



Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology

Newsletter

THE PRESIDENT'S PIECE

I would like to start by extending an enormous thank you to SPMA committee members Tania Casimiro, Joel Santos, and members Susana Pacheco and Afonso Leao for their organisation of the SPMA conference in Lisbon. Also to Captain Augusto Salgado the Director of the Portuguese Maritime Museum and António Carvalho, Director of the Portuguese archaeological museum for hosting and supporting us with our conference. I would also like to say how wonderful it was to have the whole SPMA committee together in person. By having such a presence everyone contributed to the smooth running of the conference. We were able to chair sessions, support with logistics as needed, talk to members and prospective members, and present on the research that we are all involved in. It was also rather lovely to have a fully in person committee meeting, which might be our first since 2019!

The conference this year was our largest in recent years, with over 100 registered delegates from 24 countries (Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, England, Scotland, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Sweden, Colombia, Peru, China, Australia, Poland, Czechia, USA, Norway, Austria, Greece, Switzerland, Netherlands and Canada), presenting 70 something papers presented across two venues. The breadth of topics and quality of research being presented is promising for both the discipline and the future of the SPMA.

In addition to traditional paper presentations I hosted the first of what I hope will be an annual series of EDI workshops at our conferences, on '(English) language barriers to inclusion in post-medieval archaeology'. The workshop was attended by 7 people in addition to SPMA council members Sanna, Katy W, Megan, Tania and myself. We had representation from 5 countries whose first language is not English, at all stages of career from PhD student through to established professionals within academia, consultancy, and heritage management agencies.

A range of issues were discussed, but importantly, we also came up with some actions that SPMA can take with our Journal and at our conferences to help people who are working in second or third languages. Something that was touched on was that (as with many accommodations made for various disabilities) a wider range of people will benefit beyond the specific intended group, specifically neurodiverse people including those of us with dyslexia, adhd, autism. Further, we have identified potential technical language projects that SPMA could coordinate with international partners to support international post-medieval archaeological research. I will update members further as we begin to introduce and embed these actions in the work that we do.



Image: SPMA' President Hanna Steyne

Introduction Piece: Monika Reppo (Social Media Editor)

I have been a member of the SPMA since 2019. After being involved with the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology as an Ordinary Council Member since Spring 2023, I assumed the role of Social Media Editor in March 2024. I have been managing different social media platforms with the aim of introducing our society's events, members and post-medieval archaeology in general.

I work as a research fellow at Tallinn University and I am currently involved in a project studying changes in the human and natural environment in the 15th–18th century Eastern Baltic. I study changes in material culture with a specific focus on glass and needlework items. I have also worked in commercial archaeology for over a decade and give occasional lectures on glass, fieldwork methodology, career choices, and the use of social media in archaeology at the University of Tartu. In addition to the SPMA, I am a member of board of the Estonian Association of Archaeologists (Eesti Arheoloogide Liit).

I have a BA in social and cultural anthropology and an MA in history (cum laude) from Tallinn University, both majoring in archaeology. During my MA, I also spent a year as a full time student at the University of Sheffield. Most recently, I defended my PhD at the University of Tartu. My dissertation 'Glass and its makers in Estonia, c. 1550-1950: an archaeological study' was supported by the SPMA research grant in 2020.

I am most passionate about public outreach and science communication. Through my social media accounts (@chronicamonika), I use both videos, photos, and text to introduce the material and immaterial traces of our shared past to a wider audience. I hope my work encourages people to learn more and raises awareness about heritage at risk and the profession in general. For this reason, I am also an active contributor to Wikipedia, and currently hold a two-year stipend as Terminikratt to populate Estonian Wikipedia (Vikipeedia) with high-quality articles focusing on terminology, scientific, and technical vocabulary, mainly in archaeology and history.



Image: SPMA's Social Media Editor
Monika Reppo

SPMA NEWS and EVENTS

POST-MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONGRESS: READING 2026

Save the Date! Next year's SPMA annual conference will be held in Reading, United Kingdom on 15-17 May 2026.

