

# BRITISH MICROMOUNT SOCIETY



---

NEWSLETTER NO. 66 May 2004

[www.micromounters.org.uk](http://www.micromounters.org.uk)

---

<b>Chairman</b>	Roy Starkey	15 Warwick Avenue, Fringe Green, Bromsgrove, Worcs., B60 2AH
<b>Secretary</b>	Shirley Adrian	An Feóran North Connell Argyll PA37 1RD
<b>Membership Secretary</b>	Pearl Freeman	12A Allingham Court Haverstock Hill London NW3 2AH
<b>Treasurer</b>	Alan Edwards	Thistledown, Common Road, Brunstead, Norwich, Norfolk NR12 9ES

---

## CONTENTS

Austin Lockwood	John Pearce	2
Ivan Peak	Chris Jewson	3
Records update	Mick Wolfe	3
Correction – specimens from Wheal Basset	Robin Selley	3
Special offer to members from Meiji	Richard Belson	4
BMS Symposium	Symposium organisers	5
Corks for micromounting	Rick Turned	6
Lake District Weather	Mike Leppington	6
Porphyry-copper exposure at Capel Hermon	Alan Dyer	6
Membership News		7
Editorial Note	Mike Dannatt	8

**AUSTIN LOCKWOOD**  
**25th April 1929 - 14 March 2004**



Members will be sad to learn that Austin after attending the S.E. Russell Society meeting on Sunday 7th March, suffered heart attacks and died on the following Sunday.

Austin grew up in London and did his National Service in the Royal Engineers in the Far East. For several years he attended night school and eventually became a chartered surveyor. He and June were married in 1952 and they celebrated their golden wedding two years ago. June and Austin had five children and 8 grandchildren and they all know that a mineral is not for drinking! He was the chief surveyor at the Grand Metropolitan (formerly Express Dairies) and in this role he had plenty of opportunities to look down holes. It was therefore appropriate on his retirement, for Austin to put his considerable energies into his main hobby of Geology.

He founded the very successful Ravensbourne Geological Society which now has over 100 members; he initiated the S.E. branch of the Russell Society, was the co-ordinator of the S.E. branch of the BMS; was a council member of the G.A.; a former vice-president of the Russell Society; a former field trip co-ordinator of the Sidcup Lapidary and Mineral Society and he organised two very active local groups of Rockwatch. At BMS Symposia he organised the Micromineral competition and he was currently involved in establishing a Code of Conduct for the Russell Society and had just finished a BMS Occasional Paper on "The Naming of Minerals". Just thinking about that makes me feel exhausted. While other people thought about doing something, Austin did it. In 2001 he received the Foulerton award from the G.A. for work of merit associated with the Millennium. Austin was particularly proud of this award.

Austin was a very friendly and most energetic man and one of his projects stands out above all others for me. For the Millennium celebrations he arranged for several tons of Lewisian gneiss, a 2000m year old rock, to be transported from the Highlands of Scotland to Bromley. 20 boulders and many bags of broken and cut rock were sent down south. Some were used to make monuments placed around the town, while a small piece with a label was given to every child in Bromley. Not content with that, Austin arranged further sponsorship so that children from the Highland village (the source of the rock specimens) were flown down to Bromley to take part in the climax of this event: a Dinosaur picnic in Crystal Palace park. Now that involves creative thinking, brilliant organisation and has provided a real rock legacy.

Austin's achievements were many and he will be greatly missed. Our condolences go to his wife June, his family and friends.

*John Pearce*

## **IVAN PEAK**

Many members will already know that Ivan passed away at the end of May last year. He had been a member since 1987/8 and a regular attendee at the annual Symposium until two years ago. He won the Micromount Trophy in 1991 and 1992.

Ivan died after a 9 month battle with cancer. As well as being a micromounter, he was a gifted lapidary, being a founder member of the Kingston Lapidary and Mineral Society in Hull as long ago as 1964.

Our sympathies are extended to Ivan's widow and family.

