



# Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland

[www.minersoc.org](http://www.minersoc.org)

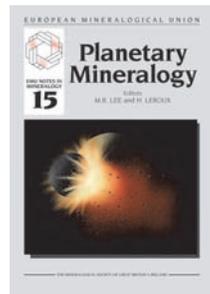
## END-OF-TERM REVIEW



Two years flies by, and my term of office will soon come to an end. The period between that opening contribution to *Elements*, and, in my case, this closing one, seems to have been short indeed, but certainly enjoyable. So, what happened? What was good? And where can we do better?

Our journals are of high quality and showcase some of the best research in their areas. The *Mineralogical Magazine* (known informally as *MinMag*) is enjoying its highest impact factor ever and is working hard to publish the large amount of papers being submitted in as short amount of time as possible. *Clay Minerals – Journal of Fine Particle Science* has a plentiful supply of content from good authors and has published an extra issue (see below) during 2015. Our thanks to the editors, guest editors, associate editors, staff and, most importantly, the authors. We continue to work to improve the service we provide as journal publishers (see below also).

In collaboration with colleagues in the European Mineralogical Union (EMU), we have now published eight titles in the EMU Notes in Mineralogy series, most recently *Planetary Mineralogy*, edited by M. Lee and H. Leroux. These books are of the highest quality and are excellent teaching/training tools. Sales continue to grow and our first year of involvement in the GeoscienceWorld e-books product (<http://ebooks.geoscienceworld.org/>) has borne significant fruit!



Work since 2007 culminated in the enormously well-received Euroclay2015 conference, held in Edinburgh during July 2015. There were 520 delegates, 400+ presentations, five field trips, numerous social events and a fabulous banquet in 'Our Dynamic Earth'. Well done to Steve Hillier and to the large scientific/financial/social and staff team who did a great job. Involvement in international conferences is an important part of the work done by the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland (aka MinSoc). There was a stand this year at the V. M. Goldschmidt



conference where the Environmental Mineralogy Group ran a session; and the MinSoc will be much involved in

the European Mineralogy Conference to be held in Rimini (Italy) in September 2016.

On a different scale, but equally important, are the Research-in-Progress meetings and the various workshops organised by the society's eight Special Interest Groups, groups that are the core of our scientific community. All meetings welcome colleagues from abroad if we can give you enough notice to attend. If you can't travel to join us, we are gradually making better use of social media to share the meetings with you. The Applied Mineralogy Group collected pictorial abstracts for its critical materials workshop in June and sent them all out on Twitter as each presentation was given.

The MSGBI finances are managed carefully by the staff, the Treasurer (J. Adams), the Finance Committee (including three Custodian Trustees) and by the society's auditor (S. Rees). Our aim is to balance income from all sources with expenditure in all areas. The turnover is in the region of £400k per annum. Market pressures have meant a reduction in library subscriber numbers this past year, and so we are taking appropriate steps to cut expenditure to match that shortfall. Our ambition is to avoid reducing activity where possible. We have a very clear view of member (and especially student member) priorities following on from the member survey carried out during the year.



And so, as always, a number of areas to work on, but, by and large, the society passes to the incoming president in good shape. I welcome Prof. Karen Hudson-Edwards (Birkbeck, University of London) as the next President. She will serve from January 2016 to December 2017. Thanks to all of you who have supported the society during the past two years. I encourage you to continue to do so.

**Frances Wall**, MSGBI President

## NAC+ 2016 21–23 MARCH 2016 EDINBURGH, UK



### "The North Atlantic Craton and Surrounding Belts: A Craton-specific Approach to Exploration Targeting."

Following on from the successful first North Atlantic Craton meeting in St. Andrews (Scotland) in March 2014, the organising committee invites you to attend the second meeting in Edinburgh (Scotland) in 2016.

### Registration now open

The North Atlantic Craton (NAC) stretches from Canada through Greenland, Scotland and into Norway. This meeting welcomes contributions that develop our understanding of the NAC, its surrounding mobile belts and their mineral resource potential.

Science themes:

- Formation and cratonization of the NAC: from micro-continents to craton
- Proterozoic orogens: the mobile belts surrounding the NAC
- The NAC margin in Canada and its mineralisation
- Metallogenesis and its links to geodynamic setting
- Mineral resources of the NAC and adjacent Palaeoproterozoic mobile belts

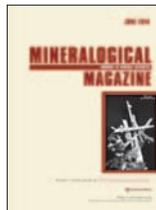
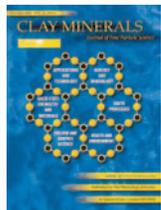
Visit <http://bgs.ac.uk/NAC2016/home.html> for updates.

As in 2014, there will be a post-conference fieldtrip, which will run 24–28 March 2016 and will visit the Outer Hebrides. The focus will be on Archaean gneisses of the NAC, Palaeoproterozoic belts formed at the craton margins and a range of younger intrusions, including the Loch Roag dyke in which one can find mantle and lower crustal xenoliths. There will also be spectacular coastal scenery and the chance to visit some stunning heritage sites.

The cost of the field trip is to be confirmed, but likely to be ~£500 including all travel, hotel accommodation, meals and field guidebook. A maximum of 15 places will be available. Please e-mail [NACworkshop@gmail.com](mailto:NACworkshop@gmail.com) to express interest.