The conference sessions will be held at the historic Park House on the University of Reading's Whiteknights campus. More information about the congress will be published on our website and social media accounts shortly. Visit the SPMA conference webpage at: <https://spma.org.uk/conferences-and-meetings> [spma.org.uk]

NOTES FROM THE FIELD: SUMMER FIELDWORK CALL FOR COPY

Each summer, SPMA members across the globe undertake fieldwork. If there is an ongoing project you would like to share or raise awareness of we would like to hear from you! Our winter newsletter will showcase current projects and we're inviting SPMA members to contribute short reports on their ongoing or recently completed fieldwork. Whether you're excavating, surveying or conserving, this is a great opportunity to share your experiences with the wider community.

What to include in your submission:

- A brief description of your project
- The archaeological work conducted
- Any key finds you'd like to highlight
- Plans for future work or reflections on the season

If you'd like your project to be considered for publication, please send your report by: 6th October 2025.

WE WANT TO SHARE YOUR WORK ONLINE

As a society, our members have a wide range of interests and skills. To promote post-medieval archaeology as a research field and our society as a way to be part of a worldwide community, **we want to share your work on our social media accounts.**

Please submit a short post (50-100 words) to tell us about your:

- current research project or interest
- event
- exciting finds or sites
- book or article
- collaboration opportunity

or anything else that might be of interest to you and other post-medieval archaeologists.

For further enquiries, including video posts, please contact our Social Media Editor: Monika Reppo socialmedia@spma.org.uk. [spma.org.uk].

SOCIETY PRIZES AND GRANTS

RESEARCH GRANTS To be eligible to be considered for a research grant applicants must be members of the SPMA. The maximum grant, and the total fund available in any single application round is £2000. Deadlines for applications: 1 March and 1 September each year. Successful applicants will be informed by 1st May and 1st November respectively.

UNDERGRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE DISSERTATION PRIZE Winners to be announced early next year. Both prizes are £250: departments can nominate one dissertation for each. Deadlines: UG Dissertation 1st September 2025. and PG Dissertation 15th December 2025.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD Up to £500 available to members and non-members, for innovative public-facing initiatives delivered face to face or digitally. Deadline for applications: 15th September 2025.

PAUL COURTNEY CONGRESS BURSARY Enables students to participate in the SPMA's annual congress. Applicants need not be members of the Society and Council will prioritise the following groups: first time attendees, students, those on low-income and people who are traditionally underrepresented in archaeology (all self-defined). Deadline for applications 15th January 2026:

Recipients of awards and grants contribute a short abstract to the newsletter on receipt of the award report to the Society website and newsletter. Recipients of the Dissertation Prizes are encouraged to contribute a short summary. Contact: newsletter@spma.org.uk for details.

SPMA PhD GROUP

The SPMA PhD group provides a place within the Society for members who are current research students to connect with other students around the world, while gaining skills useful for postdoctoral employment.

Offering experience in conference organisation and session chairing, book reviewing, publication and peer review, the Group's activities will also include workshop sessions on topics including adapting your thesis for publication, turning research into teaching, specialist subjects and more. Social and networking events for the Group include opportunities to present your research at work-in-progress seminars and to receive feedback from others, and events with other related societies.

If you are currently undertaking a PhD and are interested in Post Medieval Archaeology please contact the membership Secretary Dr Lenore Thompson to join the SPMA PhD Group. Membership is free and members from anywhere in the world are welcome to join the SPMA PhD Group and we look forward to meeting you soon.

To sign up, email: membership@spma.org.uk.

OBITUARY: YOLANDA COURTNEY (1953-2025)

AUTHORED BY: PHILOMENA GOODALL

It is with sadness that I record the recent death of my friend Yolanda Courtney. I had known Yolanda for over forty years, having first met her in Cardiff, when I was introduced by her future husband Paul Courtney.

