Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland

NOTES FROM LONDON

New Lower-Cost Membership Scheme

In 2007, the Society is offering lower-cost membership to all members. This will be accompanied by a general re-structuring of the membership categories aimed at simplifying the present scheme. In future the Society will have four main categories of members: Student Members, Members, Fellows and Honorary Fellows. The Associate Member category will be abolished. One of the goals of the re-structuring is to open up membership in the Society to a wider community, thus welcoming amateurs as well as professionals interested in the mineral sciences. It also allows greater flexibility in terms of choice of journals.

Earlier this year the Bye-laws were changed to make Fellowship a professional category of membership of the highest order. In future, members will be invited to apply for this professional grade of membership. This will include demonstration of at least 5 years' relevant post-graduate experience and a commitment to continuing professional development.

Students studying mineral sciences are particularly welcome as members. To encourage the new generation of mineral scientists, free membership in the Society is being offered to students for one year. This will include six free issues of Elements magazine.

Cost of basic membership in 2007 will be only £30.00 for members and fellows and £10.00 for students (other than new joiners). This cost will include six issues of Elements magazine. If members require access to one or all of the Society's three online journals, there is an additional fee of £20.00. Members wishing to receive a paper copy of either Mineralogical Magazine or Clay Minerals are charged £30.00 per journal per year or £50.00 for both journals, still a very attractive price.

Frontiers 2007

Now is the time to pen your abstract for the Frontiers in Mineral Sciences 2007 meeting to be held 26-28 June 2007 at Fitzwilliam College in Cambridge. Remember the abstract and registration deadline is 28 February 2007. You can submit your abstract and register online at www.minersoc.org/Frontiers2007.html. Online credit card payment is secure because your data are encrypted as soon as you click the submit button. The number of rooms available at Fitzwilliam College is limited, so remember to register early to avoid disappointment.

Focus on Clay Minerals

Clay Minerals – Journal of Fine Particle Science is one of the Mineralogical Society’s three journals. The Principal Editor is Prof. J.M. Adams of Exeter University. John comes to the journal from a background in industry.

Coverage

Clay Minerals is an international journal, published four times a year, and includes research papers about clays, clay minerals and related materials, natural or synthetic. The journal publishes papers on Earth processes, soil science, geology/mineralogy, chemistry/materials science, colloid/surface science, applied science and technology and health/environment topics. The journal has an international editorial board with members from fifteen countries.

How to Obtain a Subscription

Libraries can subscribe to Clay Minerals by purchasing an institutional subscription from the Society, either direct or via a bookselling agent. See www.minersoc.org/pages/publications/subsrates.html for subscription rates.

Online

Clay Minerals is available online at www.minersoc.org/pages/e_journals/clay.html. Instructions on how to set up individual or institutional access are available from that web page. If your library receives a paper copy of Clay Minerals, please ensure that it has also set up e-access. This will increase readership and make the journal more useful and more used.

Clay Minerals is also one of the journals in the very successful e-journals aggregate GeoScienceWorld (www.geoscienceworld.org). This has increased its international audience. Libraries that subscribe to the journal via GeoScienceWorld can receive the printed version for 50% of the normal price. When placing your paper-copy order with the Society, please state that you have a subscription to GSW in order to benefit from the discount.

High Impact

Here is a list of some of the high-impact review papers published in Clay Minerals in recent years:


Future review papers to appear in the journal include:

Recent advances in computer simulations of clay-fluid systems, by Neal Skipper

Molecular-scale architecture of hybrid nanoparticles, by Cliff Johnston
**Special Issue**

In March 2006, a special issue of the journal was published: *Clay minerals in onshore and offshore strata of the British Isles: origins and clay mineral stratigraphy*, vol. 41, 512 pp. This issue was painstakingly put together by the authors, with guidance from editors Christopher Jeans and Dick Merriman, and has taken several years to compile. It contains many thousands of new analyses and will provide clay mineralogists, particularly those with an interest in stratigraphy, with much food for thought. It will be of interest to UK and non-UK researchers alike as there will be many opportunities for correlation with clays in the strata from elsewhere. Copies of the special hardback version of this special issue are available from the Mineralogical Society office at a list price of £70. Readers of *Elements* are eligible for the reduced rate of £49.

Authors are encouraged to submit their papers to the Principal Editor, Prof. J.M. Adams, at: john@treviles.com. Instructions to authors are available from www.minersoc.org/pages/e_journals/cm_authors.pdf.

**CALL FOR BURSARY APPLICATIONS FOR 2007**

A sum of £6,000 is available in 2007 for bursary awards – £4,000 to postgraduate students and £2,000 to qualified research workers to help them attend a conference to present their work or carry out fieldwork. Preference may be given to members of the Society, but membership is not mandatory to receive an award. Bursaries are awarded up to a maximum of £500 or 50% of the total cost of the project, whichever is less.

Full details on how to apply for a Postgraduate Student or Senior Travel Bursary can be found on the website www.minersoc.org/pages/awards/awards.html. Applications should be sent to the Executive Secretary, Dr Adrian Lloyd-Lawrence, to arrive by 19 January 2007.