*Chris Jewson*

---

## **RECORDS UPDATE**

**Mick Wolfe**

It has been a while since a complete updated name, address, telephone number and email address list was produced for the membership so here goes. Members will have recently received a copy of the membership list showing their details as of last October. It will inevitably contain some out of date information, missing email addresses and typos. Would you please check your entry and, unless changes have appeared in a recent newsletter, advise PEARL FREEMAN, by ordinary mail, of any corrections you require (she assures me that her listing is the correct one!).

It is even longer since the last issue of the BMS Directory of Micromounters so I am asking each member to check their entry in the last issue, amend it as necessary and send the revised version, by ordinary mail, to me, MICK WOLFE at the address in the membership listing. To save you having to hunt out the last Directory a copy of your entry was included with the October newsletter. For 'new' members with no previous entry a specimen page from the directory was included. Use this as a guide but please be brief as I am a two-finger typist.

*(The despatch of the various items which Mick mentions above got out of "synch" when I moved home – my apologies for this. Hopefully this will tie together the unexplained bits of paper which you have received. Ed.*

)

## **CORRECTION – SPECIMENS FROM WHEAL BASSET**

**Robin Selley**

This note relates to certain specimens obtained from Chris Jewson or Robin Selley at the 2003 Symposium. All material marked "Graces Shaft, West Wheal Basset" should be relabelled as "Wheal Basset".

## SPECIAL OFFER TO BMS MEMBERS

**Richard Belson**

Meiji Microscopes are pleased to extend an exclusive offer to members of the British Micromount Society. The following two options are offered:

### OPTION A

EMZ-1 zoom stereo head 1x to 3x zoom with SWF10X eyepieces mounted on F focus block onto UHM heavy base long arm stand complete with 30W fibre optic illuminator with single goose neck.

Offer price £995.00 including VAT.

(Normal list price £1715.00)



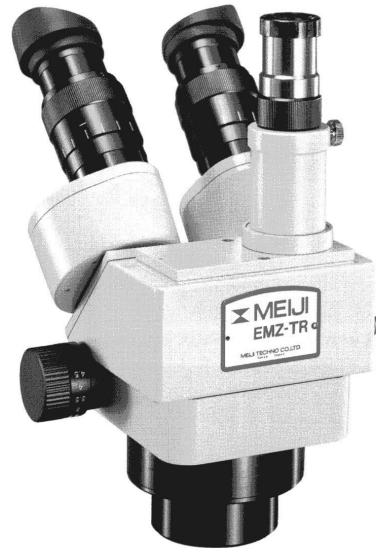
EMZ-1

### OPTION B

EMZ-5TR trinocular zoom stereo head 0.7x to 4.5x zoom with SWF10X eyepieces mounted on F focus block onto UHM heavy base long arm stand complete with 30W fibre optic illuminator with single goose neck.

Offer price £1295.00 including VAT.

(Normal list price £2068.00)



EMZ-5TR

For further information or to place an order, please contact:

Meiji Techno UK Ltd  
The Vineyard  
Hillside  
Axbridge  
Somerset  
BS26 2AN

Tel: 01934 733655

Fax: 01934 733660

E-mail: [enquiries@meijitechno.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@meijitechno.co.uk)

Web: [www.meijitechno.co.uk](http://www.meijitechno.co.uk)

**BMS SYMPOSIUM 2004**  
**Martin Stolworthy, Richard Belson, Kevin Johns**

This year the Symposium will be held over the weekend of September 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. As you will be aware, this is the last year that Martin Stolworthy, Richard Belson and Kevin Johns will be organising the Symposium. We have been organising it since 1993 (cannot believe it is that long!) and now feel the time is right for someone else to take over.

Martin Gale has offered to do this and will be responsible for the organisation from 2005. Many of you will know Martin, he has been one of our helpers for a few years now but more importantly he has been responsible for the production of the Symposium booklet each year. We are sure that Martin has many new ideas and we will work with him to ensure the continuity of successful Symposiums for the future.

Following on from the Symposium last year we unfortunately were made aware of two issues by the Geology Department management.

The first one was that people were smoking in the common room. Will all members who smoke please note that there is a non-smoking policy within the department and are asked to respect this.

