WHAT IS THE FUTURE NORMAL?

It’s been a strange time these past seven months. We haven’t been able to work as normal. Those who teach students have only been able to meet with them through the prism of Zoom or similar. Our labs have been shut for several months, and some have still not reopened. We have not been able to travel to meet colleagues at conferences or other events. Learned societies like the Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland (MinSoc) (and presumably others in the Elements family) have been operating at reduced capacity, with staff working remotely and, at the same time, coping with the worst the COVID-19 pandemic has to throw at them.

So how do we look for any silver linings amongst all of this? Well, the pandemic hasn’t been the only shadow on this year’s horizon. We have also had the international response to police brutality and the wider sense of disenfranchisement amongst people of colour, and, of course, we have the climate crisis. Is there an action we, as learned societies, can take, which might tackle any aspect of these challenges? We think there is. Not many of us prefer scientific meetings (or even administrative meetings) by electronic means. However, running scientific events online (albeit with flexible formats to fit the new technology) means that we can run them without charging a registration fee. And this means that anyone, anywhere, with an interest, can take part. (This has not been the case in the past, when some were unable to attend our meetings because they couldn’t afford travel, accommodation and registration costs.) People can attend at almost no cost to the environment. Air travel causes a tremendous amount of CO₂ emissions. And, an online event allows us to continue our scientific interactions, irrespective of the pandemic. Not bad.

My two years as president are completed. My thanks to all of those who have served on the council with me, especially Pete Treloar, who has come to the end of a 30-year stint of more or less constant service to the society. I welcome Jon Lloyd to the helm and wish him luck as my successor. I am also thankful to those who have served on the council with me, especially Pete Treloar, who has come to the end of a 30-year stint of more or less constant service to the society. I welcome Jon Lloyd to the helm and wish him luck as my successor.

YOUTUBE CHANNEL

As mentioned by the president above, don’t forget to check out the society’s YouTube channel where some of the content he mentions has been recorded and made available to all to view (https://tinyurl.com/y6ruuxkn).

MEDALLISTS FOR 2021

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<th>Medal Award</th>
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<td>Mineralogical Society–Schlumberger</td>
<td>E. Oelkers</td>
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<td>Max Hey Medal</td>
<td>A. Borst</td>
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<td>Collins Medal</td>
<td>W. Huff</td>
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SOCIETY BURSARIES 2021

Postgraduate Student Bursary

As part of its objective to advance knowledge of the science of mineralogy and its applications, the MinSoc awards a small number of bursaries to postgraduate research students. These bursaries are intended to allow students to develop, undertake, apply and communicate research in any area of the mineralogical sciences (including crystallography, geochemistry, petrology, environmental science and economic geology). By making these awards, the society also seeks to encourage the development of postgraduate researchers into the next generation of researchers in mineralogy. The president and council of the society, therefore, request applications for bursary awards from students registered for a postgraduate research degree in the disciplines of mineralogy, crystallography, petrology and geochemistry. Application deadlines and activity cutoff dates are announced below:

**Deadline:** 1 May each year, e.g., 1 May 2021 for applications to fund activities taking place between 1 December 2021 and 1 December 2022.

**Deadline:** 7 December each year, e.g., 7 December 2020 for applications to fund activities taking place between 1 May 2021 and 1 May 2022

More information and a form are available at: https://www.minersoc.org/postgraduate-bursaries.html.

Senior Bursary

Applications are invited for a number of bursaries which are awarded to young researchers. The purpose of these awards is to support academic work by allowing attendance at overseas conferences and meetings; by encouraging international collaboration that involves research of high merit; or by supporting fieldwork. The deadline for receipt of applications is 15 January each year. A decision will be made by the awards committee, with its announcement to be made by no later than 1 March each year.

More information and a form are available at: https://www.minersoc.org/senior-bursary.html.

Hazel Prichard Student Bursary

The Mineralogical Society of Great Britain & Ireland and the Geological Society are pleased to announce the third running of the Hazel Prichard Student Bursary. The bursary, funded by Hazel’s family, honours the achievements of Professor Hazel Prichard (1954–2017) in the mineral sciences.

The deadline for applications is 15 February each year.

A bursary of up to £3,000 is available to support an undergraduate or taught MSc student.


The numbers of applicants for bursaries has fallen in recent years, though there is more money available now than ever before (counting society and special interest group funds). On average, between a third and a half of all applicants receive an award. Apply today!
**RECENT CONTENT IN MINERALOGICAL MAGAZINE**

- “Sailing the sea of open access: celestial navigation or dead reckoning?”
  Kevin P. Murphy, Aaron B. Johnson

- “Trace-element remobilisation from W–Sn–U–Pb zoned hematite: Nanoscale insights into a mineral geochronometer behaviour during interaction with fluids”
  Max R. Verdugo-Ihl, Cristiana L. Ciobanu, Nigel J. Cook, Kathy Ehrig, Ashley Slattery, Liam Courtney-Davies

- “Hagströmite, Pb₈Cu₂⁺(Te⁶⁺O₆)₂(CO₃)Cl₄, a new lead–tellurium oxysulfate mineral from Otto Mountain, California, USA”
  Anthony R. Kampf, Robert M. Housley, Stuart J. Mills, George R. Rossman, Joe Marty

- “Non-isodiometric growth and confinement effect in the mineralisation of witerite”
  Kangxi Li, Xun Liu, Rong Guo, Chao Wu, Bihui Peng, Zhaqian Li, Xiaohui Duan, Yong Zhou, Chonghua Pei

