

# GLOSSARY

## Ancient Egypt

- **Amulet:** small carved charm worn as protection from harm, or placed over incisions in the body during funeral rites.
- **Ankh:** hieroglyphic symbol of life in the form of a T-shape, surmounted by a loop.
- **Archaeologist:** person who studies human history by excavating remains.
- **Barque:** funeral boats, either models or full-size, used to transport pharaohs to the afterlife.
- **Canopic jars:** ceramic jars used for burying organs taken out during mummification.
- **Cartouche:** distinctive shape surrounding hieroglyphic names of pharaohs.
- **Demotic script:** 'sekh shat' in Egyptian – cursive writing script developed from hieroglyphs.
- **Egyptologist:** archaeologist specialising in Ancient Egyptian life.
- **Embalm:** part of the funerary process where the cleaned body is wrapped in linen bandages to prevent it from decay.
- **Hieroglyphs:** Ancient Egyptian script made up of signs and symbols. Hieroglyphs is the noun, hieroglyphic is the adjective.
- **Mummy:** body which has been fully preserved for the afterlife.
- **Papyrus:** paper made from reeds.
- **Pharaoh:** the king or ruler.
- **Sarcophagus:** stone outer coffin designed to contain the decorated wooden coffins which in turn contained the mummified body.
- **Scribe:** professional writer.
- **Silt:** black mud washed down the Nile with the annual flood.
- **Stele:** carved stone or wooden slabs carrying funeral or commemorative inscriptions.