

# Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland



#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### **Elements**

It gives me great pleasure to welcome this new publication, which I hope will go on from strength to strength. The *Mineralogical Society Bulletin* has been published three to four times a year for the past 35

years and its final issue was published in August 2004. Whilst it has been an invaluable asset in keeping our members abreast of the Society's activities, it has struggled as an organ for informing members on the latest trends and discoveries in our science. *Elements*, with its much greater international appeal, will overcome this shortcoming, and we look forward to becoming better informed across a wide range of issues from the origin of diamonds to the latest discoveries in biogeology.

### The Society and its Special Interest Groups

The Mineralogical Society was founded in 1876 by a Cornish mineralogist and mining engineer Joseph Henry Collins, and over the years has become the forum for UK and Irish academic researchers in the mineral sciences, a term we use to cover the fields of mineralogy, crystallography, petrology, geochemistry, and environmental geology, amongst others. Today the Society has seven special interest groups covering a wide spectrum of activities; each group organizes one or two scientific meetings a year. The seven groups are: the Applied Mineralogy Group, the Clay Minerals Group, the Geochemistry Group, the Mineral Physics Group, the Metamorphic Studies Group, the Volcanic and Magmatic Studies Group, and last but by no means least our newest group, Environmental Mineralogy (founded in 2003). In addition to these meetings the Society sponsors one general meeting a year, usually around a specific theme or themes. The 2005 Winter Meeting is being held in Bath in January on Environmental Mineralogy, Geochemistry and Human Health, and there is an excellent line-up of international speakers on topics such as arsenic in ground water, environmental geochemistry, biomineralisation, and aspects of concern to human health. Looking to the future we are pleased to announce an important joint meeting with the Mineralogical Society of America and the Mineralogical Association of Canada to be held in Cambridge, UK in June 2007.

#### **Publications**

The other side of the Society's activities is in traditional scientific publishing. Currently we publish three journals — *Mineralogical Magazine, Clay Minerals* and *MINABS Online*. The first two journals are published both as e-journals and in print versions whilst *MINABS Online*, an online-only journal launched in January 2004, takes over from *Mineralogical Abstracts*, published in printed form for the past 83 years. In addition the Society has its own Book Series; the tenth volume, published in August 2004, is entitled *Phoscorites and Carbonatites from Mantle to Mine: the Key Example of the Kola Alkaline Province* and is edited by

Frances Wall and Anatoly Zaitsev. An exciting new development last year was the launch of a new book series called *Landmark Papers*, the brain-child of my predecessor as president of the Society Bernie Wood. The first book in this series, *Volcanic Petrology*, is now published and has been compiled by Ian Carmichael of the University of California. Thirteen classic papers demonstrating the progression of ideas on volcanic rocks over the past 80 years are published in full, and each is accompanied by an insightful introduction by Ian Carmichael.

#### **On-Line Publishing**

Today the world of scientific publishing is being revolutionised by the internet. The Society, along with several other geoscience societies, has taken the unprecedented step of joining a consortium of societies known as GeoScienceWorld (GSW) to publish an aggregate or bundle of geoscience journals. GSW will make available to institutional libraries around 30 journals through a single subscription. GeoScienceWorld's 'Millennium Collection', as it will be known, will be available from the beginning of 2005. Whilst the Society has members in 52 countries we feel that the excellence of our publications demands an even wider readership and we are hopeful that GSW will penetrate markets as yet uncharted by the Society and extend the readership of our publications. Further details on all Mineralogical Society matters can be found on the Society's extensive website at: www.minersoc.org

Professor G. David Price, President



#### **NEWS & NOTICES**

#### The Society Joins the UK Science Council

At a meeting of the Science Council Board on 13 July 2004, the Society was admitted as a member of the UK Science Council, which was awarded its Royal Charter in October 2003. The purpose of the Science Council is to provide a collective voice for all science and to maintain standards across all scientific disciplines. The Science Council licenses societies such as the Mineralogical Society to award the Charted Scientist designation CSci to individuals. The aim is to promote public confidence in scientists by assurance of a common high standard of education, training and continued competence through the designation of CSci. All candidates for CSci must have at least four years post-graduation-level experience in the practice, application, or teaching of science. Typically candidates need to demonstrate an M-level (e.g., MSci, MSc) educational standard, but a Bachelors degree followed by a structured training

scheme and relevant experience could meet the required standard. The next step for the Society towards Licensed Body status is to demonstrate that our membership criteria meet the standards set by the Science Council for a Licensed Body.

#### THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR 2003/2004

The Society's Annual accounts for the period from July 2003 to June 2004 show a total income of £367,724 against expenditures of £432,092, for an operating deficit of £64,368. In addition a further loss (unrealised) of £20,432 was incurred on the Society's investments. The total value of all funds at 1 July 2004 was £1,070,142. A copy of the full accounts can be downloaded from the website and can be accessed via the Announcements page at: www.minersoc.org/pages/ announce/announce.html

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For further information contact the Mineralogical Society at 41 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR or phone +44 (0)20 7584 7516 or e-mail admin@minersoc.org or download an order form at http://www.minersoc.org/pages/e\_journals/inst.ord.pdf

#### **Phoscorites and Carbonatites** from Mantle to Mine: the Key Example of the Kola Alkaline Province

Mineralogical Society Series No. 10

#### NEW

Edited by: F. Wall and A.N. Zaitsev Series Editor: P.J. Treloar August 2004 Hardback, 503 pages, 38 colour plates

ISBN 0-903056-22-4

Published by the Mineralogical Society

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- · timing of Kola alkaline magmatism
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#### MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY 2005 MEDALS — CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations are being sought from members of the Society for the 2005 award of the Mineralogical Society - Schlumberger Medal. This award is given to recognize scientific excellence in mineralogy and its applications by a key worker. Evidence of such excellence should be in the form of published work by a currently active scientist. Nominations are also sought from members for the 2005 award of the Max Hey Medal, awarded to recognize existing and ongoing research carried out by young scientists (normally under 35 years at the time of the award). Nominations with supporting evidence should be sent to the Mineralogical Society, 41 Queen's Gate, London SW7 5HR, UK to arrive by 22 April 2005. Recipients of the awards need not be members of the Society. Full details on the awards and requirements for nomination can be found on the website www.minersoc.org under the awards button.

#### CALL FOR BURSARY APPLICATIONS FOR 2005

A sum of £4,000 will be available in 2005 for bursary awards to postgraduate students and qualified research workers to assist them to attend a conference and present their work or to carry out a piece of fieldwork. Preference may be given to members of the Society but membership is not mandatory to receive an award; in the case of students, however, part of the award will be one year's membership in the Society. 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 at: www.minersoc.org.pages/ awards/awards.html Applications should be sent to the executive secretary Dr Adrian Lloyd-Lawrence to arrive by 21 January 2005.