



Editorial

KATHERINE BARCLAY and MICHAEL HUGHES

This is the largest volume of the journal so far published — in both the number of, and total length of, articles accepted. While this is welcome, the volume has regrettably been delayed, and we intend to make up some of the ground lost last year by publishing a relatively short volume 22. The major causes of delay remain in and around the process of peer review, with revisions required and increased correspondence necessary, in some cases when authors fail to take account of the reviewer's remarks and advice.

This volume includes a number of papers given at the 1997 MPRG Annual Conference at Worcester, including the Gerald Dunning lecture on Islamic Pottery in Christian Europe; a paper exploring meaning and design on imported Spanish pottery; a test of the results of fieldwalking and medieval pottery; pots found in houses; and a review of ceramics and the history of consumption. Other papers include the publication of two late medieval kilns from Northamptonshire; 16th-century pottery from the Surrey-Hampshire border; and a contrasting view of non-ceramic materials of the

medieval period. There were, unfortunately, no short notes on ceramics offered for publication in the Compendiario section this year, but a number of one-day meetings and conferences are reported on. Several new books are reviewed; the Annual Bibliography compiled by D. Higgins and P. Davey is published; in addition there are the Accounts, Regional Group Reports, and the present Constitution of the Group.

At the end of the memorial address for the late Rupert Bruce-Mitford, we have included a bibliography of his ceramic publications, compiled with the help of Philippa Davey. She kindly searched the database of the National Bibliography from which she was able almost instantaneously to add two further references to our list. This was our first opportunity to make use of the bibliography which promises to be a most valuable resource.

We wish to thank Agnès Shepherd for providing the French summaries, Klaus Hammer for the German resumé, and Graham Reed for again producing a splendid cover design. We also wish to thank the CBA for their continued financial support.