

## REGIONAL GROUP REPORTS 1996-7

### **The London Area Pottery Research Group**

No regional meetings have been held in London this year, but several members of the London Area Group participated in the SEMPER meeting at Cressing Temple, Essex, in September 1997.

For further details of the group, or suggestions for future meetings, please contact:

Beverley Nenck  
Dept of Medieval and Later Antiquities  
British Museum  
London WC1B 3DG  
(Tel: 0171 323 8286)

### **The North-West Region Medieval Pottery Research Group**

The NWRMPRG held a meeting last year to discuss recent work in the north-west and to consider holding regular meetings once more. It was a useful day; it was good to see pottery and people from various parts of the region. People had the opportunity to examine Manx granite tempered ware and groups of medieval pottery found in Lancaster and Chester as well as kiln material from Cheshire. A talk was given on the collections held by Liverpool Museum and a progress report on the National Bibliography was also given.

It was decided to hold meetings every six months or so. It is hoped that the next meeting will be in Lancaster this summer. The meeting will provide the opportunity to examine kiln material from Silverdale and Docker as well as to have a closer look at more recently excavated medieval pottery from Lancaster.

If you would like to be on the group's mailing list please contact:

Julie Edwards  
c/o Chester Archaeology  
27 Grosvenor Street  
Chester CH1 2DD  
or email [j.edwards@chestercc.gov.uk](mailto:j.edwards@chestercc.gov.uk)

### **The South East Midlands Pottery Research Group**

The South East Midlands Pottery Research Group (SEMPER) met only once last year, in September 1997. A meeting was held at Cressing Temple, Essex, hosted by Helen Walker, of Essex County Council's Field Archaeology Group. About twenty people attended. The theme was Essex Medieval Redwares: their Characteristics and Distribution. We listened to talks from Helen on Hedingham and Mill Green ware, Wally Davey on Harlow ware and John Cotter on Colchester and the East Anglian red-ware tradition. There was a picnic lunch in the grounds and we all enjoyed the last of the summer sun. We had a guided tour of the spectacular great barns and there time

to wander round the gardens. The usual afternoon session followed, with everybody at the meeting contributing with either short talks or comments on the material that had been laid out for viewing. The day was interesting, very useful and the setting for it was splendid! The next meeting has been arranged at St Alban's Museum for June 1998.

If anyone would like details of future meetings please contact:

Anna Slowikowski  
Bedfordshire County Archaeology Service  
St. Mary's Church Archaeology Centre  
St. Mary's St.  
Bedford MK42 7RS  
or phone 01234-270009.

### **The West Midlands Pottery Research Group**

The group has not met this year but your local contact is:

Stephanie Rátkai  
7 Pinehurst Drive  
Kings Norton  
Birmingham B38 8TH

### **The South-West Region Medieval Pottery Research Group**

The annual Bickley Experimental Kiln Project, organised by David Dawson and Ollie Kent, took place 4-15th August 1998. A temporary exhibition was held at Taunton Castle entitled *In Praise of Potters*. This consisted of selections from the collection of c.900 examples of Western European pottery of 16-19th century date kindly given by Ken Barton to Somerset County Museums, where this collection of reference material is now kept and can be viewed.

Mike Ponsford  
12 Seymour Road  
Bishopston  
Bristol BS7 9HR  
(Tel 0117 9858109)

### **The South Central Medieval Pottery Research Group**

There were no meetings of the Regional Group this year but if anyone is interested in joining (or reviving!) the group, or has any ideas for future meetings, please contact me.

Lorraine Mepham  
Wessex Archaeology  
Portway House  
Old Sarum Park  
Salisbury SP4 6EP  
(Tel 01722 326867)

**The East Midlands Pottery Research Group**

The Regional Group does not exist at present, because very few members are working in the region, but you can contact:

Jane Young  
City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit  
Charlotte House  
The Lawn  
Union Road  
Lincoln LN1 3BL  
(Tel 01522 545326)

**The Welsh Medieval Pottery Research Group**

Some meetings are planned for the future, but none were held this year. Readers are invited to offer to Mark Redknap papers for publication in the journal *Medieval and Later Pottery in Wales* on ceramics from Wales and the Marches. Copies of the journal and back numbers, and enquiries about subscriptions, should be addressed to: Steve Sell, WMPRG, Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust, Ferry-side Warehouse, Bath Lane, Swansea SA1 1RD (Tel 01792 655208).

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