



## Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland

### Chartered Scientist — Adding Value to Membership in the Society

Increasingly we are interacting on research matters, not only with colleagues within our own institutions and our own country but also with a host of colleagues working throughout the world. This is an important development, and modern technology such as e-mail and the worldwide web have made this interaction much more effective than in the past. The maintenance of high standards in scientific publishing and strict peer review of published material is as important as ever, and the editors of our two journals, *Mineralogical Magazine* and *Clay Minerals*, work tirelessly to maintain these standards. But who sets the standards for individual scientific competence and what organisation provides accreditation of scientific competence beyond the primary degree? This is where, in the future, membership in the Society can be a valuable support to individuals working in the field.

In the United Kingdom, for many years engineers and chemists have had their own standards councils, and for most professional engineers the award of Chartered Engineer status is virtually mandatory. However, until October 2003 no such chartered body existed for the whole of science. The now-established UK Science Council aims to act as an overseeing authority to ensure that standards are maintained across a wide range of scientific disciplines. It does this by delegating the responsibility for accreditation of individuals to learned societies and professional institutions who meet their exacting standards. These organisations are thus given the designation Licensed Body, and they are responsible for awarding the increasingly coveted Chartered Scientist designation CSci. Since October 2003, nearly 10,000 scientists in the UK have been granted the CSci designation or chartership as it is sometimes called. The benefit of all this is that public confidence in science will be strengthened, individual scientists will be aware of their need for continuing professional development, employers will be confident when engaging staff, and standards will be raised across the whole profession.

The Mineralogical Society joined the Science Council last June and is in the process of achieving the status of a Licensed Body with the right to award the CSci designation. If all goes according to plan, by the autumn the Society will be contacting members to offer them the opportunity to apply for CSci status. Providing that adequate accreditation of degree courses etc. can be satisfied, the CSci designation will also be open to overseas members.

**Adrian Lloyd Lawrence**  
and **Frances Wall**

### FRONTIERS IN MINERAL SCIENCES 2007

Following initial enthusiastic responses from the Mineralogical Society of America and the Mineralogical Association of Canada to a joint meeting of the three societies in Cambridge in June 2007, a group of Mineralogical Society members met in Cambridge on 18 February 2005 to make preliminary plans. Under the chairmanship of Prof. Michael Carpenter, the group put together some initial ideas for symposia and the structure of the meeting. The meeting will take place at Fitzwilliam College in Cambridge, where both accommodation and meeting rooms will be provided for delegates. June is a very attractive month in Cambridge, and it will hopefully be warm enough for one or two outdoor events including punting on the river Cam behind some of

Cambridge's ancient and beautiful colleges. It is planned to hold a conference banquet in one of the ancient college dining halls and have an award ceremony for the presentation of society medals. Around 20 symposia are being planned for the conference across a broad spectrum of research areas in the mineral sciences. Over the coming months, these plans will be discussed with representatives from all three societies to provide a challenging and topical programme. Details on the conference will be found on the conference web page ([www.minersoc.org/Frontiers2007.htm](http://www.minersoc.org/Frontiers2007.htm)). It is expected that the first circular will be published electronically in June/July 2005.



Combined societies meeting will be held at Cambridge UK, June 2007

### BURSARY AWARDS 2005

At its meeting on March 10, the Society Council was pleased to announce the following bursary awards. These are given to help individuals attend conferences, encourage international collaboration, and fund essential fieldwork. The awards are open to all researchers in the mineral sciences. However, funds are very limited, and it is important to send in your application by the due date, which is normally about the end of the third week in January each year. Next year's deadline is Friday 21 January 2006. Details of the scheme can be found on the web at [www.minersoc.org/pages/awards/awards.html](http://www.minersoc.org/pages/awards/awards.html).

Senior Bursaries were awarded to: Karen Hudson-Edward (UCL/Birkbeck, London), Jana Horak (National Museum and Galleries of Wales), and Linda Kirstein (Edinburgh).

Student Bursaries were awarded to: Joanne Neilson (Liverpool), Katie Finch (Manchester), Claire Jakeways (Cambridge), Lois Davidson (Leeds), and Jane Archer (Birkbeck, London).

## MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY E-JOURNALS

Mineralogical Society journals are now available from two online sources, Ingenta and Geoscience-World (GSW). The Society has had an online presence via Ingenta since the late 1990s. Access is free to all paper-copy subscribers. GSW is a comprehensive internet resource for research and communications in the geosciences. It is built on a core database aggregation of peer-reviewed journals and is indexed, linked, and inter-operable with GeoRef, the premier abstracting and indexing database in the field of Earth sciences. It was launched in February 2005 with more than 30 titles, including *Mineralogical Magazine* and *Clay Minerals*, from 22 leading not-for-profit geoscience publishers and institutes from six countries.