Originally from Exeter, where she attended Bishop Blacknall School, Yolanda studied at the University of Wales in Cardiff, gaining a 2.1 in History. Yolanda then worked at the National Museum of Wales in Cardiff as an Assistant Keeper of Social History. Further study at Oxford University resulted in Yolanda gaining a Post-Graduate Diploma in Prehistoric Archaeology in 1979, this was followed by a return to the University of Wales, Cardiff where Yolanda was awarded a PhD in Historical Archaeology in 1989. Yolanda's work was subsequently published under the title "Public House Tokens in England and Wales 1830-1920: material culture in the industrial age", a reviewer, Andrew Wager writing in "The Numismatic Chronicle" published by the Royal Numismatic Society commented that it "represents a landmark in the history of token literature". Yolanda also actively contributed to the Token Corresponding Society.

It was in the National Museum of Wales, Cardiff that Yolanda Stanton had met Paul Courtney, her future husband, who was working there on excavated ceramics from Wales. They married in 1987; it was to be a meeting of minds, taking enjoyment in their mutual interests in history and archaeology and it also led to the joint publication of articles. They were both active members of the Finds Research Group, regularly attending meetings and contributing their knowledge. Moving to Leicester, Yolanda worked at the Newarke Houses Museum as a Social History Curator. In 2005, she was appointed Head of Museums for Leicestershire County Council overseeing their Museums and having managerial responsibility for the staff. During that time, Leicester gained international attention with the discovery of the unmarked buried remains of King Richard III and Yolanda lectured on the subject. Yolanda's extensive experience included working on collections, heritage buildings and grant applications for the Museum service. She worked on local initiatives and took the lead, for example, as Project Executive on a Knitting Together project, celebrating the history of the East Midlands knitting industry, this enabled objects from museum collections to be digitised as a virtual museum, offering access to collections in various regional museums and galleries that were not on permanent display. Yolanda also encouraged an oral testimony project, successfully obtaining funding to support that work. In addition, she wrote about local subjects, contributing to their wider knowledge and interpretation.

Yolanda retired from her role in the Museum service in 2012. Sadly, the following year her beloved husband Paul died. Yolanda had been a devoted wife, especially during Paul's final illness. It was in Paul's memory that in 2014 Yolanda jointly organised the Paul Courtney Memorial Conference in Leicester and set up a Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology bursary for students entitled the Paul Courtney Student Travel Award. Both Yolanda and Paul appreciated the importance for students who are studying archaeology and history to travel for their studies. In 2015 Yolanda prepared a bibliography of Paul's extensive archaeological publications.

Together Paul and Yolanda had enjoyed travelling internationally, sometimes, over some distance, visiting castles and monastic sites on foot. As 'foodies', they very much appreciated the excellent food offerings on the continent, especially in Belgium. I recall interesting and enjoyable trips that I made with them to France and Belgium.

Coming from a musical family, which included the composer Walter Stanton, Yolanda had from an early age a great love of music, which stayed throughout her life. She performed a wide musical repertoire ranging from Bach to Frank Bridge and Shostakovich. A talented musician, Yolanda sang, played the piano, organ and violin.

OBITUARY: YOLANDA COURTNEY (1953-2025)

Having sung in the Oriel Chapel Choir while at Oxford, Yolanda played an active role during her retirement as a parishioner and member of St. Guthlac's church, Leicester and joined their choir, where she also played the organ and generously set up an organ scholarship to support an organ scholar. She followed the scholar's achievements with interest in their progress.

In retirement, Yolanda was also able to pursue her interests in studying Ancient Greek and Theology and learning Welsh, while maintaining her contact with her friends in Cardiff. Yolanda was very knowledgeable about Lord Nelson and the naval warfare of his time. Her diverse interests ranged from pub tokens, church bells and bell ringing. Yolanda was a bibliophile and read widely on an extensive range of subjects. Together, we enjoyed attending the Geoff Egan Memorial lectures organised by the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology. Geoff Egan had been a mutual friend.

