Time Travellers

Adventures in Archaeology



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For teachers' inspection ONLY

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Blasts from the Past

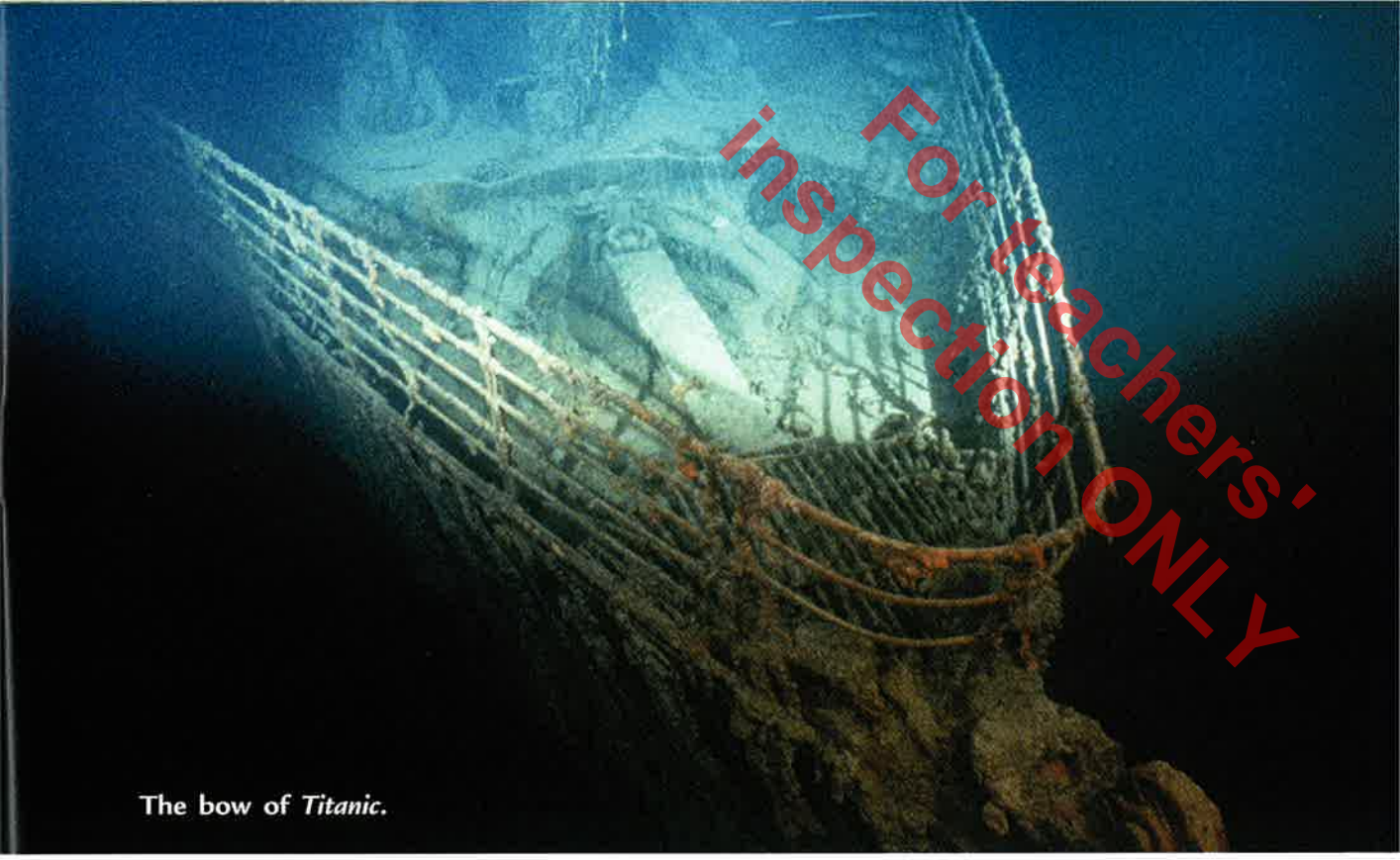
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You have probably seen at least one of the Indiana Jones films. Of course, most archaeologists don't spend their days chasing villains who want to take over the world! But, depending on where they are excavating, some archaeologists may find buried treasure. In 1995, American archaeologist, Kent Weeks, discovered a mass **tomb** of the sons of Rameses II, an Egyptian **Pharaoh** who ruled over three thousand years ago.