- “Fluorapophyllite-(NH₄), NH₄Ca₄(Si₈O₂₀)F·₈H₂O, a new member of the apophyllite group from the Vechec quarry, eastern Slovakia”
  Martin Stevko, Jiří Sejkora, Jakub Plášil, Zdeněk Dolníček, Radek Škoda

- “Crystal-chemistry of sulfates from the Apuan Alps, Tuscany, Italy. VIII. New data on khademite, Al(SO₄)F(H₂O)₉”
  Uwe Kolitsch, Matthias Weil, Vadim M. Kovrugin, Sergey V. Krivovichev

- “Jahnite-(CaMnZn) from the Hagendorf-Süd pegmatite, Oberpfalz, Bavaria, and structural flexibility of jahnite-group minerals”
  Jan E. Grey, Erich Keck, Anthony R. Kampf, Colin M. MacRae, John D. Cashion, A. Matt Glenn

- “Bacterial production of vanadium ferrite spinel (Fe₃⁺V₃⁺O₄)₄ nanoparticles”
  Victoria S Coker, Gerrit van der Laan, Neil D Telling, Jonathan R Lloyd, James M Byrne, Elke Arenholz, Richard AD Pattrick

- “Glikinite, Zn₃O(SO₄)₂, a new anhydrous zinc oxysulfate mineral structurally based on OZn₄ tetrahedra”
  Evgeny V. Nazarchuk, Oleg I. Siidra, Diana O. Nekrasova, Vladimir V. Shilovskikh, Artem S. Borisov, Evgeniya Y. Avdonsvea

- “Crystal chemistry of the variscite and metavariscite groups: Tetrahedrite-(Hg), a new ‘old’ member of the tetrahedrite group”
  Martin Števko, Jirí Sejkora, Silvia Musetti, Dalibor Velebil, Marco Frugoni, Atali A. Agakhanov, Natalia V. Zubkova, Dmitry I. Belakovskiy, Marina F. Vigasina, Anna G. Turchkova, Evgeny G. Sidorov, Dmitry Yu. Pushcharovsky

**RECENT CONTENT IN CLAY MINERALS**

- “Bulachite, [Al₆(AsO₄)₃(OH)₉(H₂O)₄]·2H₂O from Cap Garonne, France: Crystal structure and formation from a higher hydrate”
  Ian E. Grey, Emre Yoruk, Stéphanie Kodjikian, Holger Klein, Catherine Bougerol, Helen E.A. Brand, Pierre Bordet, William G. Mumme, Georges Favreau, Stuart J. Mills

- “New arsenate minerals from the Arsenatnaya fumarole, Tolbachik volcano, Kamchatka, Russia. XIV. Badalovite, Na⁵NaMg(MgFe³⁺)(AsO₄)₃, a member of the alluaudite group”
  Igor V. Pekov, Natalia N. Koshlyakova, Atali A. Agakhanov, Natalia V. Zubkova, Dmitry I. Belakovskiy, Marina F. Vigasina, Anna G. Turchkova, Evgeny G. Sidorov, Dmitry Yu. Pushcharovsky

- “Potential use of Kebilian clay reserves (southern Tunisia) for the production of geopolymer materials”
  Chedlya Ounissi, Salah Mahmoudi, Luca Valentini, Ali Bennour, Enrico Garbin, Gilberto Artioli, Mabrouk Montacer

- “Antibacterial properties and in vivo studies of tannic acid-stabilized silver-halloysite nanomaterials”
  Anna Stavitskaya, Christina Shakhbazova, Yulia Cherednichenko, Läysän Ngamatzyanova, Gölnur Fakhrrullina, Nail Khaerdinov, Galiya Kuralbayeva, Alla Filimonova, Vladimir Vinokurov, Rawil Fakhrrullin

- “Three-phase partitioning and immobilization of Bacillus methylothrophicus Y37 cellulase on organo-bentonite and its kinetic and thermodynamic properties”
  Yonica Auci Duman, A. Uğur Kaya, Çiğdem Yağcı

- “Enhancement of the adsorption properties of two natural bentonites by ion exchange: equilibrium, kinetics and thermodynamic study”
  Ali Boukhemkhem, Alejandro H. Pizarro, Carmen B. Molina

- “Mineralogical analysis of a clay body from Zlakusa, Serbia, used in the manufacture of traditional pottery”
  Maja Milošević, Mihovil Logar, Biljana Djordjević

- “Rare earth element geochemistry of altered pyroclastic rocks in the Hashtjin area of north-west Iran”
  Tohid Nouri, Parvin Najafzadeh Tehrani, Rahim Masoumi, George E. Christidis

- “Influence of excess alumina on mullite synthesized from pyrophylite by spark plasma sintering”
  Rasidi Sule, Iakovos Sigala

- “Characterization and use of clays and argillites from the south of Santa Catarina State, Brazil, for the manufacture of clay ceramics”
  Alexandre Zaccaron, Vítor de Souza Nandi, Marcelo Dal Bó, Michael Peterson, Elídio Angioletto, Adriano Michael Bernardin

- “Adsorption of phosphate by halloysite (7 Å) nanotubes (HNTs)”
  Nia Gray-Wannell, Peter J. Holliman, H. Christopher Greenwell, Evelyne Delbos

- “Study of interactions between rhodamine B and a beidellite-rich clay fraction”
  Hamida Belhanafi, Abdellah Bakhti, Noureddine Benderdouche