One of Yolanda's great qualities was to encourage others to develop an interest in history and archaeology, and she organised lectures for the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society. She supported a project about recording the war memories of members of the local community in Leicester and gave talks herself on the subject. This included one at St. Guthlac's on "A Zeppelin flew gaily over my house" about the experiences of Yolanda's great-grandfather and his cousin on the home front in the First World War.

My friend Yolanda was one of a kind, highly intelligent, hard-working, modest, straightforward, very knowledgeable on many aspects of archaeology and history and with a keen interest in Post-Medieval Archaeology. Yolanda was well liked and respected and was noted for her generosity and support to good causes and her community.

PUBLICATIONS:

Yolanda Courtney jointly with Paul Courtney, BSc, MA, PhD, FSA (1955-2013):

(1992) "A siege examined: the Civil War archaeology of Leicester. *Post-Medieval Archaeology* 26, vol. 26 pp. 47-90

(1995) "The Changing Face of Leicester (Britain in Old Photographs). Sutton Publishing Ltd.

and Yolanda Courtney publications included:

(1995) "Royal Tigers: A Guide to the Royal Leicestershire Regiment Gallery at New Walk Museum and a Short Listing of the Regiment. Leicester City Council (2000) "Pub Tokens: Material Culture and Regional Marketing Patterns in Victorian England and Wales" *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* vol.4, pages 159-190

(2002) "Reinterpreting Daniel Lambert" Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society

(2004) "British Public House Tokens c.1830-c.1920 : material culture in the industrial age" Royal Numismatic Society Special Publication No.38

(2004) "For their own convenience: the archaeology of 19th century pub tokens". *The Archaeology of Industrialisation: Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology Monographs: v2* (Routledge)

POST-MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONGRESS: LISBON 2025

This year's Post-Medieval Archaeology Congress was hosted in Lisbon across the spectacular *Museu de Marinha* and *Museu Nacional de Arqueologia* venues. Attendees were given the option to take part in a tour of the *Museu de Marinha* led by Captain Augusto Salgado the Director of the Maritime Museum. Captain Salgado opened the conference with his lecture on Historical Maritime Archaeology as Social Archaeology. A summary of his opening lecture was kindly provided by Salgado and can be read below.

Across two days we had a range of papers covering both diverse topics which span large geographical regions including Europe, Scandinavia and the American continent. Topics included chocolate, material culture of University students, ceramics, brickworks, shipwrecks and fortified settlements to name a few. On the final day of the conference attendees were given the opportunity to explore ancient Lisbon, including its Roman past and to experience some of the traditional neighbourhoods of the city.

PMAC2025 KEYNOTE SPEAKER CAPTAIN AUGUSTO SALGADO, DIRECTOR PORTUGUESE MARITIME MUSEUM: MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY AS A SOCIAL ARCHAEOLOGY

Undeniably, the objects archaeologists examine are man-made or altered by humans. Therefore, when analysing an object, we also investigate the individual behind it.

This remains valid when we examine a "simple" artefact. However, whom should we focus on when studying a ship - one of the most complex human inventions until recently, shaped by numerous contributors to its final outcome? Should we investigate who invented it, who constructed it, who used it, or who sank it?

When we entered the industrial age and ships, like many other items, began to be manufactured in a standardised way, the cultural footprint of each object truly differentiates them. A ship, because it moves between harbours and different lands, can suffer and cause various impacts, including social ones, even though its primary mission may not be directly linked to people.

The study of the social side, the human factor becomes even more important when researching a shipwreck. While we typically have an object to examine—the wreck—we must also consider those on board: those who perished and those who survived. Among the survivors, we should investigate their subsequent stories just as we study the shipwreck's impact on the local communities.



Image: Captain Augusto Salgado presenting his Keynote Lecture to open PMAC2025.

Indeed, accomplishing this is easier for shipwrecks from the post-medieval period, as we likely have a broader understanding of the entire crew, not just the key figures like the officers. We must remember that everyone plays a vital role because a ship is never run by just one person.