Archaeology isn't really about treasure hunting. It's about learning how people lived in the past. It's just as exciting finding the well-preserved body of a prehistoric hunter as it is discovering a lost city. And an ancient rubbish heap can tell us more about daily life hundreds of years ago than any golden statue.



These archaeologists are digging in the ruins of the Moche culture, Peru.



The bow of *Titanic*.

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What Is an Archaeologist?

An archaeologist studies the human past. He or she might dig in the ruins of an ancient city or a nineteenth-century factory.

Some archaeologists specialise in cultures that didn't build cities, such as the Australian Aborigines or Pacific Islanders. Other archaeologists search underwater for wrecked ships, such as *Titanic* or Henry VIII's ship, *Mary Rose*.



Australian Aboriginal rock painting.

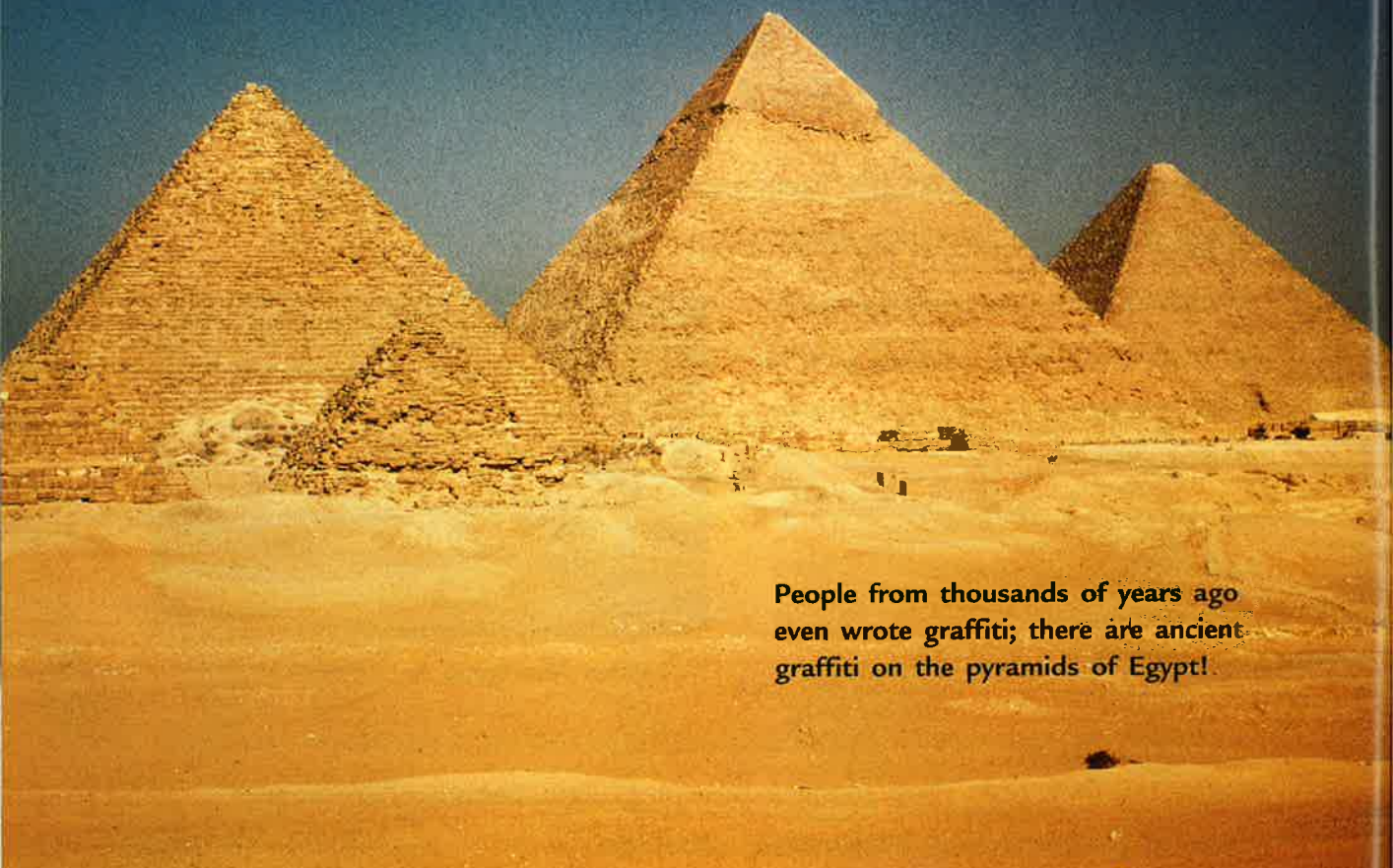
Some archaeologists even work with the police to uncover the truth about murders that took place a few years ago; these archaeologists have some of the same skills as **forensic scientists**.

