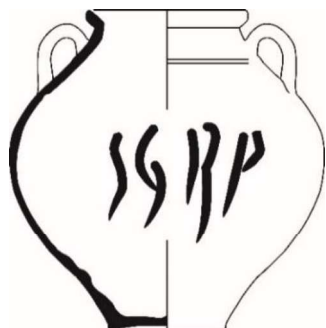




Study Group for Roman Pottery SPRING NEWSLETTER 2026

Hello and welcome to the SGRP Spring Newsletter 2026!

Apologies for the delay and I am pleased to say that going forward, one of our members, Matilda Little, has kindly volunteered to help out with the Newsletters so please do keep sending in your pottery updates, queries, or pictures of the lovely things you're working on, as we all love to see pretty and/or unusual sherds. I have not had the fortune of looking at either lately so please send in some images to make me smile!! 😊

As we move closer to Easter, I can tell that Spring is trying hard to appear (and stay!) with bulbs popping up, trees in bud and egg shells as evidence of baby birds hatching (all things I've seen on the walk to school recently – last week we had to send in a list of what we'd seen so I've been paying close attention!).

This is also the time of year when the organisation and arrangements for the SGRP conference are well under way, with a short update below. Emails with further information will be sent out soon. We will be in Leeds this year and we hope to see you there!

For those who attended last year's Gloucester Conference there are some reminders of the papers presented, and the fun times had chatting over coffee, tea, and occasionally something stronger! The pictures also represent our groups coming together over a shared interest of Roman pottery, and I've also included what (in my opinion!) is a great facepot – and one that makes me smile wherever I see it – and I hope it makes you smile too! 😊

Charlotte (Lotti) and Matilda (Mattie)

The SGRP Committee

President: Dr Alice Lyons: alice.lyons1@ntlworld.com

Secretary: Elizabeth Johnson: embe1@le.ac.uk

Treasurer: Richard Chadwick: treasurer.sgrp@gmail.com

Webpage coordinator: Edward Biddulph: website.sgrp@gmail.com

Newsletter coordinators: Charlotte Burn: cburn@mola.org.uk / Matilda Little MLittle@pre-construct.com

Social Media coordinator: Claire Davey: socials.sgrp@gmail.com

Journal Editors: Edward Biddulph edward.biddulph@oxfordarchaeology.com
and Charlotte Burn (shadowing)

Ordinary members: Alex Beeby, Kayt Hawkins, Janice Mcleish, Andrew Peachey, Fiona Seeley, Jamie Walker

Committee News and updates

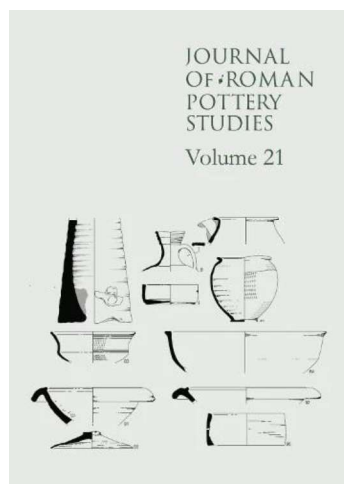
Dear SGRP members,

It feels wonderful to have got through the dreary days of January and February and to be welcoming in the spring of 2026.

Your SGRP committee continues to meet regularly to progress the aims of the group, which involves not only supporting our members with their research and learning but making sure we remain fiscally solvent and legal; I would like to thank our Treasurer Richard Chadwick for all his hard work in this regard.

As a result of our financial stability I am very happy to say that small grants of £500 have been awarded to further mortaria and samian training (the results of which will be included in subsequent newsletters).

We are also very proud to announce the latest publication of the Journal of Roman Pottery Studies (JRPS), which is a wonderful collaboration not only of SGRP members work, but of committee members: Edward Biddulph, Kayt Hawkins, Charlotte Burn, all of whom have worked together to make sure our valued journal continues to thrive. We are actively seeking contributions for JRPS 22, so please get in touch with Edward Biddulph if you would like your work to be published with us!



*If you haven't received a JRPS 21, please check your SGRP subscription and address is up to date; we have copies in hand to deliver to those that have somehow fallen from the list. Please contact Richard Chadwick if you need any support with changing your details and/or receiving a journal.

Preparations for the SGRP 2026 Leeds conference are well underway; thank you Jamie Walker for organizing. The conference will start with a welcome meal on the evening of Friday 26th June, followed by a day of presentations at Leeds City Museum on Saturday 27th. It is our intention to celebrate the life of Kay Hartley and her huge contribution to Roman pottery studies and mortaria in particular. Please look out for an email with booking details, provisional programme and a call for papers - coming to your inbox very soon.