With this move, our journals become available to a larger worldwide audience, facilitating research and study by scientists across the geoscience spectrum. The portal will support work in both basic and applied research, as well as education in the geosciences. Hosted by HighWire Press of Stanford University, GSW offers numerous unique features and an extensive archive of mate-

rial published from the early 1990s onwards. Go to <http://minmag.geoscience-world.org> to see *Mineralogical Magazine* and to <http://claymin.geoscienceworld.org> to see *Clay Minerals*. Full-text viewing is available to those institutions that subscribe to the GSW package.

The Society continues to host its other e-journal, *MINABS Online*, and the number of library and individual subscribers is growing at a healthy rate. The small individual and institutional subscription rates represent excellent value, providing access to about 120,000 abstracts compiled over the past 23 years. The Society has also taken the step of making this e-journal available in many less-developed countries, initially on a free trial basis, but ultimately at a token cost. This is being done with the assistance of INASP, the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications. The Society views this as a key function of its charitable remit. Please contact us ([info@minersoc.org](mailto:info@minersoc.org)) if you'd like more information about this initiative.

Kevin Murphy

### Mineralogical Society Winter Meeting 2006

## Call for Papers

### Micro to nano-geosciences: Developments and applications

Bath Spa University, Bath  
5–6 January 2006

The 2006 Mineralogical Society Winter Meeting will focus on recent developments in techniques for imaging, chemical, isotopic and microstructural analysis at micrometer to nanometer scales which have opened up many new avenues for research on Earth and planetary materials. Meeting themes include the following:

- Organic-mineral interfaces, biomineralization and mineral surfaces
- High spatial resolution isotope techniques
- Mineralogy, microstructure and chemistry of finely crystalline materials
- Extraterrestrial mineralogy and astrobiology

Abstract Deadline 30 September 2005

Conference Convenor: Dr Martin Lee  
E-mail: [m.lee@earthsci.gla.ac.uk](mailto:m.lee@earthsci.gla.ac.uk)

Full details available on the web site at:  
[www.minersoc.org/pages/meetings/Bath2006.htm](http://www.minersoc.org/pages/meetings/Bath2006.htm)

## Mineralogical Society Publications

### NEW MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY SERIES

#### No. 10 — Phoscorites and Carbonatites from Mantle to Mine: the Key example from the Kola Alkaline Province

Edited by F. Wall and A.N. Zaitsev

Hardback 503 pages, 38 colour plates

ISBN 0 903056 22 4

Topics include: Timing of Kola alkaline magmatism — mineralogy, geochemistry and petrogenesis of six complexes at Kovdor, Sokli, Sallanlatvi, Afrikanda, Vuoriharvi and Turij Mys — three chapters on REE, Zr, Nb, PGE and sulphide minerals — introduction to the Kola Alkaline Province and phoscorites — a review of stable isotope data and resulting petrographic interpretations — a petrogenetic interpretation in the context of a mantle plume — a comprehensive review chapter on economic deposits  
List Price: **STG £89 (US \$160)**

Members of the MinSoc of GB & I **STG £49 (US \$88)**



#### No. 9 — Environmental Mineralogy: Microbial interactions, anthropogenic influences, contaminated land and waste management

Edited by J. D. Cotter-Howells, L.S. Campbell, E. Valsami-Jones and M. Batchelder.

Hardback 414 pages ISBN 0 903056 20 8

Topics include: Mineral-microbe interactions — anthropogenic influences on mineral interactions — minerals in contaminated environments — minerals and waste management

List Price: **STG £50 (US \$70)**

Members of the MinSoc of GB & I **STG £32 (US \$45)**



### LANDMARK PAPERS

#### Landmark Papers: Volcanic Petrology

Selected by I.S.E. Carmichael

Paperback 319 pages

ISBN 0 903056 21 6



This is the first book in a new series of collected papers that aims to cover key areas of the mineral sciences. Prof. Carmichael of the University of California introduces each paper and discusses its influence on the modern understanding of volcanic rocks.

Topics include: Variety and relations among volcanic rocks — silicic magmas and eruptive products — andesites and arc volcanism — evolution of basaltic magmas — mid-ocean ridge basalts (MORBs) — ultramafic liquids: Komatiites — magma mixing (subduction related magmas and MORBs) — the volatile component of volcanic rocks — extraterrestrial petrology

List Price **STG £26 (US \$48)**

Members of the MINSOC of GB & I **STG £12.99 (US \$24)**

### HOW TO PLACE AN ORDER

Add postage to your order UK £5.75, Europe £9.95, Rest of World £15.95 for each book ordered. Send your order with cheque/bankers draft made out to the Mineralogical Society or your credit card details to: the Mineralogical Society, 41 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR, UK Fax +44 (0)20 7823 8021. Enquiries: Tel. +44 (0)20 7584 7516, E-mail: [admin@minersoc.org](mailto:admin@minersoc.org) Full details at: [www.minersoc.org](http://www.minersoc.org)