



# Mineralogical Society of the UK and Ireland

[www.minersoc.org](http://www.minersoc.org)

## TIME TO REFLECT AND REFRESH

In old times, winter was when the Annual Conference was held; it was when there was pressure to finalize the last issues of the journals, to complete that year's volumes; and all of the subscription and membership money arrived by cheque in the post. The Society Annual General Meeting was also held in November. The summer was when you got caught up with all the other stuff: tidying up the storeroom where all the journals that were produced during the year were left, books were restocked (and reprinted if necessary), new policies were developed, special issues were planned, the annual audit of the Society's accounts took place, and people took their holidays...



Members of Council attending the April 2023 meeting.

### Society personnel

Each year vacancies arise on Council and on other Society committees. Members and Fellows are encouraged to contribute to the running of the Society by volunteering to serve in some capacity. Job descriptions for all positions on Council (Society trustees) are given here. Contact Kevin Murphy any time for information about how best you can serve your Society.

[Click here to download a Council Nomination form.](#)

[Click here for a list of job descriptions for all roles on Council.](#)

### Council and other committees

Council consists of the Officers, the Ordinary Members of Council and the chairs of the Special Interest Groups (or their representatives). The numbers in parentheses indicate the final year of office.

#### Officers

**President:** S. Gibson (24) (e-mail)  
**Secretary:** J. Horák (23, April) (e-mail)  
**Treasurer:** J. Harvey (24) (e-mail)  
**Publications Manager:** R.J. Bowell (25) (e-mail)  
**PRO:** J. Byrne (26) (e-mail)  
**EDI Officer:** L. Kelly (24) (e-mail)  
**Principal Editor, Mineralogical Magazine:** R. Mitchell (24) (e-mail)  
**Principal Editor, Mineralogical Magazine:** S. Mills (24) (e-mail)  
**Principal Editor, Clay Minerals:** G. Christidis (25) (e-mail)  
**Principal Editor, Clay Minerals:** Chun-Hui Zhou (24) (e-mail)  
**Elements Representative:** M.E. Hodson (e-mail)

#### Ordinary members of council

M. Rumsey (23) (e-mail)  
 N. Gray-Wannell (23) (e-mail)  
 R. Taylor (23) (e-mail)  
 S. Hammond (24) (e-mail)  
 B. Sarkar (25) (e-mail)  
 C. Manning (25) (e-mail)

Screenshot of a list of Council members and their roles (from [www.minersoc.org/personnel.html](http://www.minersoc.org/personnel.html)).

Now, in 2023, all Society dues arrive through online payments on the website. The journals are entirely online. The journal income arrives in a single bank transfer payment by our colleagues at Cambridge University Press and our meetings are now spread throughout the year (see [www.emc-2024.org](http://www.emc-2024.org) for details of next year's European Mineralogical Conference happening in Dublin, Ireland in August).

In 2023, we are experimenting with holding four Council meetings (February, April, July, and November) per year rather than two (February and November). These are now shorter events, running from 10:00–13:00 rather than the five hours they used to take. We'll review that at the end of the year to see if it has been a success. Many factors need to be taken into consideration: are all of the council members available for all of the meetings, in particular those members with reports to make: treasurer, secretary, president, special interest group chairs, editors? Can we squeeze all of the business into the three-hour slot? Can we cover adequately all of the items that require detailed discussion? How do we balance the work of the Officers (Executive Committee) with that of the Council?

At the end of 2023 we will have the usual renewal of our governing body. The terms of office are up for the following posts:

- Ordinary Members of Council ×3
- Custodian Trustees ×2
- Society Representative on the *Elements* Executive Committee

A new Treasurer is required to replace Dr Jason Harvey who will have completed five of his six-year term at the end of 2023.

We will also be appointing a member to the President-Elect role. This is a particularly important role in the sense that this person will serve in this role for one year, and then go on to become president for 2025–2026.

Job descriptions for all of these roles are available at <https://www.minersoc.org/roles-on-council.html>. A nomination form is available here: <https://www.minersoc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Council-nomination-form-2024-2026.docx>. The deadline for nominations is **31 August 2023**.

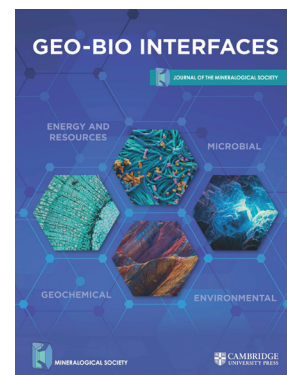
Taking a role on Council is an important task given that the individuals who make up this group are, collectively, the decision-making body, with all of the responsibilities that this entails. We encourage all members to think about offering their services. Previous experience is not essential. A willingness to contribute is the only prerequisite.

## GEO-BIO INTERFACES – NEW SOCIETY JOURNAL

The Mineralogical Society has launched a new journal, *Geo-Bio Interfaces*, in conjunction with its publishing partner, Cambridge University Press. The editors are former Society President, Prof. Jon Lloyd (University of Manchester, UK), Prof. Annette Engel (Tennessee University, USA) and Prof. Hailiang Dong (Miami University, USA).

This new journal aims to answer fundamental and emerging questions in geoscience and bioscience by exploring contemporary scientific disciplines and the interconnection between them.

The journal covers four primary spheres of academic interest that intersect with the geo- and biosciences: microbial, environmental, geochemical, and energy and resources. Original submissions describing



fundamental, theoretical, experimental, or applied interdisciplinary studies pertaining to any spatial or temporal scale are considered for publication.

