THIS ISSUE

The story told in this issue developed from a simple observation under the microscope and the curiosity of a scientist to identify the "weird inclusions" he was looking at (you can read about this discovery on page 246). The identification of these inclusions changed the way we thought the continental crust was behaving. Amazing! Guest Editor Jane Gilotti and the cast of authors she assembled tell this story admirably.

This issue contains the first article in what is hoped will be a series under the overall title Mineralogy Matters. The aim of the series is to address the question as to whether research in a particular area of mineralogy (broadly defined to include petrology and geochemistry) has made an impact. Has, in fact, mineralogy "mattered" in the case being discussed. The first subject concerns arsenic and the severe human health problems associated with arsenic contamination of drinking water in several parts of the world. This series is being edited by Past Principal Editor David Vaughan who would welcome suggestions for topics and offers to become involved in writing future articles in the series. He can be contacted via email at david.vaughan@manchester.ac.uk.

SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Shortly after the last issue went to press, I provided Seth Davis of the Geochemical Society with a short text to announce the issue in *Geochemical News* (I also provide such notices to all business managers/society news editors). He thought he would write a special item for *Elements*' 50th issue the following week. I responded by suggesting that it would be interesting to ask people what their favorite issue was. Within a day, we had a survey ready to go, and we asked participating societies to distribute the Web link. Thanks Seth for making it happen!

The survey ran between June 18 and 28. In all, 527 of you responded. Thank you to everyone who participated in the survey and provided a wide variety of useful comments for the consideration of the editors and Executive Committee. For those who are curious, the top 10 favorite issues selected in the survey were (participants could provide up to 5 choices):

- Zircon: Tiny but Timely (v3n1, 2007)
- Rare Earth Elements (v8n5, 2012)
- Granitic Pegmatites (v8n4, 2012)
- Supervolcanoes (v4n1, 2008)
- Early Earth (v2n4, 2006)
- One Hundred Years of Geochronology (v9n1, 2013)
- Diamonds (v1n2, 2005)
- When the Continental Crust Melts (v7n4, 2011)
- Tourmaline (v7n5, 2011)
- Large Igneous Provinces (v1n5, 2005)

These popularity ratings have to be taken with a grain of salt, and the vast majority of the comments dealt with the difficulty of choosing only 5 favorites.

One responder wrote, "This selection is completely arbitrary. I found most of the issues extremely interesting, but often from different points of view – teaching, own research, interest for unknown fields, demonstrating to my university president/faculty members the importance of geosciences." Another mentioned, "As a lecturer, numerous issues of *Elements* have provided excellent introduction to topics for advanced undergraduate courses. Several issues have provided overviews of areas new to me that are becoming important for my own research."

The Editorial, Meet the Authors, Book Reviews, Perspectives, and Triple Point are the most-read regular features. But many of you reported reading *Elements* from cover to cover. 85% of respondents read the society news either always or sometimes: "I have found this to be a worthwhile section that generally has useful/interesting info," commented a respondent. About 2/3 of the survey participants read the print version while the remainder use the online version, and some read both. More than half the respondents listed topics they would like to read about, and this extensive list represents a wealth of information that the editors will review attentively.

2012 IMPACT FACTOR

Elements' impact factor for 2012 was 3.156, and its 5-year impact factor was 3.612. The 10 most cited articles from the time of publication to July 2013 are:

- Geisler T, Schaltegger U, Tomaschek F (2007) Re-equilibration of zircon in aqueous fluids and melts. Elements 3: 43-50 (*128 citations*)
- Harley SL, Kelly NM, Moller A (2007) Zircon behaviour and the thermal histories of mountain chains. Elements 3: 25-30 (*114*)
- Oelkers EH, Gislason SR, Matter J (2008) Mineral carbonation of CO_2. Elements 4: 333-337 (*84*)
- Charlet L, Polya DA (2006) Arsenic in shallow, reducing groundwaters in southern Asia: An environmental health disaster. Elements 2: 91-96 (*83*)
- Cartigny P (2005) Stable isotopes and the origin of diamond. Elements 1: 79-84 (*79*)
- Morin G, Calas G (2006) Arsenic in soils, mine tailings, and former industrial sites. Elements 2: 97-101 (*65*)
- Benson SM, Cole DR (2008) CO_2 sequestration in deep sedimentary formations. Elements 4: 325-331 (*63*)
- Campbell IH (2005) Large igneous provinces and the mantle plume hypothesis. Elements 1: 255-260 (*58*)
- Brantley SL, Goldhaber MB, Ragnasdottir KV (2007) Crossing disciplines and scales to understand the Critical Zone. Elements 3: 307-314 (*54*)
- Rubatto D, Hermann J (2007) Zircon behaviour in deeply subducted rocks. Elements 3: 31-36 (*53*)

Pierrette Tremblay, Managing Editor

Cont'd from page 243

REFERENCES

Darwin C (1859) On the Origin of Species, or the Preservation of Favoured Races in the Struggle for Life. J. Murray, London

Ernst WG (1965) Mineral parageneses in Franciscan metamorphic rocks, Panoche Pass, California. Geological Society of America Bulletin 76: 879-914

Essene EJ, Fyfe WS, Turner FJ (1965) Petrogenesis of Franciscan glaucophane schists and associated metamorphic rocks. Beiträge zur Mineralogie und Petrographie 11: 695-704

Lyell C (1863) The Geological Evidences of the Antiquity of Man: with Remarks on Theories of the Origin of Species by Variation. J. Murray, London

Verne J (1864) Voyage au Centre de la Terre, Hetzel, Paris