

# Egyptian hieroglyphs: unlock the mystery



Explore the incredible story of the international race to decipher hieroglyphs!

Following a blockbuster show at the British Museum, Lisburn is proud to host this new touring exhibition telling the story of the decipherment of hieroglyphs.

This family friendly display features interactives and original Egyptian objects which are on view for the first time in Northern Ireland!

Decoding hieroglyphs from the Rosetta Stone has enabled generations of scholars to unlock the secrets of ancient Egypt.

Visitors will also have an opportunity to learn about Lisburn's connection to the tomb of Tutankhamun and its links to Egyptian linen.

Education workshops are Egyptian themed and explore the cultural significance of colour, Egyptian symbols and design.

Participants have an opportunity to be further inspired through a series of workshops, talks and programmes.

For detailed programme information please contact:

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[philip.simpson@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk](mailto:philip.simpson@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk)

For bookings: [ilc.reception@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk](mailto:ilc.reception@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk)

Tel. 028 9266 3377

**LCCC**  
Lisburn &  
Castlereagh  
City Council

The British  
Museum





# Drop-in Activities and Self-Directed Museum Galleries Trail:

There are several public activities throughout the duration of the exhibition which do not have to be booked:

## Activity: **FREE Drop-in Workshops**

Time: **10am - 4.30pm**

Dates: **Summer Programme 2023** (Friday 30 June to Monday 28 August)

Days: **Monday to Friday**

Location: **Old Shop Area Ground Floor**

Content: **A selection of ancient Egypt themed workshops will be available weekdays** (These are subject to change).

Badge Making	Important Egyptian gods and goddesses
Design your own cartouche!	Paper Activity: Use hieroglyphs to design a cartouche that reflects who you are!
Make your own pyramid	Paper Activity
Make your own headdress	Cut and Colour paper activity
Make your own mummy card	Cut and Colour paper activity
Make your own mummy mask	Colour paper activity
Collage Mosaic	Paper Tissue used to make a 3D collage
Colourful mosaic coasters	Sticky paper and card. Choose out of nine favourite Egyptian colours black, brown, green, grey, red, white, yellow and pink
Create your own tomb painting	Filling and colouring graph paper to replicate an Egyptian design
Make your own Egyptian jewellery	Paper and linen yarn used to make a friendship bracelet

Tuesday 29 August to Thursday 12 October

In order to accommodate Lisburn Museum's schools' programme, please note activities, times and locations change:

## Activity: **FREE Drop-in Workshops**

Time: **10am - 3.30pm**

Dates: **Tuesday 29 August to Thursday 12 October**

Days: **Monday to Friday**

Location: **Activities Gallery First Floor**

Content: **A selection of Ancient Egyptian themed workshops will be available weekdays** (These are subject to change).

Badge Making	Important Egyptian gods and goddesses
Make your own pyramid	Paper Activity
Make your own headdress	Cut and Colour paper activity
Make your own mummy mask	Colour paper activity
Collage Mosaic	Paper Tissue used to make a 3D collage
Create your own tomb painting	Filling and colouring graph paper to replicate an Egyptian design
Make your own Egyptian jewellery	Paper and linen yarn used to make a friendship bracelet

## Activity: **FREE Self-guided Museum Galleries Trail: Can you crack the code?**

Time: **9.30am - 4.30pm**

Days: **Monday to Friday**

Location: **Trail through the Museum galleries using your very own code book to find a hidden message- but you need to crack the code first!**

Content: **Once you have found the hidden message throughout the galleries and filled in your code book, you may proceed to Museum Reception to receive your "I cracked the Code" stamp.**



# Drop-in Activities and Self-Directed Museum Galleries Trail:

## Activity: **Dress like an Egyptian**

**Time: 9.30am – 4.30pm**

**Days: Monday to Saturday**

**Location: Activities Gallery First Floor**

**Content: Egyptian costumes** are available for dressing up. Take a photo. Our usual crafts table has two Egyptian themed crafts for families to do together: **Make a lotus flower** for your hair. The lotus flower was a symbol of the sun god and the pharaohs. Like the sun that sets in the evening and rises in the morning, the lotus flower blooms in the day and closes each night. **Make a crown**. Egyptian kings and goddesses are depicted wearing different crowns and headdresses. What colour would you like yours to be? Our other dressing-up and reading corner is always available here.

