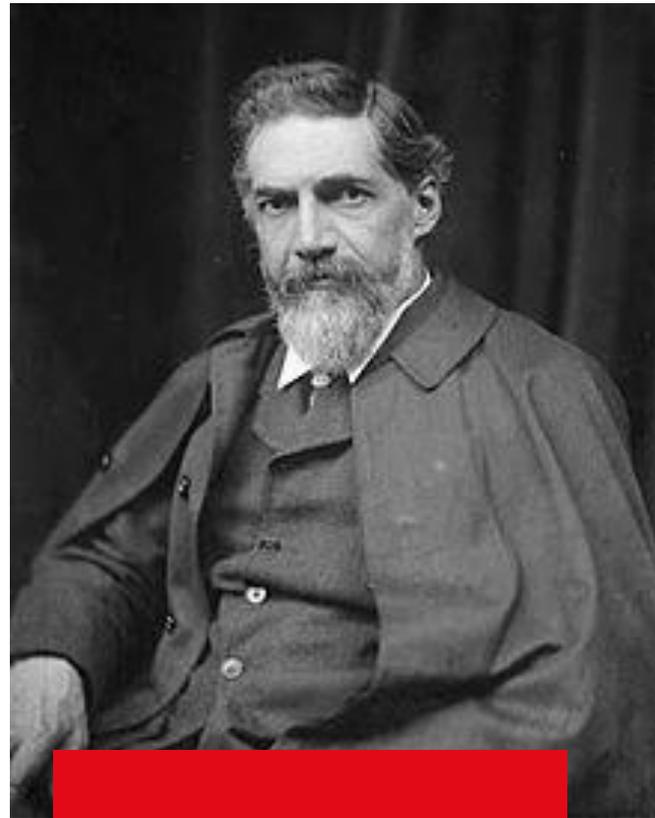


# Spies in the Sand

## Archaeology and Espionage in the Middle East during the First World War



# Lesson One- How well did Flinders Petrie prepare his “pups” for war?



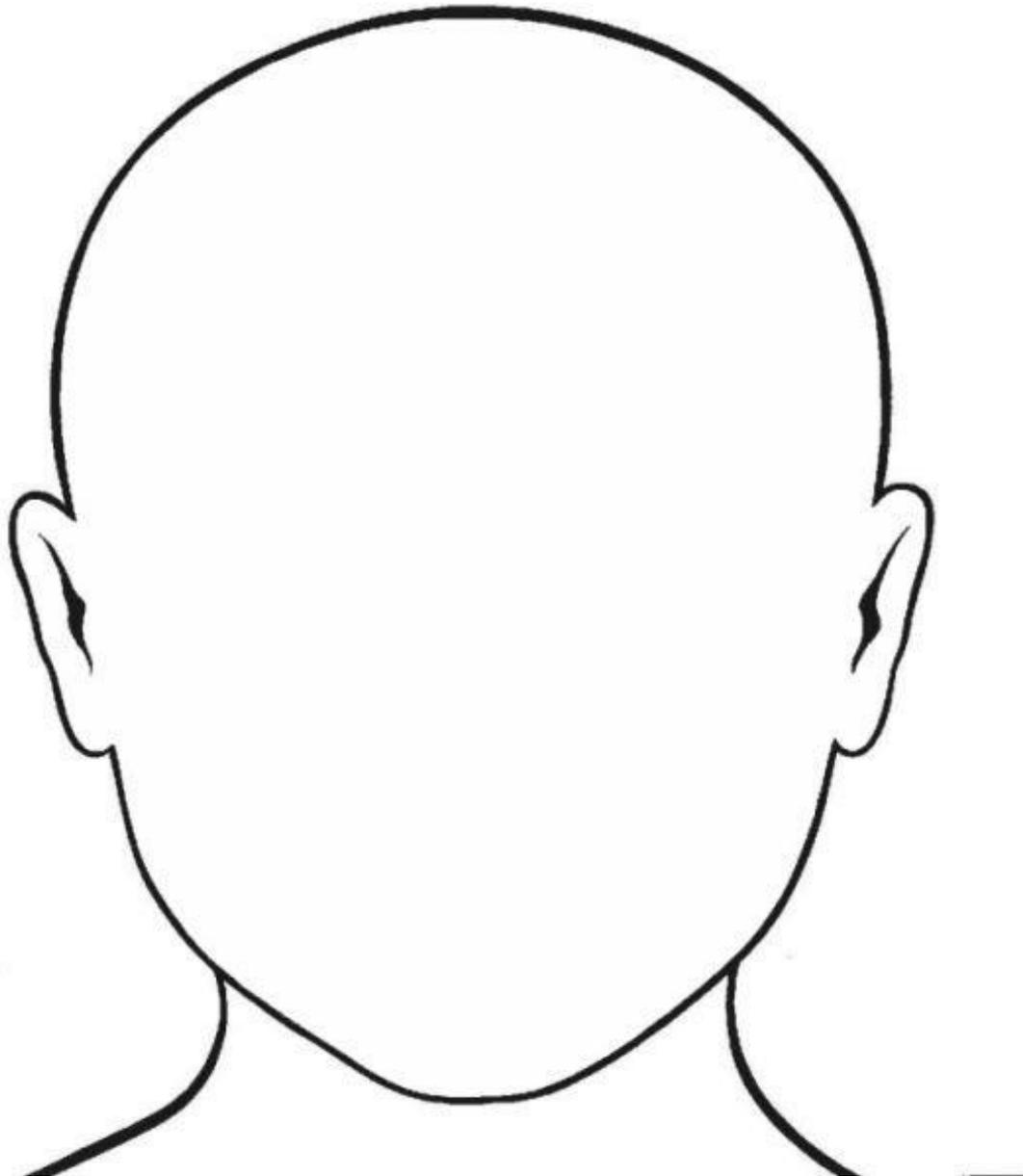
# What makes a good spy?



