

Mineralogical Society of the UK and Ireland

www.minersoc.org

NEWS FROM LONDON

Apply for a travel/conference grant from the Mineralogical Society

The Mineralogical Society offers a range of bursaries, centrally, as well as through most of its eight SIGs (special interest groups). There is a good rate of success (up to 50% in some cases), so you are encouraged to apply now. To help, we are running an online workshop on 9 January 2023 (at 14.00 UK time) where we will offer advice about improving your chances of success. Register here: <https://zoom.us/join/register/tjUkc-urpj4qGNDdlenkz-8Jt6dhDHjGVGS>.

- £6000 is available from the Senior and Student Bursary funds at <https://www.minersoc.org/bursaries.html>. DEADLINE: Senior Bursary – **15 January 2023**
DEADLINE: Student Bursary – **7 May 2023**
- Up to £3000 is available annually for the Hazel Prichard Student Bursary, and the next deadline is **15 February 2023**.
- Multiple awards per year are available from the **Applied Mineralogy Group** and the next deadline is **15 April 2023** (<https://www.minersoc.org/amg-bursaries.html>).
- The Clay Minerals Group distributes Ordinary CMG Bursaries up to £3000 per year available), the prestigious Mackenzie-MacEwan Award, Workshop Bursaries and, new in 2022, 'Research Grants'. The amount of money available in any given year is variable and will be determined by the Treasurer of the CMG in consultation with its Officers (<https://www.minersoc.org/clay-minerals-group-bursary.html>). DEADLINE: **1 May 2023**.
- The Environmental Mineralogy Group offers grants of up to £500 each for Early Career Researchers. Details at <https://www.minersoc.org/emg-bursary.html>. The deadlines are **1 March** and **1 November** each year.
- The Geochemistry Group offers funding opportunities that aim to promote and support geochemistry-related research within the UK and Ireland. These awards are the Student Travel Bursary and Scientific Meeting Support. These funding opportunities have three application rounds each year which deadlines are **15 January, 15 May, and 15 October** each year.
- The Metamorphic Studies Group offers 'student conference bursaries'. Details at <https://www.minersoc.org/msg-bursaries.html> (no formal deadline).
- The Mineral Physics Group offers bursaries to help with attendance at conferences, meetings, and workshops, although the MPG particularly encourages applications to support visits to overseas laboratories and national/international research facilities, including synchrotron and neutron radiation facilities, which do not support travel. Details at <https://www.minersoc.org/mpg-bursaries.html>. The deadlines are **15 January and 15 June** each year.
- The Volcanic and Magmatic Studies Group offers conference and workshop travel bursaries. Details at <https://www.minersoc.org/vmsg-funding.html>. Deadlines are **1 June and 1 December** each year.



Two of the Society's special interest groups have launched newsletters this year.

The Clay Minerals Group Newsletter, *Phyllosophical News* (edited by Nia Gray-Wannell, Maggie White and Meg Baker), has been published twice during 2022 (<https://www.minersoc.org/phyllosophical-news.html>).

The Environmental Mineralogy Explorer
The Quarterly Newsletter from the Mineralogical Society's Environmental Mineralogy Group
Edited by Luke Townsend
July 2022 Issue 1

A message from the EMG Committee
Hello there and a very warm welcome to the inaugural issue of The Environmental Mineralogy Explorer! We're very excited to bring you this new format for bringing you all the most up-to-date news in the world of Environmental Mineralogy. The newsletter will be sent out quarterly with the updates from the EMG committee and the wider Mineralogical Society, latest publications in the area, news on upcoming conferences and meetings, and bursary calls and opportunities. We also hope to expand the newsletter to have features including experiences and opinion pieces by students and EMG members. We hope you enjoy this newsletter and feel free to get in contact with us with any feedback or if you'd like to get involved!

