GUIDE FOR AUTHORS SUBMITTING MANUSCRIPTS FOR PUBLICATION IN THE JOURNAL OF THE RUSSELL SOCIETY

The Russell Society encourages the study, recording and conservation of mineralogical sites and material. It publishes a newsletter, which includes short articles, mineral news, and information about activities and fieldtrips; and a journal, which contains original articles.

Beginning an article can be a bewildering process, for new authors, but many have successfully navigated the reefs and shoals to produce accounts which are accurate and accessible. The editor, editorial board and referees are here to help. This article sets out some of the conventions that have developed over the years. Do not be put off by the length of the style guide it is simply intended to help avoid some of the pitfalls along the road to publication.

ARTICLES

Articles in the Journal of the Russell Society typically focus on the mineralogy of Britain and Ireland. Contributions from members and non-members are welcome. Suitable subjects include descriptions of unusual or rare species; reviews of sites of mineralogical interest; collection descriptions, biographical notes on the history of mineralogy; and accounts of mineralogical techniques. The Journal does not normally publish articles about sites which lie outside the British Isles.

Recent editions of the Journal provide a useful indication of the sort of articles that are included. Authors are advised to contact the editor with a rough synopsis before beginning an article in earnest. The editor may be aware of other proposed articles in similar subject areas.

Manuscripts should be prepared using Microsoft Word or a similar package. Pages should be single column A4 size with reasonable margins. Paragraphs should be separated by a single blank line, please do not use the paragraph styles that are available in modern word processors they have to be removed, add to the workload for the editor and typesetter, and have the potential to produce errors. Authors are asked, in particular, not to mimic the double-column format of published articles.

Every journal article is refereed by two experienced mineralogists. This is a normal part of the publication process. It helps to reduce errors, which otherwise propagate through the literature. The editor, editorial board and referees help the author to produce the best possible contribution. Referees may be ‘critical’, but their comments are intended to be constructive and positive.

Although the content is varied, certain types of article recur. The most common are described in the following text:

Unusual Occurrences

Descriptions of unusual, novel or otherwise unreported minerals or mineral assemblages are an important part of journal content. The principal issue in such
articles is usually the reliability of identifications. Claims of unusual or rare mineral species must be backed by supporting evidence.

Articles are typically a few pages in length and organised as follows:

1. **TITLE**: short, specific and self-explanatory; followed by the names and addresses of the author(s);
2. **ABSTRACT**: a single paragraph summarising the most important findings, typically 100–250 words;
3. **INTRODUCTION**: sets the scene for the reader; it might include information about the chemistry and naming of the mineral(s) described and if appropriate a review of their occurrence in the British Isles;
4. **LOCALITY**: a description of the site and its geological context;
5. **ANALYSIS**: a description of experimental methods including analytical data including how and where the minerals were identified and what methods were used; possibly supported by photographs or SEM images;
6. **DISCUSSION**: a discussion might include observations and interpretation of data and comparisons with other occurrences;
7. **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**: it is usual to thank anyone who has helped including referees, and those who gave permission to collect;
8. **REFERENCES**: references are used to support statements made in the text and to provide readers with the opportunity for further research. The use and formatting of references is described following the style guide in this article. Only references cited in the text are to be included;
9. **TABLES**: any tables of data;
10. **FIGURES**: figures with full explanatory captions.

**Locality Reviews**

Reviews of mineral localities are core content; they are popular with readers and form valuable records of sites. They typically draw on the collections of public institutions and private individuals and paint a complete picture of a locality. Locality reviews can be extended geographically to encompass the mineralogy of a larger area, such as an orefield, group of mines, geological unit or even a complete county. More extended reviews do not necessarily deal exhaustively with all known occurrences of every mineral. A topographic review might focus, for example, on the occurrences of a particular mineral, or group of minerals, across a wide area.

