocodile cemeteries throughout the Fayum suggest that crocodile breeding may have been a large-scale enterprise. The examination of this evidence in the light of modern methods of crocodile and alligator breeding sheds new light on how breeding may have been carried out in the crocodile cults of the Graeco-Roman Fayum.
The Utilisation of Modern Forensic Imaging in the Investigation of Graeco-Roman Child Mummies
By Janet Davie, John T. Taylor, and Olaf H. Drummer

Modern medical technologies, including computerised tomography (CT) scanning, have provided the tools to examine the bodies of ancient mummified children. This study of 14 Graeco-Roman child mummies has offered an opportunity to investigate, for the first time, a corpus of remains that adds information to a field of investigation not previously recorded in such detail. The mummies have revealed preservation methods, as described by Herodotus, that have maintained the physical integrity of the bodies and shown evidence of a variety of mummification methods, from the most simple to the most elaborate. Inclusions have been identified that ranged from unidentified matter, linen, jewellery to organ packages. A wide range of peri-mortem and post-mortem injuries was observed, and in particular one injury, relating to the post-mortem positioning of the head, which may be used to assist with the identification of Graeco-Roman child mummies. The study demonstrated the value of revisiting investigations of ancient human remains through the application of modern forensic radiology techniques.

The Enigma of the Pleated Dress: New Insights from Early Dynastic Helwan reliefs
By Jana Jones

Recent study of Early Dynastic funerary relief slabs (or stelae) from the Memphite necropolis at Helwan has uncovered new evidence that addresses long-standing issues regarding the horizontally pleated, long-sleeved V-necked dress. The dress appears with surprising frequency in the archaeological record, but until now was not known from Egyptian monuments. The iconographic evidence on Second Dynasty Helwan reliefs showing tomb owners wearing dresses with short, pleated sleeves redresses this lacuna and challenges the notion that the dress was restricted to low status burials at provincial sites. The study has revealed a marked anomaly between the Early Dynastic period and the Old and Middle Kingdoms in relation to the demographic distribution of the dress and status of the individuals. Furthermore, the Early Dynastic 'linen lists' show that the dress appears in large numbers amongst the textile offerings. New interpretations of the transliteration and writing of the 'dress' sign are offered.
In the Nile valley and since the Neolithic period, ritual offerings and deposits have included oddly-shaped stones whose meaning is still little understood. Both unusually shaped stones and fossils are attested in the Nubian kingdoms, where their presence was thought to be limited to royal graves and temples. Recent finds at Sai Island and Sedeinga show that, in the kingdom of Meroe, such curiosities could be associated with other non-royal contexts. It is also shown that some of these stones were modified by hand, accentuating the resemblance to religious symbols. The evidence points at a more widespread use of these objects than previously assumed and serves as a reminder for archaeologists to document a new aspect of Kushitic ritual practices.
A Fresh Look at the Baal-Zaphon Stele
By Eythan Levy

This article discusses the Baal-Zaphon stele, a New Kingdom funerary stele from Ugarit, depicting a certain Mamy worshipping the Levantine god Baal-Zaphon. The object, though well known since the early twentieth century, lacks a recent detailed study. A new edition of the text is proposed here, based on parallel inscriptions and on a personal inspection of the stele at the Louvre. It also incorporates a fragment mentioned in 1938 by Montet but absent from subsequent editions of the text. Finally, the article discusses the iconography of the stele, its parallels, and the ambiguous relationship between Baal and Seth.

Urbanism and Temple Religion in Egypt: A Comment on Hierakonpolis
By Richard Bussmann

Hierakonpolis is a central place of Egyptian state formation and key for understanding urbanism and the emergence of sacred kingship in Egypt. Excavations and interpretation of the site focus on the Predynastic and Early Dynastic periods, while its later history is little explored. The article sets a review of the Middle Kingdom evidence from Hierakonpolis against a discussion of urbanism and temple religion in Egypt. Urbanism is defined as a driving force of the development and longevity of local temples. Unlike in Mesopotamia, however, it accounts less for the integration of different local gods in the Egyptian pantheon.

Heracles and the Hone: About a Foundation Deposit from the Temple of Thonis-Heracleion
By Anne-Sophie von Bomhard

A group of items found in a corner of the temple of Amon-Gereb at Thonis-Heracleion includes an earthenware statuette of Harpokrates with his wooden naos, surrounded by amulets. It constitutes an original collection of objects of particularly refined manufacture. The way in which this probable foundation deposit is composed could be related to the dynastic function of the temple.

Drei verlorene Schenkungsstelen in der Ägyptisch-en Sammlung Berlin
By Malte Römer

In the Berliner Ägyptischen Sammlung befanden sich einst drei Schenkungsstelen aus Pharbaits, Bubastis und Memphis, die im Zweiten Weltkrieg zerstört wurden: es handelt sich um die Stelen mit den Nummern ÄM 8438, 8439 und 2111. Zwei der Stelen wurden 1883 aus der Sammlung Posno erworben, die dritte 1843 aus der Sammlung d'Athanasi. Von diesen Stelen hat nur jeweils ein einziges Foto überlebt, von ÄM 8438 und 8439 zusätzlich noch jeweils ein Papierabdruck.
A new Demotic translation of (excerpts of) a chapter of the Book of the Dead*
By Joachim Friedrich Quack

The funerary papyrus BN 149 has long been known to contain mainly a Demotic translation of the Book of the Dead, chapter 125. Recently, its first section was identified as a translation of a composition otherwise sometimes associated with the so-called 'Book of Traversing Eternity'. Still, the description of a vignette and a short text inserted into chapter 125 have, up to now, defied identification. It is shown here that the latter is a Demotic translation of chapter 128 of the Book of the Dead, with substantial omissions, which are probably the work of a redactor who wished to fit the composition better to funerary usage. Furthermore, the vignette being described is the one belonging to chapter 148 of the Book of the Dead. Some special points concerning the translation of classical Egyptian words and verbal forms are discussed.