• *Credit: NYTrotter*

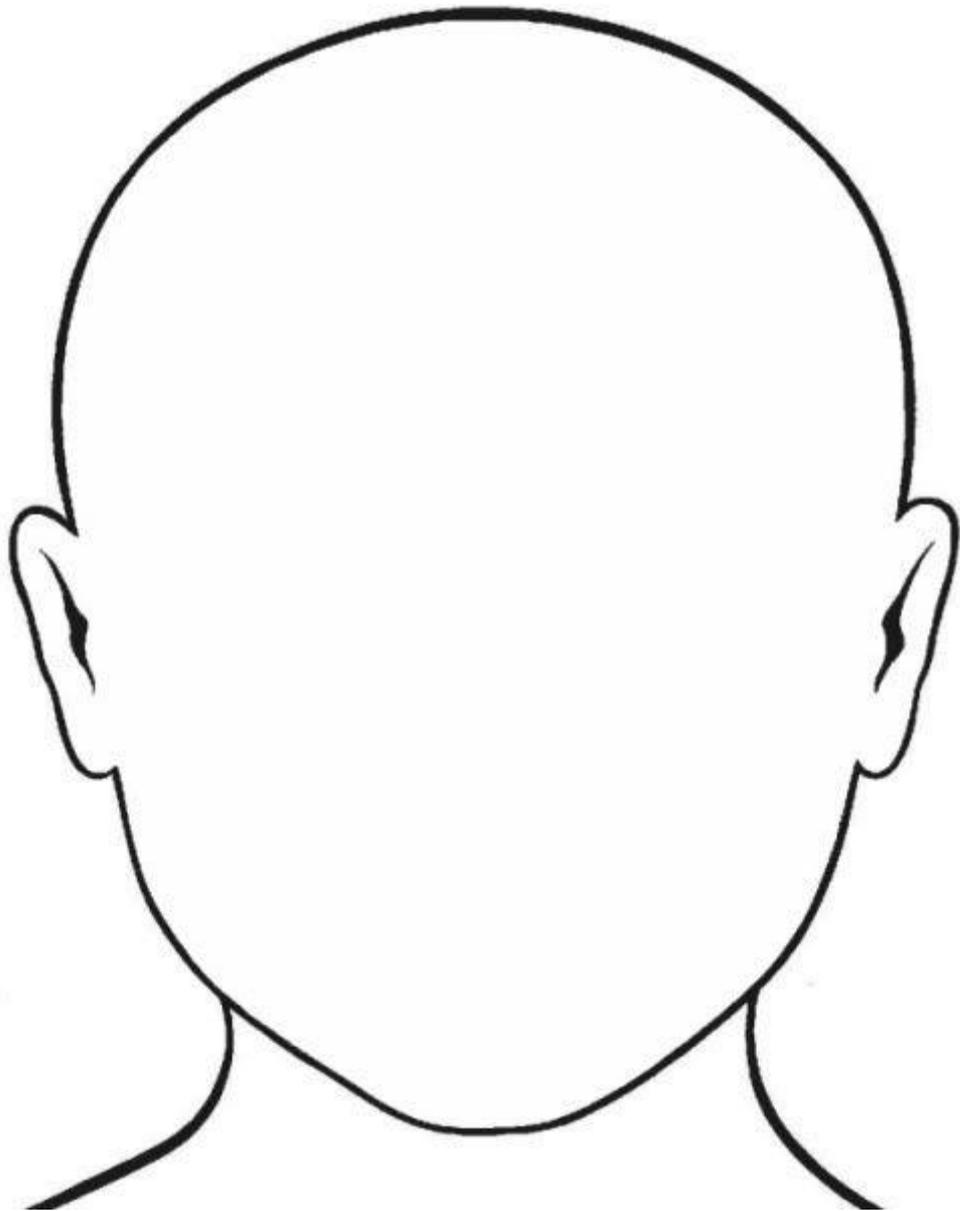


• *Credit; Augustas Didzgalvis*



# What makes a good archaeologist?

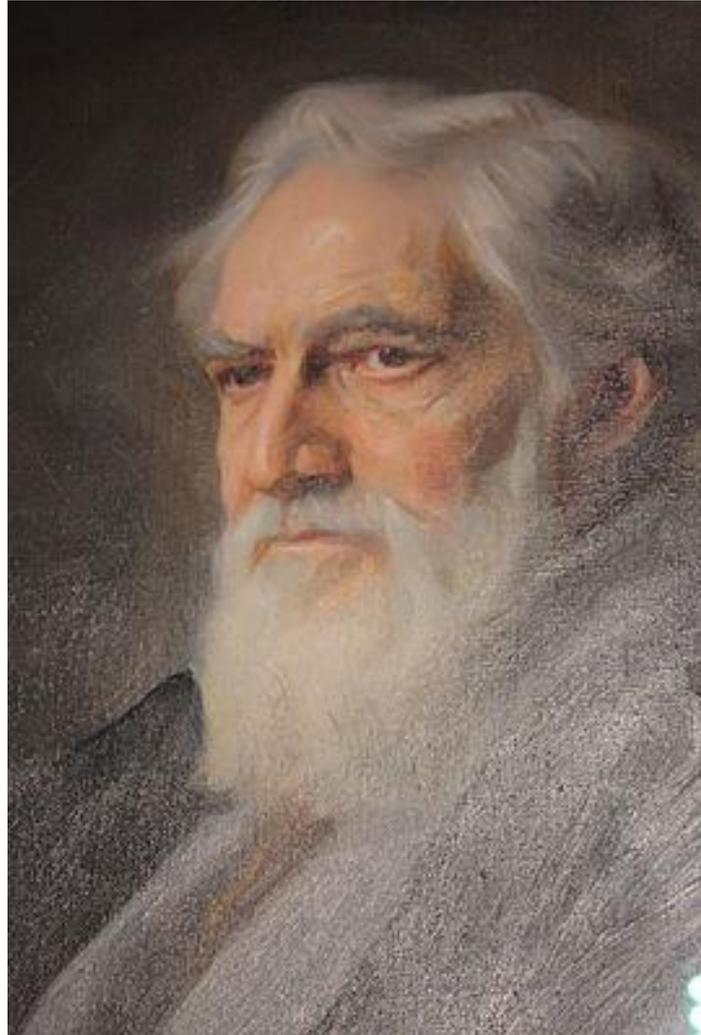




# What makes a good archaeologist?

- education combining scholarship (*the ability to study*) and engineering;
- a strong historical sense;
- the ability to organise;
- Acute (*sharp*) powers of observation and an accurate visual memory;
- the ability to draw accurately;
- skill in surveying, plan drawing and photography;
- knowledge of physics and chemistry;
- own knowledge of the written language(s) of the ancient civilisation and the spoken language of the modern inhabitants;
- readiness to work long hours in uncomfortable circumstances, with clothes to suit the work, without regard to appearance;
- he should live alongside his men within and outside work hours, every worker should be able to come to him at all times for help and advice, he should pay continuous attention to the many small troubles of the workers and act as court of appeal (*act as a judge*).

