



Dear Readers,

If you are one of the many who have enjoyed the visual textile abundance in the popular Netflix drama series *Bridgerton*, which is based on the books by Julia Quinn, you are familiar with this short but powerful introduction and know that it heralds something super exciting. In the world of the *Archaeological Textiles Review* (ATR), “Dear readers” is the signal for a new issue of the journal containing a mix of interesting articles including Icelandic and northern mittens, Inuit clothing, an interesting textile survey, and millennia of Danish wool fibres. Maybe this is not quite as colourful as an episode of *Bridgerton*, but it is definitely not bland.

This issue also showcases the profusion of new research projects focusing on archaeological textiles and on textile heritage. The pages in ATR 66 report only a selection, but they still illustrate the vitality of the textile research field and promise new knowledge and future research. This is particularly well exemplified by the recent foundation of a new research centre dedicated to archaeological textiles, hosted by the Sapienza University, in Rome, Italy. The new A3Tex centre will focus on the integration of archaeometry into textile heritage research. We are looking forward to hearing more about it, seeing its activities grow, and reporting them here!

In other news, Eva Andersson Strand became professor in archaeology at the University of Copenhagen and was presented with a *Festschrift* which was (astonishingly) kept a complete secret from her for more than two years despite the stellar cast of authors who contributed to it from across Europe. We all know how fast news spreads through the textile network. Successfully swearing so many people to silence was quite an accomplishment.

This year we are sad to report the loss of textile research pioneers Nettie K. Adams and Amica Sundström. Nettie K. Adams was a textile archaeologist from the US, who drove the discipline through her life-long work on Nubian textiles in Egypt and Sudan. Nettie’s personal archives were accepted at the Centre for Textile Research (CTR) by ATR co-editor Elsa Yvanez, who had the opportunity to compile a comprehensive obituary tracking Nettie’s career and her rich bibliography. Amica Sundström from Sweden, who passed away far too young, was a dear and very much appreciated colleague. She was a competent and capable craftsperson within the world of north European textiles. Amica was among those educated at the Weaving School in Borås in Sweden. It was here that she was introduced to the North European Symposium on Archaeological

Textiles (NESAT) community for the first time through her participation in the 1996 conference (NESAT VI). In 2018, she was employed at the Swedish History Museum in Stockholm as curator of their amazing textile collections, including the Viking Age Birka textiles which she competently and openly shared with interested colleagues. Amica Sundström will be deeply missed. A memorial fund has been established in her honour. It will provide scholarships for people who work with textiles. Her friend and colleague Maria Neijman (who wrote the obituary in this issue) and Amica’s daughter, Ester Spetz, are collecting donations for it. For details on how to contribute, see the Historical Textiles Facebook page and search for “memorial” (<https://www.facebook.com/historicaltextiles1/>).

A new feature for this issue is the “trip down memory lane” by Lise Bender Jørgensen, who shares her lifetime of interesting work with us all. It is a lovely testimony to research before the digital age but also to the power and importance of personal relationships. Such bonds are fostered by in-person get togethers and collaborative projects. This year’s section reporting conferences and projects rivals last year’s impressive achievements and there is no doubt that these events will have sowed the seeds of forthcoming friendships and professional exchanges. They all show how textile research keeps growing and is able to attract both talented people and substantial funding.

Achievements for people in ATR’s editorial team include Elsa Yvanez’s appointment as the new director for CTR from 2025 and Jane Malcolm-Davies is now associate professor and senior lecturer in textile studies at Uppsala University.

Keep sending articles in good time for our annual deadlines, and please take great care to conform to the author’s guidelines. The deadline for articles for each issue is the 1 May. We need project reports preferably before the end of June but we can accept conference reports right after the conferences, if they are held no later than 30 November. The same deadline applies to all other announcements.

All the past issues of ATR are available from the website (<https://atnfriends.com/>) but it is still possible to order a printed copy of any of the journals from the web shop at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark ([www.webshophum-en.ku.dk/shop/archaeological-textiles-664s1.html](http://www.webshophum-en.ku.dk/shop/archaeological-textiles-664s1.html)).

So – Dear Readers – please do enjoy ATR 66 and spread the word about it. The ATR editorial team wishes you a colourful and super exciting new academic year 2025.

*The Editors*