

- Skipton Archaeology Museum Opening times October-March: Mon, Wed-Fri 12:00-16:00, Sat 10:00-16:00.

Events in Skipton

All information provided by Skipton Castle: A Complete Medieval Fortress (<http://tinyurl.com/7v2nc5>) - some may need to be pre-booked.

- 27th & 28th March 2009 An evening of Shakespeare by Dean Taylor Associates. Castle Granary at 7pm. Gates open at 6.30pm.
- 23 -25th May 2009 A recreation of a 15th century medieval campsite during the Wars of the Roses within the castle ground. 10am -6pm (Sunday 12 noon -6pm). The Garrison demonstrating arms and armour. The Red Wyvern Society.
- 18th & 19th July 2009 A recreation: Buckingham's Retinue: Life in the 15th century. 10am -6pm (Sunday 12 noon -6pm)
- 25th & 26th July 2009 Meet the Governor: Sir John Mallory Governor of Skipton Castle during the English Civil War. Hear about sieges and skirmishes.

5 Hints and Tips: Making the Most of Your Christmas Holidays!

Gemma Doherty (<mailto:gjd500@york.ac.uk>)

Whatever year you're in, take a break! Make sure you catch up on some sleep, chill with your mates and let your brains relax so you can actually cope with the next term rather than be worn out before you even get back to uni. This is especially true for the first years, enjoy your holidays now. They won't be so relaxing this time next year so enjoy them as much as possible while you can.

Second Years

The second term in second year is one of the busiest of the degree so try to make sure you organise yourself over the holidays so you can tackle it head on. Three weeks off may not seem like a long time, but you can tackle a surprising amount in those three weeks if you plan your time. (I apologise if I sound like all those study skills lessons you had in sixth form, but it really is vital to be organised!) While you have until week 3 to hand in the fieldwork elements of portfolio one it is really not a good idea to leave it until term time to do it if at all possible. I can tell you from experience it certainly makes the beginning of that term a lot more stressful than it needs be!

Third Years

Its so important you do have a bit of a break. You won't feel like you have time but next term will be really busy so you need to start full of energy. Firstly

make sure you have very clear notes on where you are with your dissertation and exactly what needs doing. However obvious or simplistic it is now write it down because you won't have much time to work on it over the spring term and you do not want to lose time at the end of term and over easter trying to work out what you are meant to be doing. Make sure you know your deadlines for your assessed seminars before you break up rather than leaving it until next term and then finding out you only have 3 weeks to prepare it all. If you have the time (I know you're really busy with special topics and the exam) talk to your course supervisor to make sure you can do the topic you want to do so you don't waste your time and effort planning something you then need to scrap.

It may seem like I'm telling you to do loads of work over the holidays, but the main key is just make sure you are prepared for next term and then have some sleep. The second term in any year is always far busier than any of the others so make sure you do relax and have fun over the holidays.

6 News

Katie Marsden (<mailto:km531@york.ac.uk>)

Egyptian archaeologists have discovered a new pyramid in Saqqar, near Cairo under 23 feet (7 meters) of sand. It is thought to be the 4,300 year old tomb of Queen Sesheshet, mother of the Pharaoh Teti who founded the 6th Dynasty. It is thought to be the third satellite pyramid of the tomb of Teti; two others found around 100 years ago and in 1994 were dedicated to the pharaoh's two principle wives Iput I and Khuit respectively. The remains were a 16 foot (5 meter) base and a white limestone casing for the pyramid. It is estimated to have stood at 14 meters tall with a 22 metre square base and walls at a 51 degree angle.

The discovery is part of the sprawling necropolis and burial ground of the capital of Egypt's Old Kingdom, about 12 miles south of Giza used by the rulers of ancient Memphis.

Zahi Hawass, secretary general of the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA) in Egypt said:

"I always say you never know what the sands of Egypt might hide... You can discover a tomb or a statue, but to discover a pyramid it makes you happy. And a pyramid of a queen-queens have magic."

A shaft was found to be dug into the funerary chamber, so archaeologists are not expecting to find Sesheshet's mummified remains when they reach the chamber. The excavation is ongoing and the team of archaeologists are still a fortnight away from entering the burial chamber. It is hoped inscriptions will still be inside the tomb for study.¹

Source: National Geographic Daily News

See also: Archaeology News (<http://tinyurl.com/a2qvoj>).

7 York Minster Library - Request for Volunteers

David Harker (<mailto:dhh500@york.ac.uk>)