

# Mineralogical Society of Great Britain and Ireland

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

## NEWS FROM LONDON

### Membership Dues

Please note: your membership fees for 2015 are due now. The sooner you pay, the less time/money we spend on sending reminders. We look forward to hearing from you! Go to [www.minersoc.org](http://www.minersoc.org) and click on 'Member login'. Go to [www.minersoc.org](http://www.minersoc.org) and click on 'Member login'.

### Annual Report

The Society's annual report for 2013–2014 is now available for viewing on the Society's website ([www.minersoc.org/annual-reports.html](http://www.minersoc.org/annual-reports.html)). Members are encouraged to read the report and to send comments or queries to Executive Director, Kevin Murphy ([kevin@minersoc.org](mailto:kevin@minersoc.org)). The Society's Annual General Meeting will be held on 12 March 2015 at 11.00 AM at the Natural History Museum.

### Mineralogical Society 'Best Paper Award' in Honour of R. A. Howie

The first winner of this new award has been announced: Jolis EM, Freda C, Troll VR, Deegan FM, Blythe LS, McLeod CL, Davidson JP (2013) Experimental simulation of magma–carbonate interaction beneath Mt. Vesuvius, Italy. Contributions to Mineralogy and Petrology 166: 1335–1353. Go to [www.minersoc.org/best-paper1.html](http://www.minersoc.org/best-paper1.html) to read about how to make a nomination.



### Metamorphic Studies Group, Research in Progress Meeting



The MSG-RiP meeting will be held on 15 March 2015 at the University of Leeds. Further details to follow.

### Geochemistry Group, Research in Progress Meeting 2015

23–24 March 2015

NATIONAL OCEANOGRAPHY CENTRE, SOUTHAMPTON



Further information about this annual meeting of the Geochemistry Group is available at <http://www.minersoc.org/geochem.html>. Register online at <http://www.go.soton.ac.uk/68a>.

### Euroclay 2015 Registration to Close Soon



Online registration for the Euroclay meeting will close at the end of March 2015. Register now at [www.euroclay2015.org](http://www.euroclay2015.org).

### Chartered Scientist (C.Sci.) Status

#### WHAT IS CHARTERED STATUS?

Almost all professions have a professional/chartered membership that conveys and assures professional qualifications, a professional attitude to work, keeping up to date with best practice, and abiding by the code of conduct of a professional society. It is an ongoing qualification that shows you are an active practitioner.



This designation is very different from any academic qualifications you may already have, such as a bachelor's, master's or PhD degree gained by fixed-time courses and 'one off' examinations. It is also very different from Higher Education Academy qualifications that apply only to university teaching. None of these conveys that you are a professional and practising scientist.

#### WHY BECOME CHARTERED?

That rather depends on whom you ask and in what field you work. The engineering world maintains a high level of respect for Chartered Engineers, and the majority of senior engineers in the UK are chartered. In some countries, only people with a similar status have the legal authority to sign for the completion of certain projects, but that stricture seems unlikely to be adopted here. In science, however, the requirements are much more varied as the prevalence of higher degrees is relatively high. It is more common at present to see a job advertisement requiring applicants to have a PhD than to see a specification for someone registered as C.Sci., C.Chem. or C.Geol., for example. Things are changing, however. A look through the piles of magazines on our desks shows several job adverts with just those requirements, and it seems likely that as the number of chartered scientists in senior positions increases, then so too will their demand for similarly qualified applicants. To quote the Science Council: "Being chartered is the mark of professional recognition" and "allows all scientists working at the full professional level to be recognised on an equal footing. It gives an assurance of current competence through annual CPD monitoring, and encapsulates the interdisciplinary nature of science in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. By benchmarking professional scientists at the same high level, C.Sci. aims to re-engage public trust and confidence in science and scientists."

As mineralogists, should we not seek to equate our professionalism with that of colleagues who achieve C.Geol., C.Chem. or C.Eng. status?

### IS IT REALLY WORTH IT?

The imperative to become chartered is no doubt pressing at the back of many of our minds but not at the top of the 'must do today' list.

For university academics and others, if you want to promote your profession and show your industry and wider contacts that you work to international professional standards, chartered status is certainly for you.

### HOW DO I BECOME CHARTERED?

The 'best' route to chartership is different for different people. The Mineralogical Society C.Sci. scheme requires applicants to have a certain amount of professional experience and to maintain a regular Continuing Professional Development ('CPD') record (see <http://www.minersoc.org/chartered-requirements.html>). There are two drivers for this: keeping up to date with evolving methods, regulations, standards and practice and also adding new skills which will broaden their experience.

### BUT IT IS SO MUCH WORK!

The first thing to do is check the requirements to see if you meet the criteria. All this might sound a bit daunting, but remember, it is in the interests of the Mineralogical Society to see our most able members chartered. We offer guidance through the application procedure and will appoint a *mentor* to advise you on how best to present your application. No awarding body wants applications to fail, and if you are at an early stage in your career, your mentor will recommend that you make the final stage of the application only when you have a strong case for registration.