Fortunately, our maritime archaeology projects have uncovered remarkable cultural footprints that strengthen the connection between humans and the objects associated with the wrecks. This approach has proven beneficial for all involved, as we have connected more effectively with the general public, yielding information often missing from official records. Unsurprisingly, this method has been well received by the municipalities that typically sponsor us, as they need to inform their communities about how their funds have been utilised.

SPMA RESEARCH GRANT HOLDERS, SUMMER 2025 RESEARCH INTRODUCTIONS:

ASSESSING MATERNAL AND INFANT HEALTH THROUGH STABLE ISOTOPE ANALYSIS OF AUDITORY OSSICLES

NAOMI KILBURN (UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM)

The first 1000 days of life are a crucial period of developmental plasticity for humans. Stressors experienced during this phase, including *in utero* exposures, impact the health and well-being of individuals, both throughout their own lifespan and across future generations. My doctoral research investigates the isotopic analysis of human auditory ossicles as a means of accessing health information for this critical stage of life.

Although all human tissues can be used for isotopic analyses, bone and teeth are the most often sampled in archaeology. Because of differences in the formation and physiology of bones and teeth, they record different time periods in an individual's life. Teeth grow progressively from crown to root and do not undergo any significant remodelling once formed. In contrast, most bones experience ongoing remodelling and repair throughout an individual's lifetime, even after the completion of growth. One exception is human auditory ossicles. These tiny ear bones are considered fully ossified by 24-26 weeks *in utero* and do not remodel; though they do have a secondary mineralisation phase, as their large medullary cavities become gradually filled in during early life. While further research

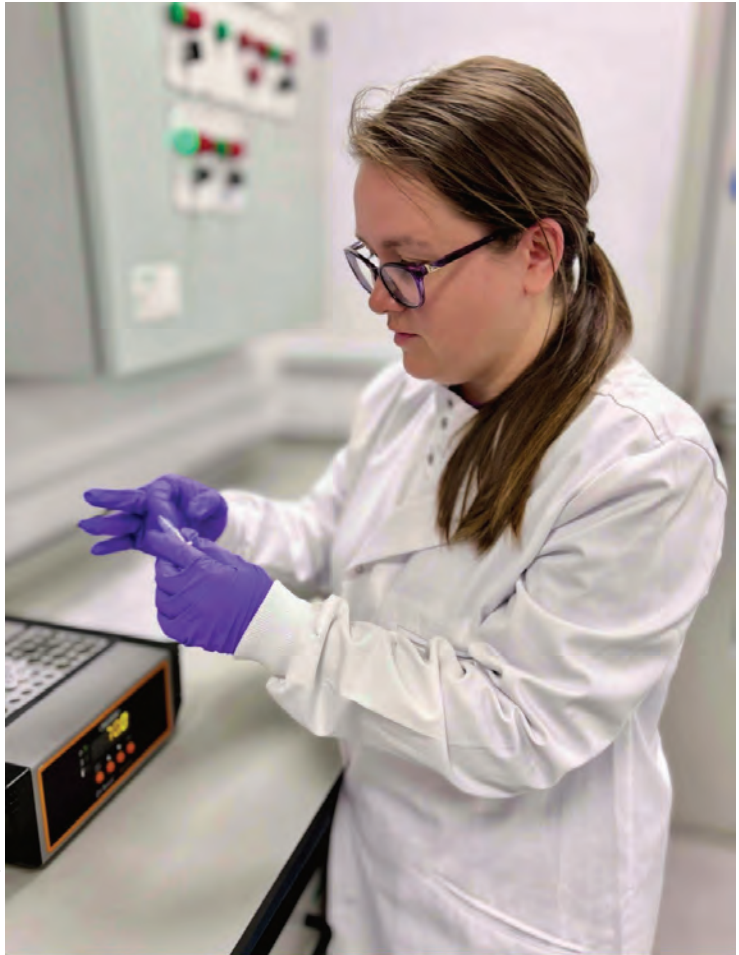


Image: Naomi Kilburn preparing a sample for isotope analysis.

is required to ascertain the timing and impact of the secondary mineralisation phase on isotope ratios, preliminary research by Leskovar et al. (2019) suggests the ossicles provide an isotopic signal of the second trimester of pregnancy—prior to dental development.

