

Research (which later became the Department of Scientific Research) in the British Museum (2002–2022). Roberta had a special research interest in Mediterranean and Indian Ocean contacts and exchange between the 1<sup>st</sup> century BCE and 6<sup>th</sup> century CE, with numerous publications on ceramics and trade in and between North Africa, the Levant, the Red Sea, South Arabia, Mesopotamia, the Gulf and India. The international reach of her research collaborations and friendships are remembered by colleagues from the Polish Centre of Mediterranean Archaeology Berenike

(Red Sea, Egypt) project

(<https://pcma.uw.edu.pl/en/2022/05/05/roberta-s-tomber-1954-2022-a-memory-by-iwona-zych/>)

and the Kerala Council for Historical Research

(<https://kchr.ac.in/archive/275/Dr-Roberta-Tomber-1954-1st-May-2022.html>).

In the Department of Scientific Research, she is remembered for her friendship and generous advice to colleagues and students. In the Department she recently co-edited a special issue of the

*Journal of Archaeological Science:*

*Reports on Contextualising science: Advances in ceramic production, use and distribution*

(<https://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-archaeological-science-reports/vol/16/suppl/C>).

Ross Thomas (Department of Greece and Rome, The British Museum) and Michela Spataro (Department of Scientific Research, The British Museum)

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## OBITUARY

We are heartbroken to announce the passing of our friend and colleague Roberta Tomber on the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2022.

After completing her PhD in 1988, Roberta worked for the Museum of London Archaeology Service (1988–2001) and in the Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton (2002–2004). Her numerous and important publications on Roman ceramics in Britain include

*The National Roman Fabric Reference Collection* (<https://www.romanpotterystudy.org.uk/nrfrc/base/index.php>). A leading scholar in the field of ceramic petrology, Roberta was Acting President of The Ceramic Petrology Group (1999–2012).

She was Honorary Visiting Researcher in the Department of Conservation and Scientific

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## CONFERENCE DIARY

43<sup>rd</sup> International Symposium on Archaeometry in Lisbon, Portugal, 16-20 May 2022

For info:

<https://www.isa2020-lisboa.pt/index.php>

28<sup>th</sup> EAA Annual Meeting in Budapest, Hungary, 31 August - 3 September 2022

For info:

<https://www.e-a-a.org/ea2022>

Annual Meeting of the Ceramic Petrology Group, Ghent University, 11-12 November 2022

For info:

<https://www.ugent.be/lw/archeologie/en/news-events/events/cpg-meeting-2022>

## THE OLD POTTER'S ALMANACK

*The Old Potter's Almanack* is the joint letter of the Ceramic Petrology Group and the Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group. It is a venue for presenting current projects, research, reviews, information and topics of interest on all aspects of pottery, ceramics and refractory materials to the audience of scholars, experts, students, interested groups and individuals. The OPA is now published on-line with Heidelberg University and reaches a world-wide audience (see below for website link).

We welcome contributions focussing on any aspect of ceramics technology from any period, culture and geographic locality. Topics can cover materials from collections, museums, excavations and experimental work.

The deadline for copy of articles for the next issue of the OPA is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2022 (guidelines for contributors are available from the Editor). Copy and other information, news and events should be sent to the Editor, Michela Spataro (for details see below).

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## WEBSITES

### The Old Potter's Almanack

<https://journals.ub.uni-heidelberg.de/index.php/opa/index>

### Ceramic Petrology Group

<https://independent.academia.edu/CeramicPetrologyGroupCPG>

### Prehistoric Ceramics Research Group

<https://www.prehistoricpottery.org/>

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