

Editorial

This volume of JONAS has, for various reasons, been in the making for a long time. I wish to thank all the contributors for their patience and good spirits, despite the delay. The ongoing pandemic has indeed taught us all that patience is required, at all times.

While the methodological scope of the papers in this volume is restricted to archaeometallurgy, archaeobotany and stable isotope analysis, with cases from present-day Finland and Sweden, there is a wide range of archaeological topics covered by the papers included. Pääkkönen and colleagues have measured stable carbon isotope values of saturated fatty acids in modern animals from the Baltic Sea and Finland, forming an important point of reference for future studies employing organic residue analysis of pottery from the circum-Baltic region. Isotope analysis has also been employed by Fjellström and colleagues to study historic reindeer herding practices in northern Sweden, analysing the stable isotopes of carbon, nitrogen and sulphur in reindeer bone collagen. The analysis of metal composition in Viking Age copper-alloy artefacts revealed large variations, as well as differences compared with Bronze Age artefacts, which Nord and colleagues have attributed to innovations in mining and metallurgy on the continent. Archaeometallurgy in a global perspective has been further explored by Sahlén, in his review of a book on this subject edited by Roberts and

Thornton. Tranberg and colleagues have studied burial traditions at a Late Medieval cemetery in Northern Ostrobothnia by analysing micro- and macrofossils in the graves, demonstrating the use of plant material not only for adornment or food offerings, but also for

bedding and cover. Alanko and Uotila, finally, have analysed archaeobotanical remains of both cultivated and wild plants from a historical convent in south-western Finland to highlight changes in the use of plants for food, dyeing and medicinal purposes from the 13th to the 18th century.

This volume is dedicated to the memory of Doctor *honoris causa* Margaretha Klockhoff (1930–2015). Margaretha joined the Archaeological Research Laboratory (ARL) already from the start in the mid-seventies, and formed a vital part of the ARL for decades. She was a very proficient metal conservator, whose technical knowledge and

dexterity transformed shapeless lumps of corrosion into archaeological objects, revealing manufacturing details, previously unknown ornaments, abrasion marks or runic inscriptions. Over the years, she supervised numerous students in the lab, participated in excavations, performed metal conservation in public and was an inspiration to everyone who met her. Last, but not least, she notably contributed to the ARL atmosphere with her warm personality, wonderful sense of humour and story-telling skills. We miss her.



Margaretha Klockhoff wearing a crown of laurel at the conferment ceremony in the Stockholm City Hall 2005, when she was awarded an honorary doctorate.

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Gunilla Eriksson
Editor-in-chief

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