

## **Russell Society Publications: Permissions**

At recent Council meetings we have discussed a number of circumstances where it was thought that permission for some of our Society activities should be sought, obtained and, where appropriate, acknowledged. It was agreed that, amongst these circumstances, were various issues associated with our Society publications (Journal, Newsletter and website); these issues fall into two main areas:

**Photographs, diagrams, maps, etc.:**Permission to publish a copy of any photograph, diagram, map, etc. that is covered by an existing copyright should be sought, obtained and acknowledged by the author(s). In the absence of such permissions the Society and its Trustees could be vulnerable to legal actions by the copyright holder.

**Mineral specimens:** Many of the articles and notes published by the Society include descriptions of specimens collected on Society or personally organised field trips. Access and collecting permissions should always be sought, obtained and, where appropriate, acknowledged by the author(s) where the specimens collected on a personally organised field trip form the basis of a contribution to any of our Society publications.

Sadly we live in a world littered with legal issues that have to be considered and we are concerned that the Society and its Trustees (not to mention individual authors) could be vulnerable to legal actions in the event that a land and/or mineral rights owner takes objection to a publication that was based on specimens collected without the appropriate permissions.

See also:

Newsletter 66, March 2015, page 6 regarding field trip permissions.

Newsletter 67, September 2015, pages 9 and 10.