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SOCIETY BURSARY AWARDS FOR 2013

Senior Bursary Awards for 2013 were made to the following people: I. Ahmed, C. Corkhill, C.-J. de Hoog, R. Gertisser, J. Schumacher and O. Shorttle.

Student Bursary Awards for 2013 were made to the following: L. Abbott, L. Bullock, D. Neave, J. Garforth, C. Mottram, W. Brownscombe, E. Cramer, E. Hart, S. Hughes, E. Jennings, D. Kavencsanski, J. Ratner and N. Blackwell.

Check the Mineralogical Society website at www.minersoc.org/funding. html for details of the 2014 bursaries. These awards include extra money donated by the IMA Commission on Solid Earth and Composition and specifically earmarked for travel to IMA2014 in South Africa next year.

Sion Hughes, who received a bursary in 2013, sent the following report: "I was fortunate to receive a bursary from the Mineralogical Society towards my first international conference as a PhD student. I attended the IAVCEI scientific assembly for 2013, titled 'Forecasting Volcanic Activity' and hosted by the city of Kagoshima in southern Japan. I used the bursary to participate in one of the many field trips accompanying the conference, a journey south to the East China Sea to visit the highly active volcanic island of Suwanosejima and see the type of geophysical monitoring work that goes on there. Situated along the Ryukyu arc, where the Philippine Sea plate is subducting under the Eurasian plate, Suwanosejima is fairly typical of the volcanic islands in this area. It is about 9 × 4 km and composed mostly of basaltic andesite. It has a small village of a few dozen people at the southern tip; the previous inhabitants of the village had to evacuate following a sub-plinian eruption in 1813. A fresh group of settlers arrived in 1883 to recolonise the island, but they and their descendants have endured frequent strombolian, vulcanian and ash eruptions, all from Otake crater, whose walls mark the highest elevation on the island at 796 m." Read the rest of Sion's report and all the others at www.minersoc.org/bursary-reports.html.

MINERALS FOR LIFE: OVERCOMING RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS

One hundred and twenty people attended the 'Minerals for Life' conference held in Edinburgh in June 2013. The prime objective was to bring together academics and people from regulatory agencies and industry to talk about matters of mutual interest.

The mineral sciences span an increasingly broad range of subjects. The traditional core disciplines of characterization and classification have burgeoned in recent decades, as the range of analytical tools available has grown rapidly, along with our systematic understanding of mineral chemistry. Similar advances in exploration, mining and process engineering bring these fields to a state of advancement such that they would be unrecognizable to a practitioner of fifty years ago. Over the same timescale, our environmental awareness has developed greatly, and our subject remains at the core of many methods of environmental remediation. Moreover, it has helped foster environmental responsibility in operational practice. The science underlying minerals as functional materials covers many new fields, with wide applications spanning medicine, electronics, construction and many others, as we develop new applications for minerals and their products. The contribution of minerals to human well-being has never been more prominent than it is today. After all, if we don't grow it or catch it, we must dig it from the ground!

Copies of many of the presentations are available from the conference website at www.minersoc.org/minerals-for-life.html.

One very significant take-away from the meeting was the realization amongst some that the work done on characterization of materials (natural and otherwise) by mineralogists is invaluable and should be promoted more to industry.

SOCIETY AWARDS FOR 2013

Society Awards for 2013 were presented during the conference banquet in Edinburgh, a very pleasant evening indeed.



Michael Carpenter – Mineralogical Society Schlumberger Award





Christopher Jeans – Collins Medal



Nick Tosca – Max Hey Medal

Hendrik Heinz – Max Hey Medal

EMU SERIES

Since 2009, eight new volumes in the EMU Notes in Mineralogy series have been published.



Minerals at the

Nanoscale

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Vol. 8 (2010): Nanoscopic Approaches in Earth and Planetary Sciences (F. Brenker and G. Jordan, editors)

Vol. 9 (2010): Advances in the Characterisation of Industrial Minerals (G. Christidis, editor)

Vol. 10 (2010): Ion Partitioning in Ambient-Temperature Aqueous Systems (M. Prieto and H. Stoll, editors)

Vol. 11 (2011): Layered Mineral Structures and Their Application in Advanced Technologies (M. F. Brigatti and A. Mottana, editors)

Vol. 12 (2012): Raman Spectroscopy Applied to Earth Sciences and Cultural Heritage (J. Dubessy, M. C. Caumon and F. Rull, editors)

Vol. 13 (2013): Environmental Mineralogy II (D. J. Vaughan and R. A. Wogelius, editors)

Vol. 14 (2013): Minerals at the Nanoscale (F. Nieto and K. J. T. Livi, editors)

These, and the previous seven books in the series, are all available from the Mineralogical Society's online bookshop (www.minersoc.org).