

# MA'AT TOURS EGYPT 2012!



## Newsletter 5: October 2011

Hi Everyone,  
We trust that you are as excited about Egypt 2012 as we are, and that you are looking forward to our shared experiences!

### MA'AT TOURS 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

On 23<sup>rd</sup> September we celebrated our 10<sup>th</sup> year of tours with some 70 guests at Marco and Yvonne's *ristorante* in Shoal Bay, NSW. It was a wonderful occasion – meeting up with past participants and getting to talk with people interested in Egypt. Thanks to all those who were able to come, to our past participants who could not attend but sent greetings, and to Marco and Yvonne for organizing the event.



*Some of our past participants at the dinner*

### LAG CARRY-ON LIMITS

Please remember that there are limits regarding liquids, aerosols and gels (LAGs) that can be taken onto an international flight. For example see the webpage: <http://www.qantas.com.au/travel/airlines/country-specific-carry-on-baggage/global/en>  
If you do not have a plastic bag for your LAGs we recommend a 'Glad Snap Lock' brand sandwich bag (which fits within the limits of edges of 20cm). You can never have too many snap lock bags while in Egypt (for film/memory cards, paperwork etc) anyway! Please remember that if carrying on items like creams, lotions, hair gel, water, perfumes, lipstick, lip balm, lighters, toothpaste, sprays



Size = about 20 x 20 cm

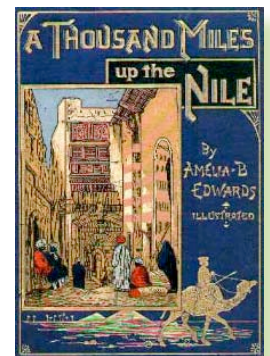
and so on, they **MUST** be in containers no larger than 100ml each **AND** these containers must all fit within the single sealed, clear plastic bag that has a capacity of 1 litre or less, with edges of 20cm. This bag must be presented to security at the screening point prior to entering the departure area.

### RECENT EVENTS IN EGYPT

As you will be aware some 25 people – mainly Coptic Christian – were killed during a protest in Cairo on 9 October and many were injured. The military government is investigating this terrible incident. It should be noted that sectarian violence – which has occurred sporadically in Egypt – has never been aimed at Western/Christian tourists. This event also serves to put in context any recommendation we might give you while on tour regarding avoiding some public areas and not by-standing at any demonstrations: your safety is a primary concern for us.

### A DONKEY-RIDE AND A BOATING-TRIP INTERSPERSED WITH RUINS"

In 1873/4 the intrepid Amelia Edwards made her way from Alexandria to Abu Simbel and beyond. She published her journal as *A Thousand Miles Up the Nile* in 1876. Edwards' fascinating and entertaining account of Egypt 137 years ago has been out-of-print for some time but is available on-line at:



<http://digital.library.upenn.edu/women/edwards/nile/nile.html>

Her description of a camel ride (Chapter X) is hilarious. It will have you eagerly anticipating Tour Day 8 and your ride to St Simeon's Monastery: "*Now the lying-down and getting-up of a camel are performances designed for the express purpose of inflicting grievous bodily harm upon his rider... this 'execrable hunch-back' is fearfully and wonderfully made. He has a superfluous joint somewhere in his legs, and uses it to revenge himself upon mankind.*"

With all good wishes, *Patricia & Mike*