Volcanic & Magmatic Studies Group February '09 Newsletter No. 4





















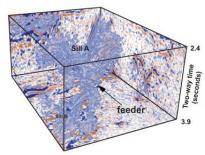
Annual Meeting: Bournemouth 2009

An excellent annual meeting was held at Bournemouth from the 4th to 6th January. The meeting attracted 140 delegates and a wide variety of talks and posters were presented in the sessions on Ascent and Emplacement of Magmas, Intraplate Magmatism, Modelling of Magmatic Processes, Volcanoes and Society, and Research in Progress.

VMSG Award - Ken Thomson

This year's VMSG Award was won by Ken Thomson (University of Birmingham). Sadly, Ken died suddenly in April 2007, but his pioneering work on 3D seismic data continues to make a substantial contribution to the field of volcanic and magmatic studies. Ken used oil industry offshore 3D seismic data to develop sophisticated high resolution 3D images of buried volcanic fields and sill complexes. From this he made some key breakthroughs with the 3D visualisation of unexposed sill complexes, giving unprecedented access to the geometry and architecture of these bodies and helping us to understand their flow and emplacement.





Ken Thomson and his work (Thomson & Schofield, 2008)

The Award was accepted by Ken's mother, Elaine, at Bournemouth, and she has written to express her thanks to everyone involved for inviting her. A session on the Ascent and Emplacement of Magmas, inspired by Ken's work, was then held and generated excellent debate.

Brian Upton

We also enjoyed an excellent session on Intraplate Magmatism, celebrating the work of Brian Upton (University of Edinburgh), including a fascinating talk from Brian himself.



Henry Emeleus and Brian Upton working hard on the Isle of Rum, NW Scotland (Photo: D. Jerram)

Prizes

As always, there was an extremely high standard of student talks and posters, and our thanks are extended to all contributors. This year's prize winners were:

Talk: Sebastian Watt (University of Oxford) – "Tephra transport and deposition following the May 2008 eruption of Chaitén volcano, Chile"

Poster: Judith Kelly (Birkbeck College, University of London) – "Ultramafic cumulate xenoliths, Santo Antão, Cape Verde: crystal textures in a silica-undersaturated magma chamber"

Feedback

Thanks to all those who submitted feedback forms at the conference. We will use this information constructively and try to act on some of the points raised.

Bournemouth Team

Finally, I'm sure we'd all like to extend our thanks to Nick Thompson, Nick Petford and their team at Bournemouth for organising such a great annual meeting.







Nick Thompson and Nick Petford (Bournemouth)

VMSG 2010

Next year's annual meeting will be held at the University of Glasgow from 4th to 6th January, and is being organised by David Brown and Kate Dobson. Please keep these dates free in your diary! More information on the meeting will follow on the VMSG web page very shortly.





University of Glasgow (Photos: K. Dobson)

End of an era

After 8 years of service on the VMSG committee, Kathryn Goodenough (BGS) stepped down as Secretary at the Bournemouth meeting. Kathryn has been a fantastic servant to the VMSG and we should all thank her for her incredible effort. Cheers Boss!



The Boss! (Photo: J. Reavy)

A voyage through the volcanoes of central France – VMSG Field Workshop 2009

This year's workshop will be based at the Puy de Sancy and Châine du Puys volcanoes of central France from 12th to 18th April. The registration deadline for this trip has now passed. We look forward to classic field locations and evening discussion animated by local produce!

Janet Watson Meeting

A final reminder of a VMSG supported meeting:

"Evolution of the Continental Crust: the Janet Watson meeting" (28th to 29th May 2009, Geological Society, Burlington House, London)

The evolution of the continental crust has left its imprint in the structures, the igneous and metamorphic patterns and the geochemistry that we see today. This two-day meeting aims to bring together investigators pursuing these different scientific strands, so as to stimulate a broad-based discussion of continental crustal evolution. If you would like to submit a paper for this conference, then please submit your abstract to Georgina Worrall (georgina.worrall@geolsoc.org.uk). The abstract deadline has passed, but you may be lucky! Abstracts should be no longer than 500 words.

See: http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/events/listings/page4658.html



Loch Torridon, with Lewisian Gneiss in the foreground, NW Scotland (Photo: K. Goodenough)

Reminders

We were extremely disappointed that only 2 students applied for postgraduate travel funding this year. If you meet the criteria, we will give you money! Deadline for applications is: 15th June. 2009. Similarly we also accept applications for support of national and international meetings. Details can be found at: http://www.dur.ac.uk/d.a.jerram/VMSG/funding.html

Mineralogical Society Annual Meeting 2009, 31st Aug - 2nd Sep, Uni. of Edinburgh. Includes VMSG session on "Frontiers in microanalysis and microtextures in magmatic rocks." See: http://www.minersoc.org/pages/meetings/MAPT/MAPT.html

Editorial

Deadline for material for next newsletter: 20th March '09.

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