### FIRST STEPS AND ADVICE

If you are considering applying for membership, the first port of call should be the Mineralogical Society web pages at <http://www.minersoc.org/chartered.html>. Contact Executive Director Kevin Murphy at [kevin@minersoc.org](mailto:kevin@minersoc.org). Kevin will team you up with someone who has experience in scrutinising applications to help make your application as straightforward and efficient as possible. You should not put off making those first important steps! Two examples follow.

- Mark Tyrer is a fellow of three institutions and was regularly reminded by each of them that he never returned his application forms to become chartered. He made a successful C.Sci. application through the Mineralogical Society last year. He also chairs the Cementitious Materials Group at the IOM3.
- Frances Wall is an academic at the University of Exeter, a fellow of the Mineralogical Society and the Geological Society and has also recently become C.Sci. through the Mineralogical Society. She is keen to encourage the view that 'even' university academics are professionals.

### Anniversary



The Society's Executive Director, **Kevin Murphy**, has reached a significant milestone, 25 years as an employee of the Mineralogical Society. Kevin joined the Society in early 1990: there was a typewriter on his desk, multipart invoices for book sales, very expensive typesetting and printing costs and just a mere hint of the Internet in the air (!). Well, things have moved on. The mineralogical world is much smaller and faster moving. We have lots of wonderful collaboration between the societies and associations involved in our subject, and Kevin has many mineralogical friends all around the world. Here's to the next 25!

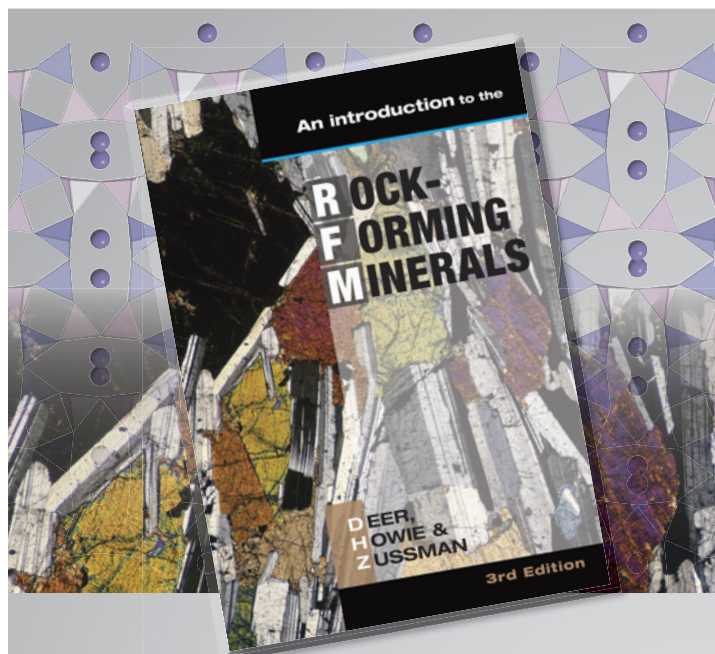
### Student Bursary 2014 to Adam Jeffery



Funding by the Society enabled Adam Jeffery of Keele University to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> International Workshop on Volcano Geology, held in Funchal, Madeira, in July 2014. The conference provided a forum for the discussion of state-of-the-art research topics, including volcanology, volcanic hazards and the impacts of volcanoes on society and the environment, and it attracted a wide variety of experts in physical volcanology, igneous petrology and geophysics. It represented a superb opportunity for Adam to disseminate some of his PhD research findings to an audience of leading academics and specialists. This was achieved via two oral presentations:

- Jeffery AJ, Gertisser R, O'Driscoll B, Pimentel A, Pacheco JM (2014) Magma evolution at Furnas Volcano, São Miguel, Azores
- Jeffery AJ, Gertisser R, O'Driscoll B, Pimentel A, Pacheco JM (2014) Eruption and emplacement of peralkaline ignimbrites, Terceira, Azores

Adam also took part in a very informative two-day field excursion detailing the extraordinary volcanic geology of Madeira Island, led by Prof. António Brum da Silveira of the University of Lisbon, Portugal.



### Introduction to the Rock-Forming Minerals III by Deer, Howie and Zussman

The third edition of this iconic textbook was published by the Mineralogical Society in May 2013 and is now available for sale. This volume has been completely updated, is printed in full colour at A4 size and includes >200 colour images, including those from the *Atlas of Rock-Forming Minerals* (with the permission of Pearson UK) and from *CrystalMaker*. A CD including interactive images of crystal structures of many of the minerals listed in the book is also included.

#### Pricing

- ★ List price (for libraries and other institutions): **£55**
- ★ Non-member price: **£45**
- ★ Mineralogical Society Member price: **£35**

For Postage add £7.95 per book for UK, £12.95 for Europe (airmail), and £20.95 for Rest of the world (airmail). For surface rates please contact the Society ([info@minersoc.org](mailto:info@minersoc.org)).

Order the book online at [www.minersoc.org](http://www.minersoc.org)

#### SPECIAL DEAL FOR STUDENTS!

Students, join the Society today (free of charge for one year) at [www.minersoc.org](http://www.minersoc.org) and save £10 on the cost of this book.