## BBC Egypt Screening

*Egypt* is a BBC television docudrama serial portraying the events in history of Egyptology from the 18th through to the early twentieth century. It originally aired on Sunday nights at 9 pm on BBC1 in 2005. The first two episodes explore the work of Howard Carter and his archaeological quest in Egypt in the early part of the twentieth century. The final two episodes dramatise the discovery and deciphering of the Rosetta Stone by Jean-François Champollion. Lisburn Museum will be showing episodes 1 and 2 and 5 and 6 as these relate directly to the exhibition.

**Episode 1 the Search for Tutankhamun**

**Episode 2 the Curse of Tutankhamun**

**Episode 5 the Temple of the Sands**

**Episode 6 the Mystery of the Rosetta Stone**

## Screening Details

Dates: **Monday to Saturday 30 June to Thursday 12 October 2023**

Times: **10am to 4pm**

Location: **Old Café north-side gallery**

Max Numbers: **10**

Schedule: **10am-12pm Episodes 1 and 2**  
**12pm-2pm Episodes 5 and 6**  
**2pm-3pm Episodes 1 and 2**  
**3pm-5pm Episodes 5 and 6**

# Staff Guided Schools & Groups Programme Tuesday 29 August – Thursday 12 October

School Programming lasts for two hours and includes a tour, gallery trail and workshop(s). Teachers can tailor this to suit the ages and abilities of the children.

## Tour of Egyptian hieroglyphics: unlock the mystery (30 mins):

Education staff will walk groups through these iconic objects from the British Museum. They will explain the importance of the Rosetta Stone in deciphering hieroglyphs which opened up a new world of understanding the life and times of ancient Egypt.

The exhibition will provide a background to the nine British Museum objects on display:

- I. Limestone lintel of Rameses III
- II. Fragment of the stela of Horiraa
- III. Sycamore fig wood stela
- IV. Wooden figure of a couple
- V. Limestone block of the official Sathathor
- VI. Limestone ancestor bust of Muteminet
- VII. The Greenfield Papyrus Book of the Dead of Nestanebetisheru, frame 28
- VIII. Limestone ostrakon with a sketch of a red bull in red pigment
- IX. Wooden drawing board

**If you would like to find out what a stela and an ostrakon are or to know more about ancient Egyptian gods, goddesses and beliefs. Or, about the importance of the Nile to Egyptian life this exhibition will delight and inform!**

## Galleries Trail (20mins):

**Can you crack the code?** The trail around the Museum's galleries will point out Lisburn's connection with Howard Carter who discovered the tomb of Tutankhamun as well as other Egyptian related items from Lisburn Museum's collections. Children are challenged to find a hidden message, record their findings in their very own code book and- if they crack the code- they will receive a **"I cracked the Code" stamp**.

## Egyptian Themed Workshops (1 hour)

Activities are designed to provide context to aspects of ancient Egyptian life using arts, crafts and hands-on activities to get a sense of how Egyptians recorded their world. Workshops help us to understand how important cracking the hieroglyphic code was in raising our understanding of the ancient Egyptians. We are still learning! How do we know pharaohs preferred white clothes to coloured ones? What plants and minerals formed the colours used tomb paintings? All workshops will include an explanation of links to ancient Egypt. Choose up to two from a selection of twenty workshops: activities are colour coded in terms of difficulty but depend on the interest and abilities of the children:

