

Editorial

This volume is composed of a selection of the papers presented at the 2016 MPRG conference in Taunton. Following Duncan Brown's stimulating Gerald Dunning Memorial lecture on the slowly evolving principles of publishing a good pottery report and whether we are now capable of doing so, the remainder of the volume is dedicated to presenting recent work and an assessment of medieval and later pottery studies in south-west England and south Wales. Papers concerned with the medieval period are presented by Mike Ponsford and David Dawson on the Redcliff industry in Bristol and Lorraine Mepham on the distribution and use of Laverstock-type wares. Both papers offer important and useful summaries which advance our understanding of these products, which have been known for some time. The two papers concerned with the post-medieval period. David Dawson and colleagues present an overview of post-medieval pottery production in Somerset, which sees an application of several innovative scientific techniques. Alice Forward provides a much needed discussion of the trade and consumption of pottery in south Wales, focussed on the site of Cosmeston,

Glamorgan. In a first for *Medieval Ceramics*, we also present a detailed overview of the state of knowledge of pottery production and use in south-west England.

As ever, it is with sadness that in addition to papers and reviews, we present three obituaries, all of pioneering scholars in our field; Ivor Noël-Hulme, Jo Draper and Ken Barton, all of whom have contributed tremendously to our understanding of medieval and, more particularly, post-medieval pottery and will be greatly missed.

We are grateful to the editorial committee for their support in bringing this volume to fruition, particularly the outgoing Vice-President Lucy Whittingham, for her considerable input into the new format of the journal, and her successor John Allan. We would also like to acknowledge David Dawson for his help and advice at various stages of production and Stefanie Rauch and Jackie Harbron for providing the foreign language translations. Finally, we would like to thank the retiring Co-Editor Berni Suds for her contribution over the last few years.

Ben Jervis and Lyn Blackmore