Secondly, a complaint was received about the back door to the department being wedged open and no one present. As there have been some serious issues with regards to security within the department over the last twelve months we have been asked to ensure that this does not happen again.

Having discussed this we have decided to adopt the following measures:

There will be no entry for delegates into the department before 08.45, after which time one of the organisers or a delegated person will be present at the back door. The back door will stay open until 09.45 and will then be closed. If any delegates arrive after this time they will have to go around to the front entrance of the geology department and gain access there. If you wish to go back to your car during the day, please contact one of the organisers.

Separate from the Geology Department, an issue was raised by some delegates last year and had been in previous years about the hoarding of swapping/selling material brought along by delegates. It seems that some people are removing lots of boxes of swap/selling material in one lot back to their microscopes and then hanging on to them for long periods (even hiding them in drawers!) This is not allowing everyone a fair chance to look at the material available. It also means that the person who owns them does not always know where they are.

Therefore, to allow everyone a fair chance to look at what is available, we will be introducing a numbered card system. Each delegate will be issued with a numbered card (as listed in the Symposium booklet) and when you take away ONE box to look at, you will leave your card with the owner. When you return the box, you get your card back and can then leave it with the next person from whom you take a box of specimens. Please respect this - and your fellow delegate. After all, we all want the chance to see what is available. We will explain this again in the introduction to the Symposium.

We have always tried to keep formality to a minimum and we regret that these measures have to be introduced. They are necessary to ensure the continued excellent working relationship that has

been built up over many years between the Geology Department and ourselves and also achieve fairness for all delegates.

### **CORKS FOR MICROMOUNTING**

**Rick Turner**

I have negotiated a regular supply of high quality natural (tapered) corks in sizes 0000 through 0, which are the ones normally used for mounting micros. I can obtain and provide sizes 0000 and 000 at £2 per 100 and the two larger sizes at £2.50 per hundred, which is about half the UK wholesale price.

In case any members are, I can be reached via email (rick.turner@btconnect.com) or on 07789 692648.

### **LAKE DISTRICT WEATHER**

**Mike Leppington**

Even though the Caldbeck Fells is off limits to most mineral collectors, member still visit the Lake District so I thought the following snippet from my local paper may be of interest.

Walkers can now download free fell forecasts from the internet. The forecasts are issued in the late afternoon for the next day and include information on the wind, temperature on the tops, rain and a general mountain forecast.

Visit: <http://home.btconnect.com/geoffmonk/mountain/>

### **THE PORPHYRY-COPPER EXPOSURE AT CAPEL HERMON IN COED Y BREININ**

**Alan Dyer**

John Mason has expressed concerns regarding the sensitivity and significance of the porphyry-copper exposure at Capel Hermon in Coed Y Brenin. He would like to remind everyone that the importance of the exposure in question was identified during the Gwynedd phase of the MINESCAN project in 1997 and that it has since been designated as an SSSI – this means that it is protected by law. **IT MUST NOT BE HAMMERED** as this will quickly diminish its usefulness. People interested in the mineralogy should be able to find samples (mostly of micro quality) in the spoil along the bank to the left of the exposure. We would like to thank John Mason for bringing this to our attention, and would ask all persons reading this note to spread the word appropriately amongst fellow collectors and amateur mineralogists/geologists.

The Coed Y Brenin “ore-zone” is almost totally buried by overburden and this is by far the finest exposure of it, and in addition it is one of the finest exposures of a porphyry-copper deposit in the UK. In 1998, the section was carefully cleared of talus and soil in a joint operation between Forest Enterprise and the Countryside Council for Wales in order to improve its quality. It is now an

integral part of a new geological trail in the Coed Y Brenin forest. The trail covers aspects of regional geology and in particular the mineralization associated with the porphyry-copper system, both primary and supergene. Some sites such as the Turf Copper Mine may be familiar to members, while others will be new, such as another trackside exposure, again a SSSI, which reveals brecciation, silica and pyrite mineralization in what appears to be the “roots” of an ancient fumarolic system. The latter site is illustrated on John’s website:  
[<http://www.geologywales.co.uk/roads.htm>].

