www.minersoc.org

# Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland

## NEWS FROM LONDON

### *New MinSoc Offices*

By the time you receive this, the Society should be firmly ensconced in its new offices in Twickenham. The address of the Society for all correspondence is now Mineralogical Society,12 Baylis Mews, Amyand Park Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 3HQ; tel. +44 (0)20 8891 6600 and fax +44 (0)8891 6599. We will continue to have mail re-directed from 41 Queen's Gate for six months, but after that we will only be reached using the new address. Our e-mail addresses of course remain the same, with general enquiries handled at info@minersoc.org. We are always happy to see members at the office (coffee is provided free), so come and visit our new premises if you are in the area, and even better save yourself the cost of postage on some of our publications by collecting them personally! A location map of the new offices can be found on the website **www.minersoc.org**.

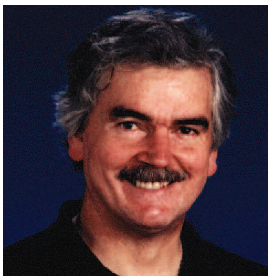
### *Frontiers 2007 – Cambridge UK, 26–28 June 2007*

As of press time, registration is now officially closed for this joint meeting of the Mineralogical Society, the Mineralogical Society of America, the Mineralogical Association of Canada and the Société Française de Minéralogie et de Cristallographie, but the local organizing committee is looking into ways to accommodate more registrants. So if you were interested in attending, please contact Michael Carpenter (mc43@esc. cam.ac.uk). For the more than 350 registrants, a preliminary programme has now been posted on the Society website. Full details on how to get to Cambridge and the location of the conference venue are available on the conference website. Enjoy the delights of an evening banquet in Magdalene College fellows' garden on the banks of the river Cam, an evening punting, or sample one of the excellent restaurants in this ancient city. During the days at the conference, you will be able to catch up on all the recent developments and research advances in the mineral sciences.

**Adrian Lloyd-Lawrence**

## WINNERS OF THE 2007 SOCIETY MEDALS

### *The Schlumberger Medal 2007 to Roger Powell*



Roger Powell of the University of Melbourne has greatly advanced our understanding of the conditions of metamorphic rocks through his work on mineral equilibria. Even more significantly he has designed and produced computational tools that allow metamorphic petrologists worldwide to investigate mineral assemblages quantitatively. Some of this work was carried out in collaboration with Tim Holland of Cambridge University (Schlumberger medallist 2001). This pioneering work has developed into a veritable petrological industry, permeating through the academic community at all levels. It has resulted in a thermodynamic database and computer program THERMOCALC, which ranks amongst the most used resources in geoscience, let alone petrology. During his career Professor Powell has published over 150 papers and in 2004 was named the ISI Citation Laureate as the most highly cited author in the geosciences in Australia. He is an editor of the *Journal of Metamorphic Geology*.

### *The Max Hey Medal 2007 to Michele Warren*

Michele Warren graduated with a first-class-honours degree in physics from Cambridge University and a PhD in condensed matter physics from the University of Edinburgh, all achieved by the age of 23. Following a period of post-doctoral work at Cambridge on cation ordering in silicate minerals (pyroxenes, amphiboles and micas), Michele moved to the University of Manchester and is now a lecturer in the Department of Earth Sciences where she works with Professor David Vaughan. There her interests diversified to comprise computer modelling techniques in the study of the structure and reactivity of mineral surfaces, including interactions with biomolecules and microbes. Michele is the author of 29 original research papers published over the past 10 years in highly cited international journals. Through these publications Michele has made important contributions to our fundamental understanding of the stability and elastic properties of a range of minerals.


TO BE PUBLISHED SOON
by
The Mineralogical Society

Landmark Papers on Structural Topology
selected by
F.C. Hawthorne

Series Editor: B.J. Wood

## ANNOUNCEMENT

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR PRESIDENT, TREASURER AND ORDINARY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL OF THE SOCIETY FROM JANUARY 2008

At the end of this year, Prof. Ben Harte will retire as president of the Society, and Dr Neil Fortey will retire as treasurer after six sterling years. Nominations are now being sought to fill these vacancies and two vacancies for ordinary members of Council upon the retirement of Prof. P.W. Scott and Dr A.C. Kerr at the end of the year. Nomination forms can be found at **www.minersoc.org.** Nominations must be endorsed by four fellows or members of the Society, and nominees must be fellows or members of the Society. Nominations should be sent to the new Society office at 12 Baylis Mews, Amyand Park Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 3HQ to arrive by 31 May 2007 for consideration by Council at their meeting on 14 June 2007.

### TRAINING WORKSHOPS FOR MINERAL SCIENTISTS

Over the last three years, the Mineralogical Society has combined with the Natural History Museum, London, to run a series of four-day training courses in electron probe microanalysis (EPMA). A maximum of six participants are enrolled in each course, ensuring that no more than three are on one of the microprobes at any one time. The course combines a series of lectures and practicals covering the theory and practice of EPMA including beam–sample interactions, energy-dispersive versus wavelength-dispersive analysis, and data presentation. Two variable-pressure analytical SEMs and two wavelength-dispersive microprobes are available for the course, and with three course tutors, a wide range of practical exercises are possible.

The course is aimed primarily at PhD students who use electron microprobe techniques in their research studies, but the course has also attracted technical and academic staff from universities and research organisations, and from industry. To date, participants from 11 countries have attended the course, mainly from Europe but including South Africa and Thailand.

Some 50 years after the first commercial instrument, electron probe microanalysis is still widely used in mineralogical studies in both academia and industry. However, understanding of the theory behind the technique and knowledge of its many applications in Earth and environmental sciences have increasingly been squeezed out of undergraduate course work. The Mineralogical Society aims to run a series of instrument-based courses to provide users with the relevant theoretical and practical perspectives necessary to utilize a range of techniques currently available in mineralogy. The EPMA course is the first in this series.

**Terry Williams**