Suitable for Foundation and Key Stage 1 P1s to P4

Cut and stick. Copy and paste

Suitable for Key Stage 1 and 2 P3 to P7

Write. Cut. Design. Manipulate

Suitable for Key Stage 2 and 3 P5-Y8

Write. Calculate. Decipher. Design Engineer



# Egyptian Themed Workshops for Schools and Groups

1	Design your own cartouche!	Paper Activity: Using hieroglyphs to design a cartouche that reflects who you are!	20mins
2	Made your own pyramid.	Paper Activity	20mins
3	Make your own headdress	Cut and Colour paper activity	15mins
4	Make your own mummy card	Cut and Colour paper activity	15mins
5	Collage Mosaic	Paper Tissue used to make a 3D collage.	30mins
6	Colourful mosaic coasters	Sticky paper and card. Choose out of nine favourite Egyptian colors black, brown, green, grey, red, white, yellow and pink.	20mins
7	Design your own Rosetta Stone	Clay Activity: Select from a range of alphabets to design your own Rosetta Stone.	25mins
8	Horizontal weaving, just like the Egyptians	Card Weaving. Weaving the Egyptian way	30mins
9	Create your own tomb painting.	Graph paper. Filling and colouring boxes to replicate an Egyptian design.	20mins
10	Coaster Tile Mosaic	Tiles and clay work to create a coaster with Egyptian colours and symbols.	30mins
11	Make your own horizontal loom.	Shoebox, coloured wool. The Egyptians used horizontal looms why not create and weave on your own?	30mins
12	Make your own shaduf (group challenge to see who can get it working without spilling water!)	How did the Egyptians get water from the Nile? They used a shaduf! This version uses wood, plasticine and dowelling rods	25mins
13	Make your own Egyptian jewellery	Paper, linen yarn and beads used to make a friendship bracelet	30 mins
14	Design your own Rosetta Stone	Paper Activity: Using the alphabet from a selection of languages to translate your name or message onto your own Rosetta "stone" English, Irish, Greek, French, Portuguese, German, Spanish and Braille	25mins
15	Clay Canopic Jars	Clay workshop to recreate objects from Egyptian tombs	45mins

16	Design your own amulet.	In between the wrappings of linen used for mummification were amulets, good luck charms used to help on the journey to the Afterlife. Pick your symbol and imprint it onto clay.	25mins
17	Which gods were for what?	Hands on. A fun matching exercise matching statements to ancient Egyptian god and goddesses	25mins
18	Designing like an Egyptian	Can you tell your cubit from your cubes? Plotting co-ordinates to create a design. Designers had a fun way of measuring. Using some of their ideas, you can plot a design on point paper (like graph paper) and create your own	25mins
19	Natural Dyeing	Working with linen fabric. The Egyptians used minerals and plants to create vibrant colours. Looking at similar colours but different ways of creating them today you will create your own Egyptian colour chart	25mins
20	Inkle loom weaving (max numbers 15)  Card Weaving	Difficult but rewarding! Mastering the art of horizontal weaving- just like the Egyptians to create a friendship bracelet.	25mins



# Community Participation Opportunities

Want to get involved? Lisburn Museum is offering free programmes and some community engagement opportunities during the *Egyptian Hieroglyphs: unlock the mystery* exhibition.

## Talks Programme

Experts on ancient Egypt will also be available to share their knowledge through a series of talks:

**Date:** 7.00 pm

**Location:** Assembly Room

**Cost:** FREE but must be booked in advance. Admission by ticket only

**Full Details:** Lisburn Museum's social media

**Website:** [www.lisburnmuseum.com](http://www.lisburnmuseum.com)

**Facebook:** IrishLinenCentreAndLisburnMuseum

**Twitter:** Lisburn\_Museum

**Instagram:** lisburnmuseum

**Date:** Thursday 29 June

## Hieroglyphs: unlocking ancient Egypt

**Speaker:** Dr Ilona Regulski, Curator of Egyptian Written Culture at the British Museum.

Roman and Greek authors, who could not read hieroglyphics, believed them to be symbolic rather than linked to the sound of spoken language, a belief that went unquestioned and effectively obstructed access to Egypt's written sources for centuries. The discovery of the Rosetta Stone in 1799 and its subsequent decipherment, provided the decisive key to unlocking the meaning of the mysterious characters. The talk will chart the race to decipherment...

**Date:** Friday 15 September

## Egypt: Land of the Gods, Pharaohs, and Wonderful Things

**Speaker:** Dr Ken Griffin, Curator at the Egypt Centre, Swansea.

Ancient Egypt is one of the most fascinating and mysterious civilizations in history. Its rich culture has captured the imagination of people for centuries. This talk will explore the many wonders of ancient Egypt, from its towering pyramids and temples to pharaohs and its complex pantheon of gods. We will begin by discussing the geography of ancient Egypt and how its location on the Nile River shaped its culture and history.

**Dr Griffin** has also agreed to give a special talk for school children. Request for places to [emma.breadon@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk](mailto:emma.breadon@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk)

**Date:** Friday 15 September

**Time:** 11am - 12pm

**Location:** Assembly Room

**Cost:** FREE

**Date:** Friday 29 September

## The Life and Times of Takabuti in ancient Egypt and in Belfast

**Speaker:** Prof. Eileen Murphy, Queen's University Belfast

Within Northern Ireland Takabuti needs no introduction. Since her arrival in Belfast in 1834, the mummified remains of the young upper-class Egyptian woman from the tumultuous 25th Dynasty, around 600BC, has instilled a fascination with the incredible culture of ancient Egypt.