Ramses II Helps the Dead: An Interpretation of Book of the Dead Supplementary Chapter 166
By Jan-Michael Dahms, Martin Pehal and Harco Willems

As opposed to other studies, the authors approach the interpretation of Book of the Dead supplementary chapter 166 by taking the introductory part of the text—stating that it has been found 'on the neck of king Ramses II'—at face value. This has the implication that the text was found on the king's mummy, something that could only have happened on one of the several occasions it was reburied after the initial robtings around the end of the New Kingdom. The authors argue that the original text was probably not part of the original tomb contents of Ramses II, but that it was added to it during one of the earliest reburials, and discovered during a later one, probably shortly before the death of Pinodjem II. In this connection they pay special attention to the term Hm=k, which seems to be used in this text, not to refer to the private papyrus owner, but to the original royal one. This considerably affects the way the textual content can be interpreted. A new transliteration, translation and linguistic commentary are also provided. The analysis of the text illustrates the method of 'sequencing' which seems to prove very useful in reducing the number of interacting characters by disclosing shared structural patterns.

The Netjerikhet Stela and the Early Dynastic Cult of Ra
By Colin Reader

This paper presents an assessment of a distinctive standing stone which is currently on display in the Imhotep Museum, Saqqara. The prominent snake decoration of the stela is compared with other examples of snake stelae from Ancient Egypt, leading to the proposed identification of the monument as part of an Early Dynastic senut(i) shrine, a shrine associated with the cult of Ra.
The 'Horhotep Letters' from the Sacred Animal Necropolis at North Saqqara
By H. S. Smith, Cary J. Martin and Sue Davies

For Geoffrey T. Martin

The publication of four Demotic letters found during the Egypt Exploration Society's excavations at the site of the Sacred Animal Necropolis at North Saqqara between 1971–3.

A Unique Case of Perforated Bilateral Parietal Bone Thinning in a Third Intermediate Period Egyptian Mummy (Geneva Museum D 0242)
By Roger Seiler and Frank Rühli

Since the early nineteenth century, the Museum of Art and History in Geneva has held the mummy of the Lady Tjes-Mut-peret with her coffin (Third Intermediate Period). The mummy was unwrapped in 1824 and the detailed description of this operation mentions several pathological findings. A CT scan was performed in the University Hospital in Geneva in 2011 allowing for the findings of 1824 to be reinterpreted and complemented by the diagnosis of a bilateral parietal bone thinning of the skull.

New Kingdom Activities in the Kharga Oasis: The Scribe Userhat Travels Westwards
By Corinna Rossi and Salima Ikram

Notes on a New Kingdom graffito of a scribe, found along the Darb Ain Amur, an area between Kharga and Dakhla Oases.

From Steering Oar to Embalmer’s Tool: Re-identification of an Artefact
By Sofia Häggman, Salima Ikram, Johanna Bornholm, Sven Isaksson

The re-identification of a single steering oar from the Medelhavsmuseet in Stockholm, and a pair of oars in the British Museum.

Some Notes on a New Kingdom Ovoid Bottle in the Liverpool World Museum*
By Nicky Nielsen

Publication of a New Kingdom ovoid bottle in the World Museum (National Museums Liverpool) from Gurob, originally found by Petrie and later obtained by F. G. Hilton-Price and H. S. Wellcome. The fabric and stylistic parallels of the vessel as well as its collection history and archaeological context is investigated in an attempt to highlight the degree of information available by exploring traditionally less noteworthy pieces in museum collections. A function of the vessel is suggested on the basis of context, parallels and shape.
High and Low Niles: A Natural Phenomenon and Its Mythological Interpretation According to Plutarch, *De Iside et Osiride* 38 and Coffin Texts Spell 168
By Harco Willems

Plutarch's *De Iside et Osiride* 38 identifies the Nile with Osiris' bodily fluids, the riparian lands with Isis, the part of the floodplain closest to the desert with Nepthys, and the desert with Seth. Moreover, the Nile flood is interpreted as Osiris impregnating Isis with Horus and Nepthys with Anubis. This can be interpreted as a new source about Seth's impotence and Osiris' committing adultery with Seth's wife Nepthys. CT spell 168, a hitherto obscure text about 'joining the river banks,' may be rooted in the same atmosphere. The text seems to describe Isis and Nepthys as the two river banks, and may relate the low Nile to the impotence of Seth, whose testicles are said to be crushed by the hands of Shesmu.

A Hitherto Unlocated Roman Funerary Stela from Abydos Rediscovered
By Martin Bommas

Rediscovery of the stela Abdalla 108, thought lost, in the William R. and Clarice V. Spurlock Museum at the University of Illinois

By Robert Kuhn

During their excavation work at the Fifth Dynasty mortuary temple of Raneferef the Czech mission found some inscribed stone vessel fragments that refer to the former king Senefru but not to Raneferef himself. While working on the Abusir material in the Egyptian Museum in Leipzig, one stone vessel fragment made of diorite gneiss could be identified as also being inscribed with the name of Senefru. It is assumed that this one belongs to one of the Old Kingdom funerary complexes—perhaps even that of Raneferef. It is interesting to note the existence of inscribed stone vessels and sherds naming already deceased kings—a phenomenon which we know already from the time of the so-called formative phase in Egypt. This article presents the ‘rediscovered’ object from Leipzig and discusses the problem of ‘cultural re-use’ of such material.