Video Competition
Following on from last year's competition, we are once again giving all budding mineralogists the opportunity to win £200 for the best video on any mineral. This year, the competition will be run in parallel with the Twitter sensation #MineralCup to keep your eyes peeled for the launch in September. Follow us on Twitter so you don't miss out! <https://www.minersoc.org/mineralcup>

Bursary Call
The deadline for the next EMG Early Career Bursary Scheme will be this November. This scheme gives early career researchers the opportunity to apply for up to £500 to use for independent research. If you are a postdoctoral researcher (or an equivalent level seniority) check out the website <https://www.minersoc.org/emg-bursaries.html>

EMG/AMG Joint Meeting Report
Following from last year's of no in-person conferences, June saw the coming together of the Environmental and Applied Mineralogy Groups for a diverse and interesting hybrid meeting. Spread over two days, with a delightful conference meal in the middle, the 'Virtual to Real-world' themed meeting showcased a variety of mineral-related topics from radioactive waste immobilisation to geomaterials and canal dredge sediments. In addition, there were excellent keynote talks from Julia E. Hirst, David S. Searles and Lewis Broadbent in conjunction with a range of high quality posters, all of which promoted some fantastic discussion. Already plans are in place to organise the next in-person meeting in Summer 2023 to which this space and keep your calendars open for some awesome mineral science!

www.minersoc.org/emg EMG@minersoc.org [@EMG_minisoc](https://twitter.com/EMG_minisoc) www.facebook.com/EMG_minisoc

Phyllosophical News
THE CLAY MINERALS GROUP NEWSLETTER
Issue 2
October 2022

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Welcome to the second edition of Phyllosophical News!
We hope you enjoy these contributions from the community ranging from using modified smectites to adsorb styrene, to the exciting applications of Atom Probe Tomography and also reports from the fantastic CMG Jubilee Meeting earlier this year. Don't forget our Friday clay vignettes on page 6! We are on the look out for new editors for Phyllosophical News! If you would like to find out about exciting new research and be part of a welcoming and fun team, please email cmg@minersoc.org

Guess the Clay Mineral!
Can you identify the clay mineral? Answer on page 6.
Every month in 2022, in celebration of the 75th Jubilee year, the CMG is adding a new image of a clay from Great Britain and Ireland to the Images of Clay archive. We are also running an international competition to find the 'best' new images to add (see the archive web page for how to submit images). A panel from the CMG will judge the best new addition to the archive from the images received, and the 'winner' will be announced in December.

In addition, the *Environmental Mineralogy Explorer* (edited by Luke Townsend) also appeared for the first time this summer.

These are in addition to newsletters offered by the Applied Mineralogy Group (*Applied Mineralogist* – <https://www.minersoc.org/amg-applied-mineralogist.html>) and the VMSG Newsletter (<https://vmsg.org.uk/publications/online-newsletters/>).

These are excellent ways to keep up to date with the work of these SIGs.

In addition, a dozen interviews of clay mineralogists of all kinds have been published on the Society's YouTube channel (again, part of the group's CMG's 75th Anniversary celebrations). See these interviews at <https://www.minersoc.org/jubilee-year-2022.html>.

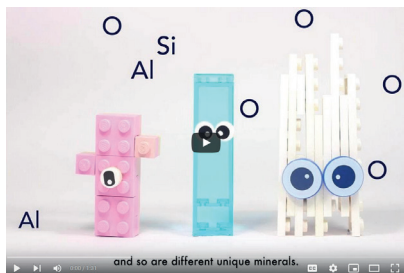
- January 2022 – Adi Radian, interviewed by Anke Neumann
- February 2022 – Warren Huff, interviewed by Kevin Murphy
- March 2022 interview – Kirill Shafran, interviewed by Francis Clegg
- April 2022 – Lynda Williams, interviewed by Neal Skipper
- May 2022 – Nathalie Fagel, interviewed by Megan Baker
- June 2022 – Christopher Jeans, interviewed by Kevin Murphy and David Wray
- July 2022 – Yael Mishael, 23rd George Brown Lecturer, interviewed by Anke Neumann
- August 2022 – Ruhaida Rumsin, interviewed by Binoy Sarkar
- September 2022 – Sabine Petit, 21st George Brown Lecturer, interviewed by Steve Hillier
- October 2022 – Derek Bain, David Morgan and George Christidis (with input from Chun Hui Zhou, interviewed by Kevin Murphy)

OUTREACH

The Environmental Mineralogy Group video competition is nearing completion at the time of writing.