The trail officially opens in the Spring of 2004. Interpretation panels have been set up at each site and a trail guide will be available from the Coed Y Brenin visitor centre. Email John via his website for more details.

Reference: Bevins, R.E. & Mason, J.S. 1998: Welsh Metallophyte and metallogenic evaluation project: Results of a Minesite Survey of Gwynedd. National Museums & Galleries of Wales.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

### Changes of address, telephone or e-mail details:

Member	New or corrected details.
Anthony Aldworth	01579 344841
Richard Belson	dickbrid.11waldemar@btopenworld.com
John Bodemeaid	johnquartz@ntlworld.com
William Bolton	bilboatmineral@ntlworld.com
Barry Callagher	High View Cottage, Moorhead, Longtown, Carlisle, Cumbria, CA6 5RG 01228 792080
Mike Dannatt	The Royal mail assure me that I am now in postcode TA20 2QX! mikedannatt@onetel.com
Sue & Alan Edwards	suealan@tesco.net OR sue.ames@tesco.net
J & D Hall	01444 415066
David Ifold	7 Redlands Road, Fremington, Barnstaple, Devon, EX31 2NY davidifold@bigfoot.com
Frank Ince	ince78@btopenworld.com
David Middleton	66 Birches Road, Codsall, Wolverhampton, WV8 2JR 01902 846059
David Neal	celyndave@evemail.net
Timothy Neall	timothy@nealls.force9.co.uk
Paul Nicholson	16 Hillside Road East, Bungay, Suffolk, NR35 1JZ
Joakin Persson	c/o Fulbrook, 12 Plat Close, milnrow, Rochdale, Greater Manchester, OL16 3NL
Nick Peters	07931 555993
Alan Pringle	25 Pinnacle Hill Park, Kelso, Roxburghshire, TD5 8HA 01573 226266
Tim Riley	00 33 4 68 89 36 13
Malcolm Southwood	7 Campbell Court, Warrandyte, Victoria 3113, Australia 00 61 3 9844 0307 diopase@bigpond.net.au

## New members

Steve Bown	26 Mendip Heights, Didcot, Oxfordshire, OX11 7TB	S.A.BOWN@RL.AC.UK
Dave Cook	35 Harpenden Rod, Wanstead, London, E12 5HL	020 8925 8660
Denis Doherty	32 Festival Rd, Portadown, Co Armagh, N Ireland, BT63 5HE	028 38 394944 denis.doherty@btopenworld.com
Robert Maura	31A The Avenue, Cowley, Uxbridge, Middx, UB8 3AD	01895 270701 (day) 01895 255679 (eve) bob@fossils-r-us.com
Edward Rowan	31 Cloverhill Ave, Lisburn, Co Antrim, N Ireland, BT27 5HW	028 92 670080 minerals@ni-mineral- collectors.org.uk
Robert Wharton	39 Milbrook Rd, Crowborough, E Sussex TN6 2SB	01892 663351 bob.wharton@btopenworld.com

### EDITORIAL NOTE

Members will, I hope, excuse me for taking up this small space in order to make a special appeal for help. This should have been the February newsletter – but what is a newsletter without NEWS from members. I believe that it is important to send this very thin issue out without further delay in view of the sad news it contains.

I have never nagged for articles and I have no intention of starting now but I do appeal for some articles for me to publish. If I have a few articles by the end of June I promise to get another issue out in July – and then back to normal schedules? So, if you have promised me an article, may I have it in any form soon, please? If you have *not* promised me one, why not surprise me!

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Mike Dannatt

The Laurels, Garden Court, Perry Street, Nr Chard, Somerset, TA20 2QX

Tel: 01460 220624

E-mail: mikedannatt@onetel.com

The deadline for articles for Newsletter 67 will be 1st July 2004. Please let me have contributions as soon as possible. Articles or reports on PC disc are welcome - preferably saved in RTF - rich text format. Articles sent by E-mail can either be “attached” or be part of the body of the E-mail message. Clearly *printed* documents are acceptable and can be scanned and read into the PC. Hand-written items should be as clear as possible please paying particular attention to the spelling of site and mineral names.