Remember also to check out the SGRP social media accounts (detailed below), this is a great way to keep in touch with other members between our annual conference! The committee is presently thinking of ways to update our social media banners/graphics - so if any members have skills in this area please do get in touch.

Finally (from me), I wish all SGRP members health and happiness and many wonderful Roman pots - I hope to see many of you at conference.

From Alice Lyons (SGRP President) on behalf of your committee: Elizabeth Johnson (Secretary), Richard Chadwick (Treasurer), Edward Biddulph (Webpage and Journal Editor), Charlotte Burn (Newsletter and JRPS Editor shadow), Claire Davey (Socials and Digital Media) and Ordinary Members: Kayt Hawkins, Fiona Seeley, Janice McLeish, and Jamie Walker.

In this Newsletter, we will be introducing Claire Davey, one of our committee members who helps co-ordinate our Social Media pages and Discord groups.

Claire Davey is an SGRP committee Ordinary Member and part of the team managing the various SGRP social media accounts. Last year she started the SGRP Discord chatroom, to improve communication and collaboration among people working with Roman pottery (although anyone with an interest in Roman ceramics is welcome to join!).

Since 2023, Claire has been working as a Roman pottery Specialist at Museum of London Archaeology (MOLA), working on pottery from sites across southern England and the Midlands, and has developed an interest in amphorae stamps, particularly Dressel 20 stamps.



Prior to becoming a pottery specialist, Claire worked in the field for various commercial archaeology units. After completing an MSc focusing on analysing inorganic archaeological materials, she became a Finds Supervisor, relishing the chance to work with the various finds coming from numerous excavations. After dabbling in medieval and post-medieval pottery, she jumped at the opportunity to be trained in Roman pottery by our very own SGRP President Alice Lyons and things were never the same again!

Claire is a keen gardener, having previously worked in horticulture and this spring and summer will be spending her days off digging up part of her garden to create a small allotment area.

Nominations and Applications Reminder

Graham Webster Bursary

A limited number of early career bursaries (up to £100) are available on application to support with conference costs' for attending the annual SGRP conference please contact the Treasurer (Richard Chadwick) for further details and how to apply.

John Gillam Prize

The annual John Gillam Prize, established in 2004, honours a key founder of our Group for his tremendous contribution to the subject. Nominations are now being accepted for the 2024 award. A wide range of work that has had an impact on pottery found in Roman Britain and the Continent is eligible, so long as it was completed within the last two years. Nominations can include pottery reports (both published and grey literature), site reports, monographs, synthetic studies, websites, student dissertations, digital projects or theses. Any nomination must highlight specific aspects of Roman pottery from a technological, regional or thematic perspective. Please send your nominations to the President, who chairs the Gillam Committee.

SGRP Conference 2026

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Social Media Updates

SGRP DISCORD

The SGRP Discord is a chatroom for people who want to talk about or ask questions about Roman pottery. Anyone can join! We would like to add more people who know the Roman pottery from their local area so we can improve the various regional pottery groups and help people working with pottery to identify what they have from newly excavated sites. Email socials.sgrp@gmail.com for an invite to join the SGRP Discord group!

SGRP YOUTUBE

In December we re-launched the SGRP Youtube channel and you can now replay many of the talks from last year's conference in Gloucester.

Find the SGRP YouTube at www.youtube.com/@studygroupforromanpottery9288

SGRP SOCIAL MEDIA

We will soon be overhauling the SGRP social media accounts – we are currently on Facebook, BlueSky and Instagram. As part of this, we would like to develop a wider range of SGRP artwork to better fit the various banner/profile picture spaces across these pages. If anyone has any ideas they would like to submit, or if anyone wants anything posted on our social media accounts, email the SGRP social media email address. We would especially like to share posts about upcoming events or new discoveries that involve Roman Pottery, from around the UK or from across the Roman Empire!

Email any submissions to socials.sgrp@gmail.com

Claire Davey

Photos from the SGRP 2025 Gloucester Conference







SGRP Membership – We Need You!

Can you help with any of the following...?

Fautores

Dear SGRP Members,

See below for a request for a contributor to a volume celebrating 70 years of Fautores. If anyone would like to get involved, please contact Roderick Geerts: rcageerts@hotmail.com.

Appeal from Roderick Geerts:

Next year our society will celebrate its 70th birthday. In order to mark that joyous occasion, we aim to publish a book on our 70 year history. In the attachment you can find the preliminary table of contents. The history of the society will be discussed, the acta, all our congresses, and finally a section on all the countries our members are active in, do note all authors listed are prospective and have been contacted as have you, the definitive list might change.

