A significant development in hieroglyphic word-processing:
The release of the new InScribe 2004 for Microsoft® Windows

THE original version of Inscribe, a word processing program for Egyptian hieroglyphs from Saqqara Technology, a company based in Oxford, saw the light of day for the first time some ten years ago. Since its original release, InScribe has been the most user-friendly of all programs for composing and printing hieroglyphic texts. It is quite sophisticated but one can master the rudiments in a couple of hours.

InScribe 2004, with many new features which make the program even more exciting to work with, and with glitches of the earlier version ironed out, has just been made available[1]. As I write this article, the *User Guide* to accompany InScribe 2004 is still being prepared so I have not got the benefit of the information it contains, but the Help menu which comes with the program is sufficiently informative to get by without the *Guide*.

InScribe 2004 can be used with Windows 98, Windows XP, Windows NT 4.0, Windows Millennium and Windows 2000. I have tested it with the first two and it ran smoothly and without problems. It comes on a single CD and installation only takes a few minutes. The Adobe Reader required for running the program is supplied on the InScribe 2004 CD.

What one sees in the application window when one starts the program does not appear to be radically different from the familiar face of the old InScribe. But there are important differences when one looks more closely. The 'alphabet palette' is there and one still needs just one click to record an 'alphabetic' sign. Alternatively, one can go to the 'transliteration

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[1] I am grateful to Bob Richmond, the creator of InScribe 2004, for the opportunity to give the program a test run. I have no financial or material interest in the reviewed product.