# Was Flinders Petrie a good archaeologist?



# Flinders Petrie's parents



# Flinders Petrie`s parents

William Matthew Flinders Petrie was born on 3 June 1853. He was the only child of William Petrie, an electrical engineer, scientist and inventor and Anne Flinders, daughter of Captain Matthew Flinders, a famous explorer of the Australian coastline. She spoke fluent German, Italian, Hebrew, Greek, Spanish and Portuguese. Anne was also interested in ancient Egypt. The family had enough money to travel and enjoy life.

# Flinders Petrie as a boy (1853-1865)

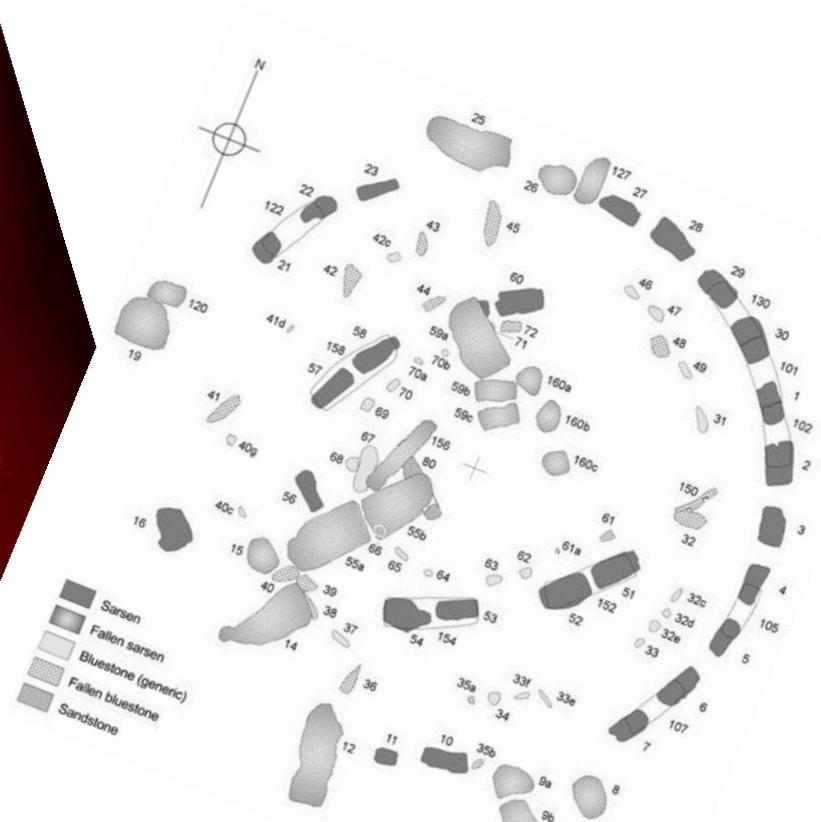
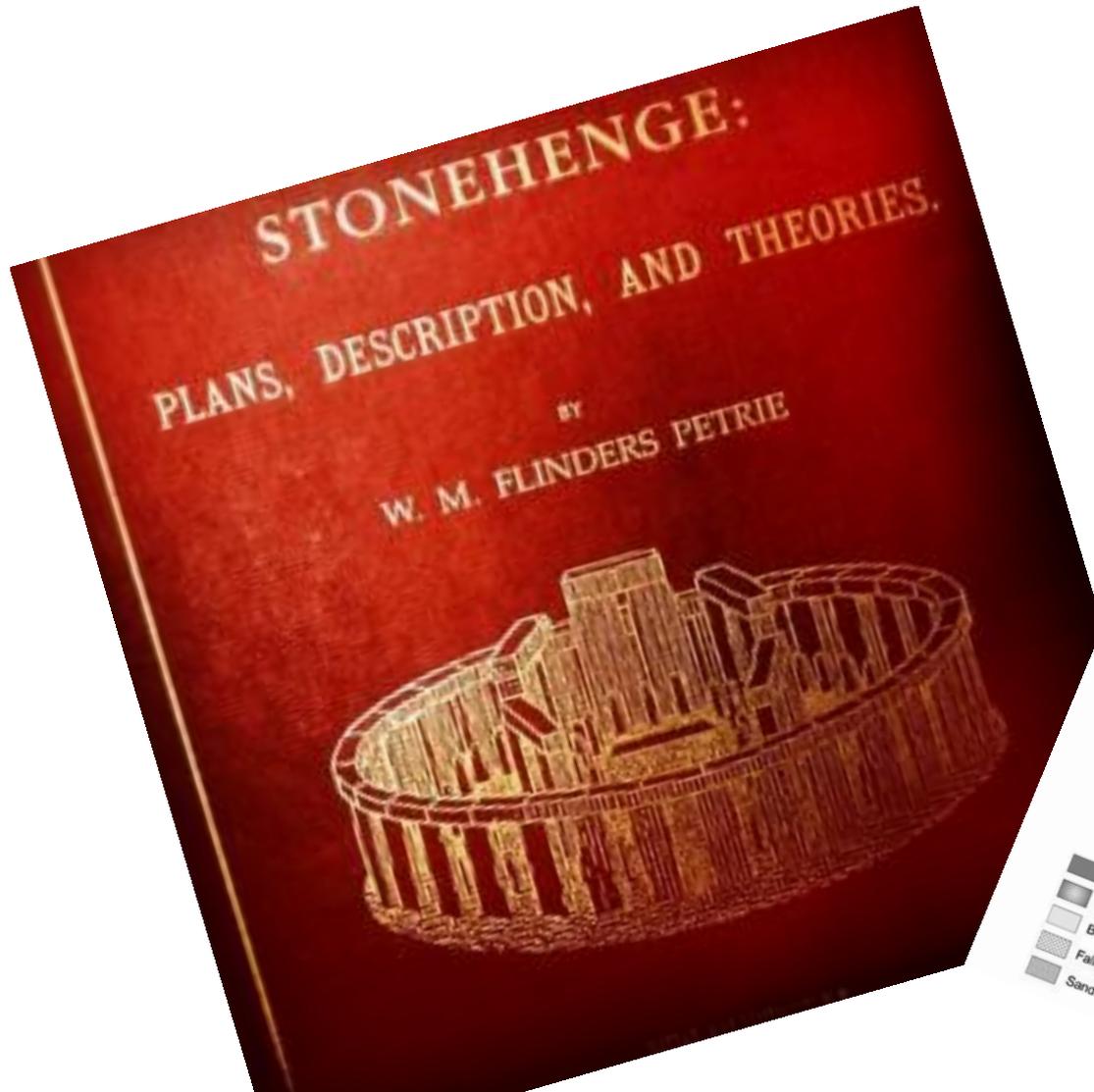