This study combines micro-computed tomography (micro-CT) analysis with carbon and nitrogen stable isotope analyses of auditory ossicles and incremental dentine samples to determine the period of development reflected by auditory ossicle isotope ratios. The results will then be integrated with palaeopathological data to provide insights into maternal, infant, and overall population health at multiple archaeological sites. This research grant will support the micro-CT analysis of ossicle samples from the Coach Lane skeletal assemblage, a post-medieval burial site in North Shields. I am very grateful to the Society for Post-Medieval Archaeology for funding this portion of my research.

Reference:

Leskovar, T., Beaumont, J., Lisić, N., & McGalliard, S. (2019). Auditory ossicles: a potential biomarker for maternal and infant health in utero. *Annals of Human Biology*, 46(5), 367-377. <https://doi.org/10.1080/03014460.2019.1639824>

SPMA RESEARCH GRANT HOLDERS, SUMMER 2025 RESEARCH INTRODUCTIONS CONTINUED:

AN ARCHAEOLOGY OF TREES. SUGGESTIONS FOR THE CONSIDERATION OF ARBORICULTURE IN THE SCOTTISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORD
HANNAH LARA BOYD (UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW)



Image: Photograph of the Ormiston yew at midday (Photo by Hannah Lara Boyd, 2024)

Trees, like stone monuments, have the ability to influence and shape the spaces they inhabit. Their roots run deep into the fabric of the landscape as well as into the memories of their local communities, inspiring stories and legend.

This research evolved from an interest in the entanglement between humans and the natural landscape and a desire to shift how we view the creation and understanding of natural features within archaeology. In Scotland, trees have primarily been used as biological data for the mapping of physical environments as well as the study of forest management and agriculture, primarily viewing trees as part of collective woodlands. Trees had not necessarily been considered archaeological features in themselves despite the significance of the natural landscape on our cultural identities as well as the wealth of evidence in Scottish and Gaelic literature illustrating that trees carried more meaning and function to the people of Scotland beyond ecology and economics.

This dissertation discusses trees and their potential for study as living archaeology within Scotland. Using concepts of 'abori-culture' or the understanding that there should be no binary distinction between nature and culture, this study argues that trees are integral components of place and landscape and present a lively monumentality that is inherently Archaeological. Through the exploration of two in depth case studies as well as various aspects of tree archaeology across Scotland, this approach seeks to understand the ways that trees have the ability to co-constitute and create place.

Overall, this research argues for the greater consideration of trees as monuments in their own right whilst seeking to understand the unique aspects, opportunities and challenges that accompany an archaeology of trees, suggesting a standardised methodology for their incorporation into the archaeological record.

POST-MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY: RESEARCH

KINRANDE AND ZHANGZHOU IN THE IBERIAN UNION PERIOD

POMPER, LINDA ROSENFELD

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Abstract: Kinrande and Zhangzhou ceramics are different from each other but were both made during the Iberian Union period.

Keywords: Kinrande, Zhangzhou, Iberian Union

I was asked to contribute to a festschrift in honor of the 80th birthday of Christaan J.A. Jorg, Curator and worldwide expert in Chinese and Japanese export porcelain. It was a special issue of *Vormen uit Vuur*, Vol. 256, Nov. 224, featuring the Anders Collection, a group of pieces that were given to the Groninger Museum.

The piece that I was assigned to discuss was unlike anything I had previously seen and stimulated my thinking about export porcelain of the period spanning 1580 to 1640 (Fig. 1).

During this time, Spain and Portugal were ruled jointly and therefore referred to as the period of the Iberian Union. This period has many exciting features: Exploration, Renaissance, Reformation, and the beginning of worldwide trade on a large scale. I have been writing about kinrande wares since 1994 and have noticed that my articles on this topic have drawn a lot of interest.

