

## Jane Rowlandson (1953-2018)



Jane Rowlandson was a pupil of Bolton School (Girls' Division) who throughout her life retained great pride in her northern and socialist roots. In 1972 she went to Oxford to read Literae Humaniores at St Hilda's College, where she subsequently began her doctoral research into Roman Egypt, supervised by Alan Bowman. She continued this as a Research Fellow at The Queen's College, and gained her D.Phil. in 1983. After research and teaching posts at Newcastle, University College London, Christ Church and Birkbeck, in 1989 Jane transferred to King's College London as Lecturer in Ancient History, and was promoted to Reader in 2003.

While at King's Jane published her monumental and influential monograph on *Landowners and Tenants in Roman Egypt* (1996), the book of her thesis, and edited the innovative sourcebook *Women and Society in Greek and Roman Egypt* (1998), for which she shepherded an unruly flock of international friends and colleagues. She invested enormous care and energy in her teaching and tutoring of undergraduate and postgraduate students, and was a staunch and cheerful colleague to all through the 'exciting developments' that universities had begun to experience. All this was not diminished by her worsening rheumatoid arthritis, which she fought with courage and determination, until in 2005 she had to take early retirement to her much-loved home in Aberystwyth with her husband Michael Roberts. Thereafter she retained close research links with her colleagues within and beyond the Department, and continued working right up to her death on 20 November 2018 on two big projects. From the first, an ambitious study of the culture of Roman Egypt, two previews have emerged: a paper with Ryo Takahashi on

‘Brother-sister marriage’ (*JRS* 2009), and another entitled ‘Dissing the Egyptians: legal, cultural and ethnic identities in Roman Egypt’, in 2013 (in ed. Gardner et al., *Creating Ethnicities*). The second, a collection of translated sources on slaves and dependents in ancient Egypt from the Pharaonic to Arab periods, was nearing completion, and will be a posthumous monument. Jane’s scholarship, good cheer and wit will be sorely missed by her many colleagues, students and friends.

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