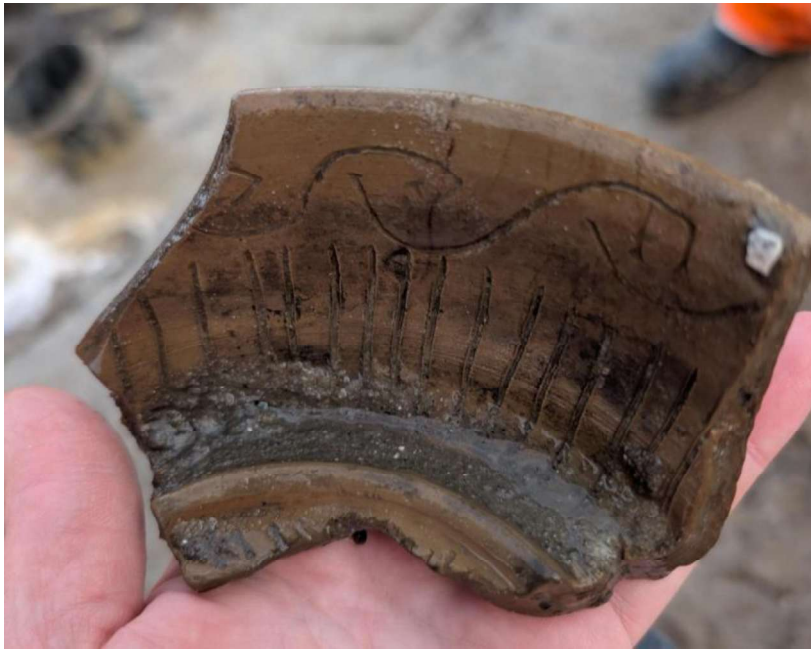
I am e-mailing to you as a prospective author for the section on the United Kingdom and Ireland, with the question if you want to contribute to this volume? Feel free to contact others/Fautores to write a joint contribution, but do inform us of this decision.

More practical what would a contribution entail:

- an overview of Roman pottery studies your region
- which Fautores were active in the region
- how did the RCRF and/or the Congress shape or influence Roman pottery studies in your region
- we are aiming for a 4 page contribution (approximately 2500 words) including up to 4 figures but excluding bibliography
- note that each Congress is discussed in detail already (see our website for the core of the text that will be used <https://fautores.org/pages/historia-fautorum.htm>. Therefore, if there was a Congress organised in your region, you can focus on the impact of the Congress and not on the Congress itself
- you can follow the RCRF Acta author guidelines, see https://fautores.org/Acta%20RCRF_guidelines%20for%20authors_2024.pdf
- deadline is the End of Februari 2026

For inspiration feel free to read the introduction of the volume presented at the Leiden Congress last year. That introduction already presents a brief overview of the Netherlands and will be edited and included in our volume (<https://www.sidestone.com/books/roman-pottery-in-the-low-countries>).

Pottery queries (and pretty pictures!)



Has anyone seen decoration on a vessel like this before? Or a decorated cheese press? Or at least this vessel looks like a cheese press but open to other interpretations!

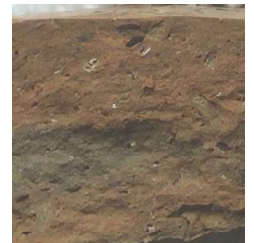
It was recovered from a well at an excavation site to the north of Southampton.

Please contact Kayt Hawkins with parallels, ideas or suggestions (kayt.hawkins@ucl.ac.uk)

Thank you!

Does anyone have any suggestions as to the fabric or form parallels for this painted narrow necked jar, from the Buckingham area. I know it's late, but the fabric is also tricky, it looks to be an alluvial grey, brown fabric, minimal inclusions but fine rounded mollusc inclusions. Hard fired and fine matrix.

Suggestions to Jamie Walker (jwalker@cfa-arch.co.uk)



Isn't it lovely!!



I had the pleasure of refitting a beautiful near-complete colour-coated flagon recently unearthed at a site excavated by Oxford Archaeology. The vessel originates from the Nene Valley, has a long upright beaded rim and disc (1.7, A14 Typology, 47) and is decorated with intricate rouletted bands and grooves on its outer surfaces. Form 190 (Perrin, 1999, fig. 62, 99) provides the clearest parallel. Such examples are dated from the 3rd to earlier 4th centuries AD and preceded vessels with wider diameter necks in the later 4th century AD (98).

References

Lyons, A. 2020. *Roman Pottery Vessel Type Series Constructed for the A14 MoLA Headland Project*.

Perrin, J.R. 1999. Roman Pottery from Excavations at and near to the Roman Small Town of Durobrivae, Water Newton, Cambridgeshire, 1956-58. *Journal of Roman Pottery Studies*, Volume 8. Oxbow Books

Laura Mitchell (OA Archaeology)