



Editorial

Ever since spring 2020 our life has changed, getting more problematic and complicated. The necessary measurements taken to combat the covid-19 pandemic have caused several changes with regard to our professional archaeological work schedule and impeded our research. Excavation campaigns had to be cancelled or could take place only with a drastically reduced team. Conferences and lectures had to be cancelled, postponed or presented online without personal contacts. Specialised libraries had to be closed, and to this day are not fully accessible. University teaching had to be restricted or cancelled. These measurements implied a serious setback for research or at least a slowdown, and impaired publications in print media and publishing houses.

Nevertheless, we are pleased to present the fifth volume of the *Journal of Hellenistic Pottery and Material Culture* in spite of the said difficulties, and consider it a reason for celebrating a mini jubilee. We also wish to take the opportunity to express our sincere thanks to all those professionals who supported the independent periodical in different ways. They include the numerous colleagues participating as authors and reviewers, and the tireless *Archaeopress* team backing our work since 2015 and throughout the current crisis.

We are confident the fifth *JHP* volume will be followed by others in the same format, as print-version but especially as online-edition with free access. It is undisputed that the pandemic caused the common library research to be superseded by home-office activities, accentuating the need for unrestricted accessibility of research data and scientific resources. In this context, the momentary crisis invigorates our journal, and hopefully will help to press ahead with a new approach to scholarly publications. The manner to prevail in the future lies in the hands of each of us by opting for a specific publication format.

Berlin, September 2021

Patricia Kögler and Renate Rosenthal-Heginbottom