



Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland

www.minersoc.org

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY NEW BOOK TITLE

The EMU–MinSoc Notes in Mineralogy series has yet another new arrival to report, bringing to four the number published in 2017.

Volume 19—*Mineralogical Crystallography*

At the dawn of structural crystallography, Walther Friedrich, Paul Knipping and Max von Laue carried out the first experiments and developed the theory of X-ray diffraction. From the early days, when even the simplest inorganic structures filled an entire PhD study, structural crystallography evolved at its own pace and found new partners in chemistry, physics, materials science, biology and other fields of the physical sciences. Both morphological and structural crystallography, however, have remained as important instruments in the mineralogist's toolbox. Efforts to enhance the existing instrumentation, to improve our understanding of the theory of diffraction, to study nanoparticulate or poorly ordered materials, and to master large, complex structures continue in all fields of physical sciences. Mineralogy can, thus, use the fruits of this labour and include them in its own toolbox.

Mineralogical Crystallography is edited by Jakub Plášil, Juraj Majzlan and Sergey Krivovichev, and includes the following five chapters:

- “Structure description, interpretation and classification in structural mineralogy” S.V. Krivovichev
- “Methods of crystallography: powder X-ray diffraction” A. Altomare, C. Cuocci, G.D. Gatta, A. Moliterni and R. Rizzi
- “Electron crystallography” L. Palatinus, M. Gemmi and M. Klementova
- “Environmental mineralogical applications of total scattering and pair distribution function analysis” F.M. Michel
- “Aperiodic mineral structures” L. Bindi and G. Chapuis

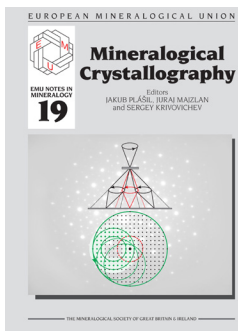
MEMBERSHIP

The Mineralogical Society continues its policy of giving one year's free membership to students. We have set a limit of 150 free student memberships per year and these are allocated on a first come–first served basis. If you have not previously benefited from free membership of the society, then join now at www.minersoc.org. Just click on “Join”.

Note that all members are now able to access both of our journals and *Elements* as part of the membership fee. Log in at www.minersoc.org and you will be presented with a link to the full text online. If your library offers access to *Mineralogical Magazine* or *Clay Minerals* through GeoScienceWorld, please access the content through the library as this usage generates income for the society.

BURSARIES

Below is an excerpt from the report of one of the student bursary winners for this year. You can see all of the reports at <http://www.minersoc.org/bursary-report.html>. In 2017, between the society centrally and the Special Interest Groups, we distributed >£10,000 in grants. The deadline for the next round of awards will be 13 January 2018. Read the criteria carefully and apply in good time. A healthy proportion of applicants receive funding up to £500.



AN ALPINE EXCURSION – ELERI CLARKE

My fieldwork took place 3–7 July 2017 in the mountains around Zermatt (Switzerland). The purpose was to collect serpentinite samples for my PhD and gain a wider contextual knowledge of the Alps. My PhD, so far, has focussed on pre-collected samples gained from collaborations with other researchers. Although this was highly beneficial, it meant that I had never seen my rocks in the field, which limited my contextual comprehension. On this trip, not only was I able to collect nine more samples for my project, I also explored the deep roots of the Alpine orogeny.

Here, I was shown a range of mantle-related rocks, from ‘pristine’ peridotitic mantle (with centimetre-sized orthopyroxene!) through to fully serpentinitized mantle and dehydrated serpentinite. These rocks were associated with *Bundnerschiefers* (oceanic floor sediments), eclogites, a hearty greenschist overprint and eclogite facies ocean floor pillow basalts.

This was also a brilliant opportunity to meet and talk with geologists from the University of Lausanne and benefit from their extensive Alpine knowledge and experience (and good sense of humour!). Ultimately, this trip will be critical to the success of my PhD and I am grateful to all of those who helped make it happen.



Eleri Clarke in the field.

2017 SCHLUMBERGER AWARD

The Mineralogical Society–Schlumberger Award will be presented to Professor **Margaret “Maggie” Cusack** later in 2017.

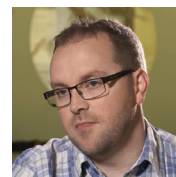
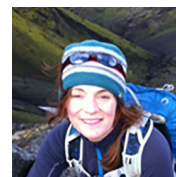


STRATEGY MEETING FOR THE SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The society has eight special interest groups (SIGs) and they were called to a meeting hosted by the President of the MSGBI, Hilary Downes, in late September 2017 to discuss future strategies in terms of meetings and publications. Further detail will be published in future issues of *Elements* but in the meantime, the society would welcome comments and suggestions about the SIG meetings and society meetings.

DISTINGUISHED LECTURERS 2017/18

Dr Helen Williams (University of Cambridge) and **Dr Dan Smith** (University of Leicester) will be the society's Distinguished Lecturers for 2017/2018. If your department was not lucky enough to secure a lecture for this year, please visit the website at <http://www.minersoc.org/distinguished-lectures-17-18.html> to check if one of the selected venues is nearby. All venues welcome visitors from other departments. Do think about applying for a visit by a Distinguished Lecturer next year. The deadline is usually ~1st September.



- **Lecture A:** “Tellurium Tomorrow: Solar Power, Supply, Demand and Waste of a Rare Material”
- **Lecture B:** “Wet Magmas and Copper Fertility”
- **Lecture C:** “Tracing Fluid Transfer Across Subduction Zones Using Iron and Zinc Stable Isotopes”
- **Lecture D:** “The Iron Isotope Composition of the Earth's Lower Mantle: Implications for Mantle Mineralogy and Differentiation Processes”