The organizers aim to have a 50:50 blend of industrial and academic invited speakers, plus additional oral and poster presentations offered for younger researchers.

## SPECIAL ISSUES OF CLAY MINERALS AND MINERALOGICAL MAGAZINE



Online-only issues of the MSBGJ journals *Clay Minerals* and *Mineralogical Magazine* have appeared in recent months and both are Open Access.

In *Mineralogical Magazine* we will have a large issue of some 450 pages (~42 papers) arising out of presentations made at the 'Implementing

Geological Disposal of Radioactive Waste Technology Platform' (IGD-TP) meeting held in Manchester (UK) in April 2014. This includes sections on:

- Radionuclide and gas behaviour
- Natural systems, including biogeochemistry, biosphere and geosphere
- Monitoring
- Engineered barriers, wastefoms and criticality
- Societal aspects
- Developing programmes for geological disposal
- Safety case
- Disposal concept and technology development

This is for the November 2015 issue of the journal. The guest editors are Kath Morris, Nick Bryan (both of the University of Manchester) and Nick Evans (Loughborough University).

Go to <http://www.ingentaconnect.com/content/minsoc/mag> or <http://minmag.geoscienceworld.org/>

In *Clay Minerals*, we have an additional, August, issue of the journal comprising 12 papers presented at the Mid-European Clay Conference. The guest editors for this issue are Katja Emmerich, Michael Plötze and Helge Stanjek. The table of contents is as follows:

- **Does the nucleation of clay minerals control the rate of diagenesis in sandstones?** M. Wilkinson
- **Recommendations for Kübler Index standardization** L. Warr & R. Ferreiro Mählmann
- **Parametric Rietveld refinement of coexisting disordered clay minerals.** K. Ufer & R. Kleeberg
- **Crystal chemistry of Na-rich rectorite from North Little Rock, Arkansas** J. Dietel, A. Steudel, L.N. Warr & K. Emmerich
- **Realistic molecular cluster models for exfoliated kaolinite** A. Táborosi & Robert K. Szilagyí
- **Preparation and characterization of kaolinite nanostructures: reaction pathways, morphology and structural order** B. Zsirka, E. Horváth, É. Makó, R. Kurdi & J. Kristóf
- **Functional nanostructures of montmorillonite/conducting polyaniline** J. Tokarsky, P. Peikertová, L. Kulhánková, K. Mamulová Kutlákova, L. Neuwirthová, V. Matějka, V. Stýskala & P. Čapková
- **Surface structure of organoclays as examined by X-ray photoelectron spectroscopy and molecular dynamic simulations** B. Schampera, R. Solc, S.K. Woche, R. Mikutta, S. Dultz, G. Guggenberger & D. Tunega
- **Process tomography of diffusion with PET for evaluating anisotropy and heterogeneity** J. Kulenkampff, M. Gründig, A. Zakhnini, R. Gerasch, & J. Lippmann-Pipke

- **Hydro-mechanical properties of Calcigel-polyacrylamide composites** H. Haase & T. Schanz
- **High-density bimodal bentonite blends for hydraulic sealings at the Ibbenbüren coalmine** F. Wolters, W. Baille, K. Emmerich, E. Schmidt, C. Wolters, F. Königer, J. Kunz, V. Krase & M. Schellhorn
- **Kaolin from Aocolulco (Puebla, Mexico) as raw material: Mineralogical and thermal characterization** M. Garcia-Valles, T. Pi, P. Alfonso, C. Canet, S. Martinez, A. Jimenez-Franco, M. Tarrago & B. Hernandez-Cruz

## MSBGJ AWARDS

The MSBGJ award winners for 2016 have been approved by council. They are:



**The Mineralogical Society-Schlumberger Award:** Liane Benning



**Max Hey Medal:** Philip Pogge von Strandmann



**Collins Medal:** M. Jeff Wilson



Make a nomination for the 2017 awards now (closing date 22 April 2016). Visit [www.minersoc.org/Awards.html](http://www.minersoc.org/Awards.html) for more information. At the same time, please consider a nomination for the **Howie Award**.

An award will be made annually to "the lead author of the 'best paper' published (in English) in a mineralogical journal (*sensu lato*) within three years of award of his/her PhD". Details of the nomination process are given at: <http://www.minersoc.org/best-paper1.html>.

The award will take the form of a bursary (£1000) to attend an international conference (to be agreed with the Society) to present a paper which will be entitled the 'R.A. Howie Memorial Lecture'. The money will be paid on receipt of an official confirmation of registration for the conference.

The 'R.A. Howie Memorial Lecture' Award is named in honour of Prof. R. A. Howie (1923–2012), who was a distinguished professor of mineralogy at Kings College London and Royal Holloway University, London.

## EMC 2016



The European Mineralogical Congress, organized by the University of Ferrara will take place 11–15 September 2016 at the Marina di Rimini in Rimini (Italy). The second meeting of the national mineralogical societies of

Europe will take place in Italy (EMC 2012, the first such meeting, was held, to great acclaim, in Frankfurt, Germany). Some 800 scientists are expected to attend.

The conference will cover areas such as mantle petrology and geochemistry, magmatism and volcanology, metamorphism, applied mineralogy and material science, thermodynamics, kinetics and mineral physics, and mineral crystallography. For a detailed list of sessions, more on registration and how to submit an abstract, please go to [emc2016.socminpet.it](http://emc2016.socminpet.it).