Why Is Archaeology So Exciting?

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Archaeology is exciting because it tells us more about ourselves — who we are and where we come from. It forms a link between people from the past and people today. We learn that people from the past weren't so different from us. They laughed and cried, worked and played, worried about their families, and had fights with their friends — just like we do.

Archaeology lets you travel back through time to ancient cities, royal tombs and **sacred** places. So grab your hat and bullwhip, and come along for the ride!



People from thousands of years ago even wrote graffiti; there are ancient graffiti on the pyramids of Egypt!

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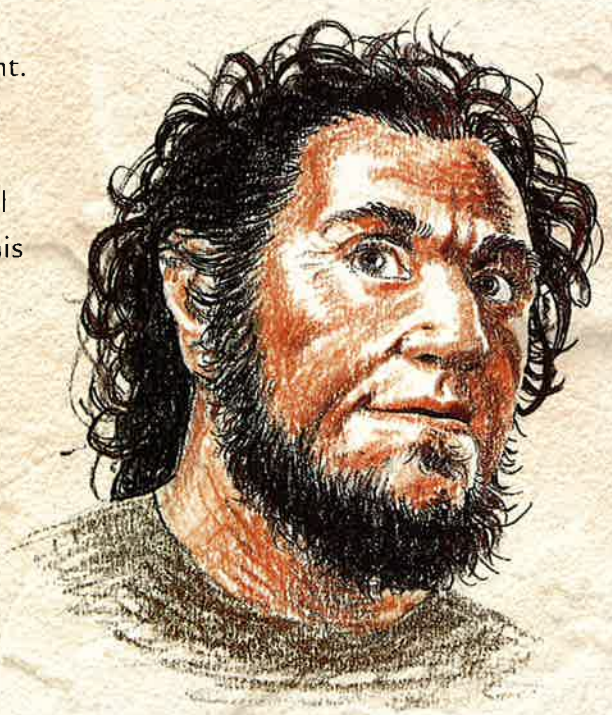
'Otzi', the Iceman

In 1991, two hikers in the mountains between Austria and Italy found what they thought was a murder victim. A lot of damage was done to the body before archaeologists examined it and realised that 'Otzi', as he was nicknamed, had died of the cold — five thousand years ago!



'Otzi' was wonderfully preserved; even his eyeballs were intact. He wore warm clothes made from animal skins and carried, among other things, a beautiful copper axe.

'Otzi' was about 158 centimetres in height. He had tattoos, dark wavy hair, a beard and a broken nose. A special sculptor reconstructed his face, as it might have looked, for *National Geographic* magazine.



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20 NOVEMBER, 1928

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The Man in the Golden Mask





Discoverer: Howard Carter
Place: Valley of the Kings, Luxor, Egypt
Year of Discovery: 1922
Years of Excavation: 1922–1927



"I almost gave up!" says discoverer of King Tut's tomb.

An exclusive interview with Howard Carter.

Howard Carter admits he nearly gave up searching for Pharaoh Tutankhamen's (Toot-ang-ka-mun) tomb.

"I'd been searching since 1919," said Carter. "By November 1922, I decided it would be my last season. Then one of my workers uncovered a step. When I arrived for work one morning, there was utter silence; they were waiting to show it to me."

Sixteen steps led down to a tomb door. But Carter didn't explore the tomb immediately.

Instead, he telegraphed his sponsor, Lord Carnarvon, to join him.

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Lord Carnarvon