*Geo-Bio Interfaces* is a Gold Open Access journal, publishing research articles, reviews, and rapid communications. By rapidly disseminating high-quality, broadly relevant scientific results, the journal furthers the course of modern geoscience and accomplishes the purpose of the Mineralogical Society.

Links for useful information about the journal are shown below:

- Homepage: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/geo-bio-interfaces>
- Editorial Board: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/geo-bio-interfaces/information/about-this-journal/editorial-board>
- Instructions for authors: <https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/geo-bio-interfaces/information/author-instructions>

Submit your paper: check the website for a link!

## MEETING REPORT: CLAY MINERALS GROUP – CLAYS AND CONSTRUCTION (AND RIP)

This meeting explored recent advances in understanding the role of clay minerals in construction and how they can be used to shape and improve the built environment. This topic area covered everything from clay-based renders to improved air quality, the role of clay minerals in geotechnics, calcined clays in low-carbon cements, natural earth building, and much more.

The keynote speaker was Prof. Katja Emmerich, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany: “Structure of clay minerals, thermal activation and solubility in alkaline solutions.”



Simon Kemp (CMG), Francis Clegg (CMG), Katja Emmerich (keynote speaker), Sally Gibson (Mineralogical Society President), Alastair Marsh (CMG committee member and conference organizer), Kirill Shafran (CMG) and Helen Pendrowski (CMG). CMG = Clay Minerals Group.

Thirty-five percent of the delegates who attended this event did so remotely. It was an interesting combination of clay scientists and people working in materials/construction. The meeting was extremely well organized by Alastair Marsh of the University of Leeds to whom the committee of the Clay Minerals Group is very grateful.

## RECENT PAPERS ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION IN CLAY MINERALS

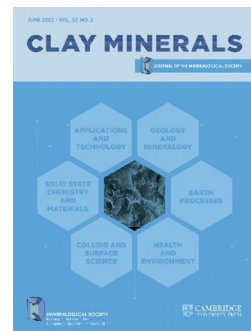
**Iron removal from kaolin by oxalic acid using a novel pre-agitating and high-pressure washing technique** Bijan Taheri

**High catalytic performance of Fe-rich palygorskite clay supported Ni catalysts for steam reforming of toluene** Minghao Ji, Xuehua Zou, Haibo Liu, Yinsheng Zhang, Shiwei Dong, Chengrui Xu, Qiaoqin Xie, Dong Chen, Chengzhu Zhu, Tianhu Chen

**Sintering inhibition and oil-absorption properties of calcined coal-series kaolin** Jiaquan Li, Zhiwei Huang, Qian Wang, Fengnian Zhang, Yang Miao, Feng Gao

**The Clay Minerals Group (CMG): 1947–2022** Simon J. Kemp

**Plastic behaviour of clay materials for the manufacture of fast-drying red ceramics** Vitor de Souza Nandi, Alexandre Zaccaron, Fabiano Raupp-Pereira, Sabrina Arcaro, Adriano Michael Bernardin, Oscar Rubem Klegues Montedo



## RECENT PAPERS ACCEPTED FOR PUBLICATION IN MINERALOGICAL MAGAZINE

**Mineral chemistry and genesis of monazite-(Sm) and monazite-(Nd) from the Blue Beryl Dyke of the Julianna pegmatite system at Piława Górna, Lower Silesia, Poland** Diana Twardak, Adam Pieczka, Jakub Kotowski, Krzysztof Nejbert

**Discussion of paper by Galuskin and Galuskina, “Evidence of the anthropogenic origin of the “Carmel Sapphire” with enigmatic super-reduced minerals”, W.L. Griffin, V. Toledo, S.Y. O’Reilly**

**Reply to the discussion of “Evidence of the anthropogenic origin of the “Carmel sapphire” with enigmatic super-reduced minerals” by E. Galuskin and I. Galuskina by W.L. Griffin, V. Toledo and S.Y. O’Reilly** Evgeny Galuskin, Irina Galuskina

**A brief comment on Hawthorne (2023): “On the definition of distinct mineral species: A critique of current IMA-CNMNC procedures”** Ferdinando Bosi, Frédéric Hatert, Marco Pasero, Stuart J. Mills, Ritsuro Miyawaki, Ulf Hålenius

**Monazite-(Gd), a new Gd-dominant mineral of the monazite group from the Zimná Voda REE-U-Au quartz vein, Prakovec, Western Carpathians, Slovakia** Martin Ondrejka, Pavel Uher, Štefan Ferenc, Juraj Majzlan, Kilian Pollok, Tomáš Mikuš, Stanislava Milovská, Alexandra Molnářová, Radek Škoda, Richard Kopáček, Sergii Kurylo, Peter Bačík

**Dongchuanite, a new phosphate mineral with a new structure, from Dongchuan copper mine, Yunnan Province, China** Guowu Li, Ningyue Sun, Hongtao Shen, Yuan Xue, Jinhua Hao, Jeffrey de Fournestier

**Holubite,  $\text{Ag}_3\text{Pb}_6(\text{Sb}_8\text{Bi}_3)\Sigma 11\text{S}_{24}$ , from Kutná Hora, Czech Republic, a new member of the andorite branch of the lillianite homologous series** Richard Pažout, Jakub Plášil, Michal Dušek, Jiří Sejkora, Zdeněk Dolníček