**Prof. Murphy** has also agreed to give a special talk for school children.

To request seats please contact: [emma.breadon@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk](mailto:emma.breadon@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk)

Places allocated on a first come basis.

**Date:** Friday 29 September

**Time:** 11am - 12pm

**Location:** Assembly Room

**Cost:** FREE



## Saturday Afternoon Film Programme

### Talks Programme

Experts on ancient Egypt will also be available to share their knowledge through a series of talks:

**Dates: Saturdays 11, 16, 23 and 30th September**

**Location: Assembly Room**

**Time: Start 3pm** (running times vary)

**Cost: FREE but must be booked in advance online or through Museum Reception**

Films sometimes have stereotypical view of ancient Egypt. This selection of films looks at various creative interpretations of ancient Egypt from 1937 to 2023. Do we need to see films in context of their audience and time? Are films just for fun or do they have a role in helping us to understand or misunderstand other cultures? Guests are invited to leave their feedback after each film.

**11 September**

**Prince of Egypt** animation (1998) Cert U.

Running Time 99mins.

This Dreamworks animation animates the story of Moses from the Biblical book of Exodus. Jeffrey Katzenberg's passion project aims to use animation for more mature stories. He used upwards of 400 consultants to get the story right. Everything from the accuracy of hieroglyphics to the wording was designed to widen access to the story.

**16 September**

**Boris Karloff in The Mummy** (1937). Cert 15

Running Time 2hrs.

**12 September**

**Brendan Fraser in The Mummy** (1999). Cert PG-13.

Running Time 2 hrs

**30 September**

**Charleton Heston in The Ten Commandments** (1956). Cert U.

Running Time c. 4hrs

**Part One: 3pm to 5pm**

and then refreshments will be offered in a 20 minute comfort break.

**Part Two: 5.20pm**

Due to the length of the film, it is not suitable for very young children.

This telling of the story of Moses whilst a cinematic interpretation, hints at issues of cultural interpretation, identity and belonging. Enjoyed for generations, we would love to know your views if this 1950s classic still has significance in a modern world.

**Entrance to all films is FREE however tickets must be booked in advance online at [www.lisburnmuseum.com](http://www.lisburnmuseum.com) or through Lisburn Museum Reception.**

## Ancient Egyptian Inspired Quilt: From Land to Loom

As Lisburn is one of only three UK venues to host **Egyptian hieroglyphs: unlock the mystery** exhibition, in keeping with our community engagement ethos, we wish to encourage the community to mark this event. The quilt project is an opportunity for the public to contribute to Lisburn Museum's textile collection and archives for future generations to enjoy. In this way, participation in this exhibition inspired programme is permanently recorded.

You can get involved in two ways:

Take part in our **From Land to Loom Community Quilt** project. Whether you are confident at needle skills or not, staff will help you create a panel for a quilt without having to sew! Themes can be around land and landscape, and linen making either local or Egyptian.

### Workshops

**Dates: Tuesday afternoons 12, 19, 26 September and 3 October**

**Duration: 2 hrs**

**Maximum Number: 20 each workshop**

**Quilt Displayed: December 2023**

**Location: Lisburn Museum**

**Cost: FREE**

Places allocated on a first come, first served basis. The quilt will form part of a community display in Lisburn Museum from 1 December 2023.

### Community Creativity

If textiles are not your thing, why not use your own creative interests to contribute to a community display which will be available at Lisburn Museum from 1 December 2023?

Are you interested in art, writing or crafting? The Egyptian hieroglyphs: unlock the mystery exhibition is not only significant in telling the story of how decoding hieroglyphs gave us access to an ancient world, it captures the public imagination. For the first time local audiences have the opportunity to view original objects from the British Museum, Lisburn Museum would like to include community responses to the exhibition in written and visual form. Inspired to create? Please share your creations with us.

### Further Information:

#### Schools and Programming and Bookings Information

Please contact Emma Breadon, Assistant Education Officer.

E: [emma.breadon@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk](mailto:emma.breadon@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk)

#### Talks Programme

Please contact Dr Ciaran Toal, Keeper of Collections

E: [ciaran.toal@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk](mailto:ciaran.toal@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk)

**To Book:** Contact [ilc.reception@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk](mailto:ilc.reception@lisburncastlereagh.gov.uk)

Tel: 028 92663377 or visit: [www.lisburnmuseum.com](http://www.lisburnmuseum.com)





For detailed Information on programming contact:  
Emma or Philip Tel: 028 9266 3377

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