My journey began with a tiny sherd from San Gabriel, New Mexico, which was settled by the Spanish in the late 16th century (Shulsky 1994). When I published this sherd and looked for comparative pieces, I found that there were few, and that they were spread all over the world, from the Topkapi in Istanbul to Schloss Ambras near Innsbruck, Austria.



Figure 1: Three porcelain dishes, Anders Collection, Groninger Museum, Groningen, 8.9 x 8.9cm.

Another type of porcelain exported during this period was Zhangzhou wares, (Fig. 2) formerly called Swatow, the name of its port of origin. A good example of this type of ware with an archaeological context is a piece from Panama dated to around 1600 (Shulsky 1998-1999). Zhangzhou ware was also popular in Southeast Asia. Both kinrande and Zhangzhou wares are usually dated to the period, 1580-1640, exactly the time of the Iberian Union. These wares are quite different from each other, yet they were made at the same time. Why?

Kinrande ware is high style porcelain and include gilding. Zhangzhou ware is roughly painted and thickly potted porcelaneous ware. Both kinds of ware were sold to the Japanese market, where they were valued as part of the Japanese tea gatherings, at which both wabi (luxurious) and sabi (rustic) were included.

During the period of the tumultuous fall of the Ming dynasty (1620-1644), both kinds of wares were exported to Japan from China and were valued. The Chinese have been making porcelain since the 9th century and the Japanese imported Chinese ceramics – making them status objects. However, the Japanese themselves could not make true porcelain until the early 17th century. The Anders piece (Fig. 1) is typical of wares made in China for the Japanese market. A piece of similar shape is at The Metropolitan Museum of Art which was included in tea ceremony objects (Fig. 3). This piece is stoneware, and our piece is porcelain, but the form is still the same. It is a dish that was probably meant to hold kaiseki, little cakes that would be served at the tea ceremony. As the tea ceremony or 'tea gatherings' became less formal such a stoneware dish would have been appropriate. The origin of the use of kinrande in formal tea gatherings can be seen on the Portable Golden Tearoom commissioned for Hideyoshi in 1586 (Coolidge Rousmaniere 2012).

POST-MEDIEVAL RESEARCH CONTINUED...

Concentrating on the decoration, the center of the Anders piece is decorated with red and gold monochrome decoration with gold leaf added to the surface of the vessel by an adhesive, possibly lacquer. Such decoration was related to the decoration on Chinese brocade textiles. The gold design is naturalistic, and is formed of birds and flowers, and each dish has a different design on it. All of the dishes have a border of blue on white which is less formal than that on the interior of the dish. This border has been related to cloud design, but I think it may be related to the trellis pattern which can be found on the inner rim of many kinrande bowls made in the 16th century. Although the casual style of the border decoration may at first glance appear to be shocking compared to the formal decoration of the center, this contrast may be related to the different styles of ceramic wares used in the 16th and 17th century tea gatherings, at which both wabi (luxurious) and sabi (rustic) were valued.

At the beginning of their exploration, the Spanish made first landfall on Hispaniola and were disappointed when no precious metals were found. It was not just a matter of finding gold or silver, but also being able to mine it and extract it from the ore. Mercury was needed for the amalgamation process, and the Spanish went as far as China to find it (Schottenhammer 2019).

The period of the Iberian Union was one of great expansion and wealth for Spain and Portugal. The Chinese and Japanese were hungry for silver to use for their commercial transactions, so the Spanish discovery of silver in the New World enabled the Spanish to participate in the porcelain trade (Krahe 2016).