# Flinders Petrie as a boy (1853-1865)

Flinders Petrie was not a strong child and never went to school. He was educated at home in a strict Christian household. At the age 8 he was taught French, Latin and Greek . His father taught him surveying skills. He would have studied the Bible. Petrie was fascinated by weights and measures.

Later Petrie wrote "When I was eight, a little boy of 10 used to come visit us..... and he described the unearthing of a Roman villa in the Isle of Wight; I was horrified at hearing of the rough shovelling out of the contents and protested that the Earth ought to be pared away (*taken off very carefully*) inch by inch, to see all that was in it and how it lay"

# Flinders Petrie as a teenager (1865-1873)



# Flinders Petrie as a teenager (1865-1873)

- Petrie surveyed a grassy hill fort near his home called British Camp. After that he surveyed other ancient monuments around Britain with his father. In 1872 At the age of 19 Petrie produced an accurate survey of Stone Henge and invented the numbering system still used for the stones today. Petrie became fascinated with the mathematics that the ancient Egyptians must have used to help build the great Pyramids. He later wrote that "it was this interest which led my father to encourage me to go out and do the survey of the Great Pyramid".

# Petrie in his 20s (1873-1883)



## **Petrie in his 20s (1873-1883)**

After years of planning, Petrie arrived in Egypt to survey the pyramids in December 1880. He was horrified how much archaeological evidence was being destroyed by looting and carelessness. He worked out new ideas about how the pyramids were built based on his surveys and criticised old ideas that were not backed up by archaeological evidence.

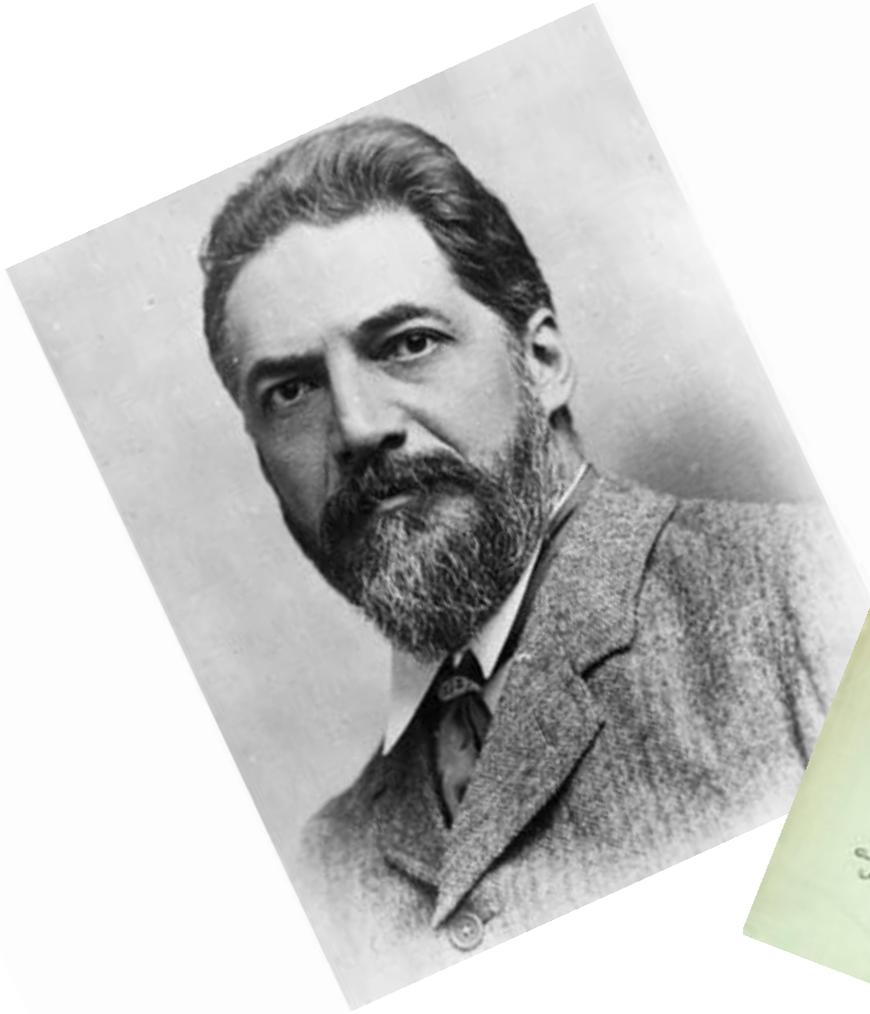
# Petrie in his 30`s (1883-1893)



# Petrie in his 30`s (1883-1893)

Petrie continued digging in Egypt which was partly paid for through the newly formed Egypt Exploration Fund. He made friends with the fund`s wealthy backer, Amelia Edwards. When she died in 1892 her money paid for Petrie to become the first Professor of Egyptology at University College London. Petrie was popular with Egyptian workers who helped with archaeological digs. This was because he encouraged them to be as **thorough** as possible, rather than just as **fast** as possible. It meant that more was sometimes discovered and that greater care was taken to preserve what was found.

# Petrie in his 40`s (1893-1903)



# Petrie in his 40`s (1893-1903)

Petrie continued his excavations in Egypt and found so much material that he had to develop new systems for organising it. Every object found was recorded and carefully drawn. Petrie developed a numbering system for pots. He noticed how particular styles of pot came from particular periods in Egyptian history. He put drawings of different kinds of pots into timelines showing when they were produced. This helped to date pots more accurately. This system of **seriation** is still used in archaeology today. Petrie said "I believe the true line of research lies in the noting and comparison of the smallest detail "In 1896 Petrie was the first archaeologist to use **x-rays** on human remains.