An offering entitled 'Kyanos' by Stacy Phillips (along with a number of other excellent videos) is available on the Society's YouTube channel.

Visit all of the videos from this year's and last year's competitions at <https://www.minersoc.org/emg-video.html>.



GEOCHEMISTRY GROUP ACTIVITY

The Geochemistry Group went through significant changes in the 2021–2022 academic year, with all officer positions being re-attributed. In the summer of 2021, a new action plan was devised and agreed with the overall aim to diversify the group's range of activities and stimulate engagement with Early Career Researchers (ECRs). This has led to the development of two new online panel series which currently run alternatively every month (aside during the summer time). These panels are recorded and uploaded to YouTube for free access through the Geochemistry Group website (<https://geochemistry.group/>).

The first panel is called 'Out of Academia – Into Science', which aims to promote alternative science careers to ECRs. Each panel will discuss a specific career and typically attracts 30–50 attendees. So far, these panels have covered careers in the public sector, working with instrument designers and manufacturers, charities, and research funders.

The second panel is an ECR skills programme where specific skills or aspects of academia are discussed. Panels have so far discussed paper writing and preparing/writing a fellowship application. We would be delighted to work with other SIGs in the future to expand the reach of these panels.

MINERAL PHYSICS GROUP NEWS

The committee for this SIG has been refreshed, and a meeting has been organised (for 16 November 2022) at which the major agenda item will be the organisation of a Research in Progress (RiP) meeting, to be held in the summer of 2023. Thereafter, the group plans to organise similar RiP meetings on a yearly basis. The group now also has a social media presence, with a Twitter account that we will continue to promote and expand, and use to help advertise SIG related events, including our RiP meetings and student bursaries.

The full committee is as follows:

CHAIR: Oliver Lord (University of Bristol)

TREASURER: Stephen Stackhouse (Leeds)

SECRETARY: Eleanor Jennings (Birkbeck)

ORDINARY MEMBERS: Ana Ferreira (UCL), Auriol Rae (Cambridge), Emilie Ringe (Cambridge), Tetsuya Komabayashi (Edinburgh), Claire Nichols (Oxford), John Wheeler (Liverpool), and Andy Thomson (UCL)

MEETINGS IN 2023

Metamorphic Studies Group: Research in Progress 2023

University of Oxford

4–5 April 2023

<https://www.minersoc.org/msg-rip-2023.html>

Clay Minerals Group: Clays and Construction

University of Leeds

18 May 2023

This meeting will explore 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 spans everything from clay-based renders to improve air quality, the role of clay minerals in geotechnics, calcined clays in low-carbon cements, natural earth building, and much more.

Abstracts on any topic in clay mineral science in general, including research-in-progress are invited. We particularly encourage those with interest in the theme of clays and construction, early career researchers, and those working in industry.

<https://www.minersoc.org/cmg-rip.html>

Applied Mineralogy Group: 60th Anniversary Meeting

Details of a meeting of the AMG to be held in St. Andrews in May 2023 will be published on the Society website shortly. A busy meeting is expected in celebration of one of the most active of our SIGs over the past six decades.

<https://www.minersoc.org/amg.html>

Geochemistry Group: GGRiP 2023

The 2023 GGRiP meeting will be held at the University of Cambridge. Details will be announced shortly.

<https://www.minersoc.org/gg.html>

MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY BURSARY WINNER 2022 – CASSIA JOHNSON

Cassia Johnson (University of Exeter, UK) received funding to help her visit the Klondike goldfields to resolve the following questions:

- how is it that the Yukon is mercury-free (if it is consistently mercury-free), when other SSGM is not?
- and how typical is this of SSGM in the Global North, which is little studied relative to SSGM in the Global South?

Her fieldwork consisted of visiting mines, interviewing miners and other knowledgeable stakeholders, and conducting participatory and archival research to understand what defines the industry, the development trajectory of the industry, and the motivations behind the miners' livelihood choices. A full report of Cassia's field visit is available at <https://www.minersoc.org/bursary-report.html>.