Bibliography

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Figure 2: Dish, Porcelaneous ware painted in underglaze blue Diameter 30.5 cm. (12 in.), Late Ming dynasty, late 16th early 17th century, Swatow ware, The Metropolitan Museum of Art Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Herzman,



Figure 3: Dish with Reeds, Late 16th–early 17th century, stoneware, H. 2 1/4 in. (5.7 cm); W. 10 1/2 in. (26.7 cm); D. 9 3/4 in. (24.8 cm), The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Harry G. C. Packard Collection of Asian Art, Gift of Harry G. C. Packard, and Purchase, Fletcher, Rogers, Harris Brisbane Dick, and Louis V. Bell Funds, Joseph

CONFERENCE DIARY

THE POST-MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONGRESS READING 2026

The Post-Medieval Archaeology Congress will take place in Reading on the 15th-17th May.

Archaeology tours and the evening reception at the [Museum of English Rural Life](https://merl.reading.ac.uk) [merl.reading.ac.uk] will be on Friday 15th May.

The conference sessions will be held at the historic [Park House](https://hospitalityuor.co.uk) [hospitalityuor.co.uk] on the University of Reading's Whiteknights campus.

More information about the congress will be published on our website and social media accounts shortly.

Visit the SPMA conference webpage at: <https://spma.org.uk/conferences-and-meetings> [spma.org.uk]



EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF ARCHAEOLOGISTS, 31ST ANNUAL MEETING

The European Association of Archaeologists 31st Annual Meeting will take place virtually being held online. Further information can be found on their website: <https://www.e-a-a.org/EAA2025/HOME/EAA2025>

THE 8TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY

The International Congress for Underwater Archaeology takes place in Oostende (Belgium) on the 13th October to 17th October, 2025. Further information can be found on their website: <https://www.vliz.be/ikuwa8/en> [vliz.be]

CALL FOR NEWSLETTER CONTENT!

Calling all Early Career Researchers!

Want to write for publication but don't feel ready for peer review yet? We'd like the newsletter to be a stepping stone for you. As with our prize winners and grant recipients, you could have two to three pages of A4 (depending on how much room we have) of A4 for text and images to share your research.

MA or PhD recently completed?

We'd love to hear about your research and help share it further with your 150-250 word abstract, an image, contact details and a link to your work.

Academics!

Do you have cohort of undergrad or MA students who'd like to do a takeover/partial takeover? We're open to suggestions for content!

All members!

Other news of interest is also welcome: upcoming conferences, opportunities for Continued Professional Development, new university courses, fieldwork and volunteer opportunities? Get in touch!

Copy deadlines

We have changed our newsletter publication to Summer and Winter issues, but copy deadlines are always open. For enquiries email newsletter@spma.org.uk

OTHER NEWS: THE LAUNCH OF BARTMANN GOES GLOBAL



BARTMANN GOES GLOBAL

We're delighted to announce the launch of bartmanngoesglobal.org [bartmanngoesglobal.org]! 'Bartmann Goes Global - the cultural impact of an iconic object in the early modern period' is a collaborative research project between the UK and Germany, funded by the [Arts and Humanities Research Council \(AHRC\)](http://artsandhumanitiesresearchcouncil.ac.uk) [ukri.org] and the [Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft \(DFG\)](http://www.dfg.de) [dfg.de] and is focused on furthering our understanding of the ubiquitous German stoneware Bartmann jug. At bartmanngoesglobal.org [bartmanngoesglobal.org] you can:

Access resources - from our latest blogs to publications and previous research.

Find out more about our research themes and questions.

Explore our growing digital collection of Bartmann jugs.

Become part of Bartmann Goes Global

We're collecting examples of Bartmann jugs found around the world - so if you have one in your archive collection, have found one during an archaeological dig, while mudlarking, or even wreck diving - or know someone who has - we'd love to hear about it.

[Click here to add your jug to our digital collection today \[bartmanngoesglobal.org\]](http://bartmanngoesglobal.org)

You'll be helping transform our understanding of Bartmanns' global reach, and cultural importance. So far, we've had jugs added from sites in the United Kingdom, USA, Germany, and the Netherlands. If you are able to help build our collection, but don't want your jug displayed on the website - or can't because of copyright or other reasons, please get in touch with us at bartmanngoesglobal@mola.org.uk

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