# Petrie in his 50`s (1903-1913)



## **Petrie in his 50`s (1903-1913)**

During 1905 and 1906 Petrie set up the British School of Archaeology in Egypt. He continued to make important discoveries. He also trained many students in his methods who became known as his "pups".

**Pup 1**  
**Howard Carter**  
**(1874-1939)**



- **Background:** Howard Carter came from a family of professional artists and was brought up in Norfolk.
- **Education:** Carter was a sick child and educated at home.
- **University;** Did not attend
- **Training and work:** Carter earned money from drawing at the age of 15. Carter`s interest in archaeology came from seeing a collection of ancient Egyptian art and papyri (papers) in the home of a rich local family who bought art work from his father. An Egyptologist (expert on Ancient Egypt) saw his drawings and asked Carter to help him with pencil sketches of Egyptian wall paintings kept at the British Museum. In 1891 at the age of 17 Carter made his first trip to Egypt as an assistant artist on an archaeological expedition. Carter went on to be trained as an archaeologist in Egypt by Flinders Petrie. From 1899 to 1905 Howard Carter was an archaeological inspector responsible for protecting archaeological sites. In 1907 Carter was hired as an archaeologist by Lord Carnarvon for work in Egypt's Valley of the Kings and was noted for his thorough recording of sites and finds.



# Pup 2 – Gerald Avery Wainwright (1879-1964)

- **Background;** Wainwright was born in to middle class family who ran their own timber company.
- **Education;** Wainwright went to a private school (Clifton College) in Bristol.
- **University;** Wainwright studied Egyptian and Coptic languages at University College Bristol.
- **Training and work;** For a time Wainwright worked in the family business. At the age of 28 he went to Egypt on his own and joined one of Petrie`s excavations paying for his accommodation with his own money. He later did paid work with Petrie in Egypt until 1912 when he went to study at Oxford University. Petrie said of Wainwright "he is better fit (*able*) to take up my line of work (*archaeology*) than anyone I have yet had....".

Pup 3

Battiscombe

George Gunn (1883-1950)



- **Background;** Gunn was born to a rich middle-class family in London.
- **Education;** Gunn was educated at private schools. He was good at learning languages at an early age and at 14 while still in school began to read Egyptian hieroglyphs.
- **University;** Gunn went on to study hieroglyphs under Petrie at University College London.
- **Training and work;** Gunn afterward translated important ancient Egyptian writings.

**Pup 4**  
**Margaret Murray**  
**(1863-1963)**



- **Background;** Murray was born into a rich middle-class English family in Calcutta in British- ruled India.
- **Education;** Murray had no formal education
- **University;** Later in life in 1894 she began studying Egyptology at University College London and developed a friendship with Flinders Petrie.
- **Training and work;** Murray had already trained and worked as a nurse and social worker. Petrie encouraged her to publish her writing and appointed her Junior Professor in 1898 (it was very rare for women to be given such jobs then). In 1902 she went out to Egypt with Petrie and helped him to make important archaeological discoveries which she wrote and spoke about in public.

**Pup 6**  
**Thomas**  
**Edward Lawrence**



- **Background;** Lawrence was born as the illegitimate son of an Irish Lord (this meant his parents were not married when he was born). There was prejudice against illegitimate children which could make it harder for them to succeed in life.
- **Education;** Lawrence went to state school in Oxford. As a boy Lawrence and a friend checked building sites in Oxford and presented their finds to the Ashmolean Museum.
- **University;** Lawrence studied history at Oxford University between 1907 and 1910 (though he was sometimes short of money). In the summer of 1909 Lawrence set out alone on a walking tour of mediaeval castles in Syria (then part of the Turkish Empire). His studies there helped to win him a First Class degree in History.
- **Training and work;** In 1910 Lawrence studied Arabic and assisted David Hogarth of the British Museum excavating the site of Carchemish in Syria. In 1912 Lawrence worked briefly with Flinders Petrie in Egypt. In 1914 Lawrence went as an assistant archaeologist with his friend Leonard Woolley in to the Negev Desert between British- ruled Egypt and Turkish- ruled Palestine. They both knew that the Royal Engineers soldiers on the same expedition were also surveying the local countryside to make accurate maps in case war broke out between Britain and the Turkish Empire.



