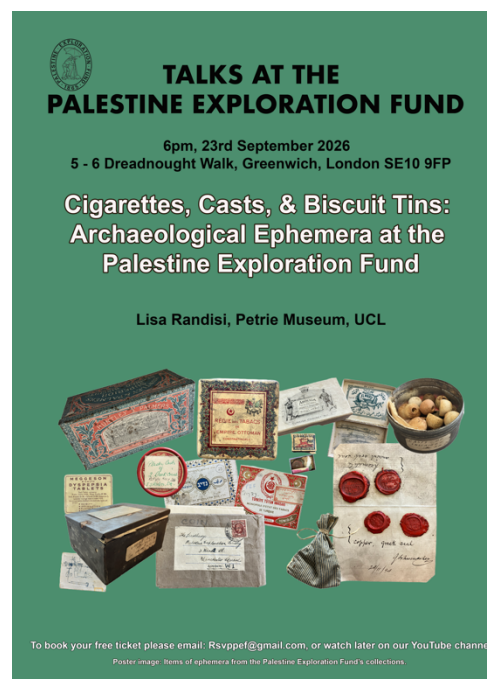


PEF EVENT

Wednesday 23rd September 2026, 6pm

Cigarettes, Casts, & Biscuit Tins: Archaeological Ephemera at the Palestine Exploration Fund

- Lisa Randisi, Petrie Museum, UCL
- PEF, 5-6 Dreadnought Walk, Greenwich, London SE10 9FP
- Free, please email rsvppef@gmail.com to reserve your ticket/s



[Download Poster](#)

Summary

This talk is about the objects that fall through the cracks. Annotated tobacco boxes, biscuit tins, matchboxes. Envelopes labelled and re-labelled and labelled again by a succession of different hands, in the field and in the office. Makeshift museum packaging and archival titbits in the grey area between museum object and archive. Reused, repurposed and recycled, they can be key to unearthing new perspectives in the history of archaeology: they speak of life in the field, of early industry and the human stories behind early academia. Join us on a multi-stop tour of archaeological ephemera in the PEF collection: plaster casts and wax sealings, cigarette packets, tins of all sorts. Between them they open up the trade in copies and souvenirs that fuelled early collecting, the economics of a dig, and the lives of people whose names rarely make it into the published record. This is work in progress – more still to come out of stubborn drawers.

About the Speaker

Lisa Randisi is the recipient of the 2025-26 PEF-Albright Institute Fellowship, for her project “Archaeological Ephemera in Historic Collections from Palestine and Israel”. She is the Assistant Curator of the Petrie Museum of Egyptian and Sudanese Archaeology, a doctoral researcher in public archaeology at UCL, and has worked as a field archaeologist in the Near East and Inner Asia since 2010. Since 2022 she has been running the *Archaeological Ephemera* project, to document these objects, tell their stories, and build a Community of Practice for others working with similar material. Her fellowship extends this work from Egypt to the Levant

HOW TO FIND US

The PEF is situated on the south bank of the River Thames, a short walk away from Cutty Sark DLR station, Greenwich train and DLR station and Greenwich Pier (Riverbus).

