



### VMSG Award

Applications are sought for the VMSG Award. The award is bestowed annually on an individual who is deemed to have made *a significant contribution to our understanding of volcanic and magmatic processes* over the preceding 3-5 years. Such a contribution will most likely be in the form of a paper or series of papers, although other forms of evidence (e.g. convening paradigm-changing workshops and conferences) will also be considered. There is no age or nationality limit and researchers at any stage of their career will be considered. The nominee should ideally be a part of the VMSG Community, through participation in VMSG meetings and activities and/or interaction with other VMSG scientists.

Nominations should be sent to the Secretary, Kate Dobson ([Kate.Dobson@ges.gla.ac.uk](mailto:Kate.Dobson@ges.gla.ac.uk)) by **June 1st**. Full details of procedures and eligibility can be found on the webpage at: <http://www.dur.ac.uk/d.a.jerram/VMSG/vmsgawardannouncement2009.pdf>.

### Previous Winners

2007	Marian Holness	Cambridge
2008	Ken Thomson	Birmingham

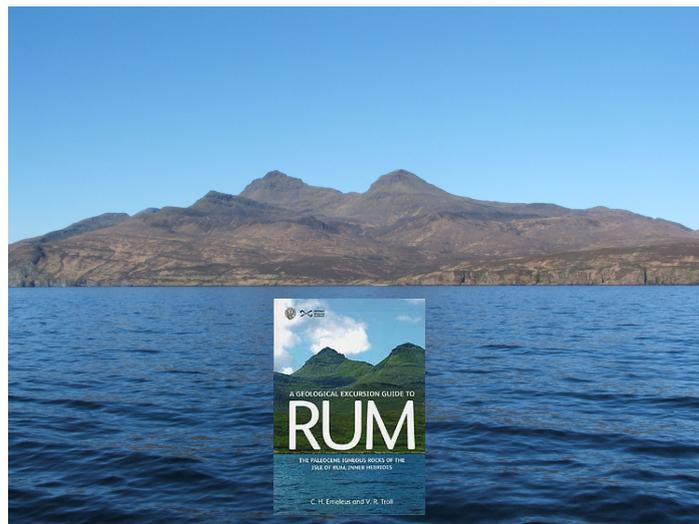


Marian Holness and Ken Thomson

### A Shot of Rum?

A new excursion guide to the Palaeocene igneous rocks of the Isle of Rum, authored by Henry Emeleus and Val Troll, with contributions by Eoghan Holohan and Graeme Nicoll, has just been published as a joint venture between the Edinburgh Geological Society and NMS Publishing. This beautifully illustrated, full colour excursion guide is

available from the NMS online shop at <http://www.nms.ac.uk/shop.aspx>, price £12.99.



Askival and Hallival, the Isle of Rum, NW Scotland

### Forthcoming Events

#### Auvergne

This year's VMSG field workshop is being held in Auvergne from 12th to 18<sup>th</sup> April. A full report will follow in the next newsletter.

#### Micro-Analysis, Processes, Time (MAPT)

Mineralogical Society Annual Meeting 2009, 31<sup>st</sup> Aug - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sep, Uni. of Edinburgh. Includes VMSG session on "Frontiers in microanalysis and microtextures in magmatic rocks." Registration is open.

See: <http://www.minersoc.org/pages/meetings/MAPT/MAPT.html>

#### Climate Forcing of Geological and Geomorphological Hazards

The Third Johnston-Lavis Colloquium (Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> to Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2009, University College London) on the theme of *Climate Forcing of Geological and Geomorphological Hazards*, will address relationships

between past and contemporary climate change and the triggering of hazardous geological and geomorphological phenomena, in particular volcanoes. The meeting is supported by the UK Met Office, the British Geological Survey, the British Antarctic Survey and UCL and Oxford universities.

Convenors: Richard Betts (Met Office), Chris Kilburn (UCL), Mark Maslin (UCL), Bill McGuire (UCL), David Pyle (Oxford), John Smellie (BAS), David Tappin (BGS).

For further information go to: <http://www.abuhrc.org>

### VMSG 2010

Next year's annual meeting will be held at the University of Glasgow from **4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> January**, and is being organised by David Brown, Kate Dobson and Fiona Meade. Please keep these dates free in your diary! More information on the meeting will follow on the VMSG web page very shortly and at: <http://web.ges.gla.ac.uk/vmsg/index.htm>



*University of Glasgow*

### The Hottest Place

Congratulations to Dougal Jerram (Durham) on his contribution to the BBC popular science programme "The Hottest Place on Earth." On the show Dougal and the team visited Erta Ale volcano in the Afar region of Ethiopia. Here they descended into the crater just above its active lava lake, and recorded the first ever 3-D laser scan of this remarkable volcano. Further scans recorded the Dabbahu fissure which opened overnight in 2005. These extraordinary images made up for Dougal's rather weak throwing arm!! See the BBC news article at: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/7950845.stm>.



Dougal Jerram at Erte Ale, Ethiopia, and its stunning lava lake

### Do you want some money?!

The VMSG makes money available for postgraduate travel funding, and we strongly encourage you to apply. If you meet the criteria, we will give you money! Deadline for applications is the 15<sup>th</sup> 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>

### Editorial

Deadline for material for next newsletter: 25<sup>th</sup> May '09.

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