# Pup 7 -Rupert

## Duncan Willey (1886-1919)

- **Background;** Willey was born in London.
- **Education;** He was educated in a private school in Cambridge.
- **University;** studied theology (the study of God) at Cambridge University. He won prizes at for being good at the ancient Greek and Hebrew languages. He went on to study in Germany before going on to learn Arabic at the University of London.
- **Training and work;** Wiley took part in Egyptian excavations in Egypt in 1913.

## Fellow Archaeologist 1- Leonard Woolley (1880 to 1960)



- **Background;** Leonard Woolley was the son of a London vicar.
- **Education;** He was educated at a private school.
- **University;** Woolley attended Oxford University.
- **Training and work;** In 1905 he became an assistant at the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford and in 1906 again excavating a Roman site near Hadrian's wall, his first experience of an archaeological dig. Woolley later travelled to Egypt and between 1912 and 1914 excavated a site at Carchemish in northern Syria with Thomas Edward Lawrence as his assistant. In 1914 with Lawrence again as his assistant Woolley was sent as an archaeologist in to the Negev Desert between British ruled Egypt and Turkish ruled Palestine. Woolley and Lawrence both knew that the Royal Engineers soldiers on the same expedition were also surveying the local countryside to make accurate maps in case war broke out between Britain and the Turkish Empire.

**Fellow Archaeologist 2-  
David George Hogarth  
(1960 -1927)**



- **Background;** Hogarth was the son of a Yorkshire vicar.
- **Education;** Hogarth was educated at a private school.
- **University;** He attended Oxford University.
- **Training and work;** Between 1887 to 1907, Hogarth travelled to take part in excavations in Cyprus, Crete (Greece), Egypt ,Syria and on the coast of what is now Turkey. Hogarth was director of the British School (of Archaeology) at Athens for three years from 1897. He was Keeper (in charge) of the Ashmolean Museum in Oxford from 1909.

## Fellow Archaeologist 3- Gertrude Bell (1868- 1926)



- **Background;** Gertrude Bell was the daughter of Sir Hugh Bell, a wealthy factory owner and landowner in County Durham, northern England.
- **Education;** She went to private school in London.
- **University;** At the age of 17 Bell studied Modern History at Oxford, gaining a first class degree in just two years.
- **Training and work;** . After she left Oxford well travelled the world, climbing mountains in Switzerland and becoming fluent in Arabic, Persian French, German, Italian and Turkish. Bell visited Arabia six times and published a book of her travels of the Middle East with descriptions and photographs. It was highly unusual and risky for European women to be travelling alone like this.

# Fellow Archaeologist 4-Charles Harry Pirie-Gordon (1883-1969)

- **Background;** Harry Pirie-Gordon was born to a wealthy Scottish family of landowners.
- **Education;** Harry Pirie-Gordon was born to a wealthy Scottish family of landowners.
- **University;** He studied archaeology at Oxford and visited Morocco with a friend in 1901 while still at university.
- **Training and work;** Pirie-Gordon spoke Arabic and in 1908 visited Syria (then part of the Turkish Empire to survey mediaeval castles there, producing an accurate map of the region. He went on to become a journalist reporting on foreign politics for The Times newspaper and travelled widely in the Middle East. He took part in a survey of the Syrian coast to produce more accurate maps of the area.

# Fellow Archaeologist 5-Reginald Campbell Thompson (1876-1941)

- **Background;** Reginald Campbell Thompson was born in to the family of a middle class London doctor.
- **Education;** He was educated in private schools and became captain of the schools rifle team. At school he became fascinated in the study of the Assyrians, an ancient people and empire of the Middle East.
- **University;** Thompson studied ancient languages at Cambridge University and won special prizes.
- **Training and work;** Between 1889 and 1905 Campbell Thomson was an assistant at the British Museum. During and after this he took part in important archaeological excavations in Egypt and Turkey.