



VMSG Award Winner

This year's VMSG award has been awarded to Professor Valentin Troll.

Val graduated with first class honours from the University of St. Andrews in 1998. He moved to GEOMAR in Germany for his PhD and in 2001 he was appointed as a lecturer in Trinity College, Dublin, where he was made associate professor within 6 years. He is currently holds the chair of petrology and geochemistry at the University of Uppsala in Sweden.

Val's research output is prodigious, since 2000 he has contributed to more than 50 published papers, in virtually all aspects of our science. However, it is not just his research that sets him apart, it is also his work in support of the VMSG community. After arriving at Trinity College, Val established the Volcanic and Magmatic Processes Group, whose members became known as the "VAMPs." His management style and charisma has become a model for how a group should be run. This group re-invigorated research in igneous petrology and volcanology in Ireland, and saw a welcome "invasion" of PhD students at VMSG meetings.



*Val Troll and Trollaval...
VMSG Golden Rum Trip 2007*



Indonesian work: Val, with local guides and PhD students Jane Chadwick and Mairi Gardner

As the leader of the VAMP Group, Val has seen 13 PhD students to completion in 9 years. He continues to work closely with these students, and the group's work on the British Palaeogene Igneous Province, from work on magma transport and petrogenesis to the volcano tectonics of caldera systems has seen our understanding of our most local volcanoes increase substantially. His work on Indonesian volcanoes has tracked magma transport and studied the catastrophic impact of carbonate on gas production and eruption mechanics. Not content with studies in the UK, Ireland, Indonesia, Mexico, the Canary Islands and Iceland, he has even been involved with research in Martian supervolcanoes. His work covers all scales of the volcanic system, from crystal scale variations to large scale magma plumbing systems and caldera/sector collapse, using established techniques (fieldwork, Sr,

Nd, Pb isotopes etc.) combined with more cutting edge technology (microdrilling, boron isotopes, experimental petrology) showing both a depth and breadth of expertise.

Valentin Troll leads his department and group definitively and charismatically, driving himself and those around him towards excellence. Together, his research,

the legacy of the VAMP Group and his contribution to VMSG field trips, meetings and conferences, define an unprecedented period of productivity, energy and passion for our science, and it is fitting that the VMSG recognise this truly remarkable contribution.

by Fiona Meade and David Brown



Forthcoming Events

VMSG Annual Meeting Cambridge, 5-7th January 2011

The annual VMSG meeting will be held at Queens' College, Cambridge from the 5-7 January 2011. The science programme can be found in the attached pdf with further details and abstracts on the website <http://www.vmsg2011.org/>



Events

SCAR International Symposium on Antarctic Earth Sciences

The SCAR International Symposium on Antarctic Earth Sciences invites you to Edinburgh in July 2011. Abstract submission and registration is now open. Website www.isaes2011.org.uk Early Registration and abstract submission deadline: 31 March 2011.

Icelandic Volcanoes: Interactions between Volcanoes, Ice and Atmosphere

Lecture at The Geological Society (Burlington House, London) by Thor Thordarson, 19th January 2011. <http://www.geolsoc.org.uk/gsl/cache/offonce/events/shell/ondonlectures11/icelandicvolcanoes>

Deadlines

Student travel grants

Applications for VMSG support enabling travel funding from UK-based postgraduate researchers are due before

www.vmsg.org.uk

15th December. For further information and an application form please see the website funding page <http://www.vmsg.org.uk/>

EGU General Assembly (Vienna) 3-8th April 2011

We would like to draw your attention to the following session and invite your contribution.

GMPV1; Magma generation and differentiation: Field, analytical, experimental and numerical investigation of magmatic and volcanic systems (Symposium: Geochemistry, Mineralogy, Petrology & Volcanology)

This session invites contributions targeting the generation and differentiation of magmas in the mantle and crust from field studies, petrology, geochemistry (major and trace elements and isotopes), experimental petrology and thermodynamic and geochemical modeling. Magma chemistry sampled in plutonic and volcanic rocks reflect combinations of processes operating in their sources (e.g. metasomatism by fluids and melts, asthenospheric-, lithospheric- and 'exotic' mantle components as well as crustal melting and anatexis) and during differentiation from mantle depths to shallow level magma reservoirs and volcanic extrusions/explosions (e.g. fractional crystallization, assimilation, mixing/mingling, replenishment of magma reservoirs and chambers). The fundamental question to be addressed by this session is how igneous systems operate in different tectonic settings and what are the principal controls on primary, parental and derivative magma compositions.

Conveners: Valentin R. Troll (Uppsala University, Sweden), Lilli Freda (INGV Rome, Italy) and Ralf Gertisser (Keele University, UK)

Abstract deadline is 10th January 2011. Please see <http://meetings.copernicus.org/egu2011> for further conference details and submission procedures.

Editorial

All members of the VMSG community are invited to contribute articles for the newsletter. Deadline: 11th February '11. Please forward any articles, comments or notices of events, workshops and conferences to me before the deadline.

Charlotte Vye (cvye@bgs.ac.uk)

VMSG Committee Member, Editor and List Manager