



Annelies Goldmann, née Peters

20 December 1936 – 13 January 2022

Annelies was born in the Charlottenburg district of Berlin in 1936, and her childhood was marked by the Second World War. After the end of the war, her family found refuge in Neumünster, which was to become their second home. The history of divided Berlin never let go of her and shaped the rest of her life. Her future husband Klaus Goldmann was another refugee who had fled from Guben to Neumünster. They met on the train during their studies.

As a graduate economist, Annelies accompanied her husband, the prehistorian Klaus Goldmann, when he took up a position at the Museum of Prehistory and Early History in Berlin-Charlottenburg in 1971. The development and expansion of the Museum Village Düppel, of which Klaus Goldmann was appointed director in 1974, also became Annelies Goldmann's future field of work.

If one follows the biographical data of Annelies Goldmann, one quickly notices that she pursued and developed her interests with great enthusiasm despite certain social and family obligations.

In 1977, she began working as a volunteer at Museum Village Düppel and quickly became a recognised specialist in medieval weaving technologies and the processing of wool of ancient breeds of sheep. From June 1989 until her retirement, Annelies was permanently employed as a part-time employee of the Museum Village Düppel (later: Stiftung Stadtmuseum Berlin, Museum Village Düppel department).

Düppel provided Annelies with the optimal conditions to explore all aspects of the wool production process: sheep husbandry, the gathering or shearing of wool, further processing for spinning, thread production, dyeing, weaving with various

weaving implements, the finishing treatment of woven fabrics, and finally, the reconstruction of archaeological finds of garments.

For decades, she would provide ideas for new projects to the wool group within experimental archaeology, with a range of topics such as the reconstruction of the Reepsholt coat or the Vaal ribbon, the weaver's card, or the ancient Skudde sheep breed. Numerous publications reflect this dedication to research.

Her approach was both earnest and fun-loving, and she liked to test the results of her research in practice in cooperation with the wool group to obtain a comprehensive insight. The result of these projects were not only the finished fabrics and the publications, Annelies also gave numerous lectures, especially at the Northern European Symposia on Archaeological Textiles (NESAT). In this way, she contributed significantly to making the Museum Village Düppel more widely known. Both on a national and an international level, the wool group contributed to a better understanding of medieval wool processing

through working exhibitions, such as in Detmold, Oerlinghausen, or the Polish Museum Village of Biskupin.

The wool group of the museum village also participated in the travelling exhibition "Experimental Archaeology in Germany", which was shown for a long time all over Germany and beyond, and Annelies and other members of the group participated in several stations of the tour to demonstrate their techniques, to pass on their experience, and ultimately, to have fun and enjoy



Annelies Goldmann (Image: Eva-Maria Pfarr)



seeing foreign cities and regions together. Annelies always made sure to write down exactly what the wool group had done, and these protocol volumes have become a real treasure for new members who can learn from the history of the wool group and its projects.

It was important for her to stay in contact with textile archaeologists or people who worked directly on archaeological textile finds, such as Inga Hägg, with whom she conducted a weekend seminar dedicated to the textiles recovered from the harbour of Haithabu. Only few people were aware of her love of drawing and watercolours. An impressive result of this interest was her pictorial weaving, in which she transformed

her watercolours into woollen images.

In the end, the life of Annelies and Klaus came full circle again. After the unexpected death of their son in 2016 and the increasing health problems of her husband, the couple moved back to Neumünster in 2017, where a familiar circle of relatives and friends waited to receive them, including Klaus Tidow. But it was above all their daughter, Antje Goldmann, who created a loving and caring environment for them during their last years, in which Annelies could peacefully fall asleep on 13 January, 2022.

*By Johanna Banck-Burgess,
Eva-Maria Pfarr, Antje Goldmann*