Manuscripts may be up to 50,000 words, although they are usually much shorter. They are typically organised as follows:

1. **TITLE**: short, specific and self-explanatory; followed by the names and addresses of the author(s);
2. **ABSTRACT**: one or two paragraphs summarising the most important findings;
3. **INTRODUCTION**: sets the scene for the reader;
4. **HISTORY**: provides a historical context for the locality;
5. **GEOLOGY**: describes the geology and sets it in a regional context;
6. **MINERALS**: usually an introduction stating methods of identification followed by an illustrated alphabetic list of the mineral species;
7. DISCUSSION: includes observations and any interpretation of data;
8. CONCLUSION: self-explanatory;
9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: it is usual to thank anyone who has helped including referees, landowners and bodies such as Natural England who may have given permission to collect;
10. REFERENCES: references are used to support statements made in the text and to provide readers with the opportunity for further research. The use and formatting of references is described in the following text; only references cited in the text are included;
11. TABLES: any tables of data;
12. FIGURES: figures with full explanatory captions.

Collection Descriptions and Biographies

A more ‘human’ subject area with wide scope, commonly based on private and public collections, past and present. Some articles may be set in historical context, based perhaps on material in an archive or public museum. Others may be contemporary and provide records of current mineralogists or mineralogical practice. Collection descriptions typically include a mineralogically focused biography and illustrations of the collector’s catalogue, labels, and as many important specimens as possible. They might be organised as follows:

1. TITLE: short, specific and self-explanatory; followed by the names and addresses of the author(s);
2. ABSTRACT: a single paragraph summarising the important facts about the collector or collection;
3. INTRODUCTION: sets the scene for the reader;
4. MAIN TEXT: less prescriptive than the mineral descriptions, but typically including biographical information about the person or the history of an institution placing them in a wider context and including appropriate illustrations;
5. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: it is usual to thank anyone who has helped including referees and the people who have supplied information or assisted with enquiries;
6. REFERENCES: references are used to support statements made in the text and to provide readers with the opportunity for further research; Only those references cited in the text are listed; citations from archive material are commonly included in historical articles;
7. TABLES: any tables of data;
8. FIGURES: figures with full explanatory captions.

Techniques

In common with other science-based subjects various techniques lie within the compass of amateur mineralogy. Collectors have led the way in digital photography which enhances resolution and depth of field in images. Curatorial techniques, ranging from chemical treatments to prevent decay, to methods of labelling and suitable databases for collection management are of wide interest. There is no general template for an article. It should include a title and an abstract as well as acknowledgements, references, and appropriate tables and figures. Articles need not
be ground-breaking, but will typically include of review of the scientific basis of the technique and examples of how it might be useful in a mineralogical context.

**STYLE GUIDE**

Writing for any journal has its quirks and idiosyncrasies. Articles should be written in a free-flowing style, but adhere to appropriate scientific and stylistic conventions. Material that is vexatious, rude or offensive will not be published. The main body of the narrative should lead the reader through the material in a logical manner. The *Journal of the Russell Society* uses British English (taken from a recent edition of the *Oxford English Dictionary*). Authors should not worry unduly about grammatical minutiae. However, the style should be scientific, generally in the third person. Some conventions are adopted for sound scientific reasons, following guidance from the International Mineralogical Association or similar bodies. In other cases they are arbitrary: ‘for consistency, that’s the way it’s done’.

Lucid and simple English is encouraged. Authors should write in their own particular way. The journal does not impose a rigid style. The following paragraphs offer guidance on a variety of topics (listed alphabetically).

**Abbreviations** should be clear and consistent. Well known abbreviations such as i.e. and e.g. can be used without definition. In British English, neither of these should be italicised or followed by a comma. Other abbreviations should be defined the first time they are used in an article: e.g. National Coal Board (NCB). If used in tables, ‘n.d.’ must be defined as ‘not determined’ or ‘not detected’. The same abbreviation used in a reference means ‘not dated’.

In general an abbreviation (where the end letter is missing) has a full stop, whereas a contraction (where the end letter is present) does not, for example: Prof. and Dr; ed. and eds; Fig. and Figs; similarly, St in St Agnes, Cornwall, and Ltd for Limited are contractions and do not require a full stop.

The abbreviation *et al.* is used to cite references if three or more authors contributed. It is derived from the Latin *et alia* which means ‘and others’. In common with other non-English words it is italicised, and *al.*, as an abbreviation, requires a full stop.

Technical abbreviations such as XRD (X-ray diffractometry or X-ray diffraction) and WDS (wavelength-dispersive spectrometry) generally omit full stops. Technical abbreviations which may be used without definition include: XRD = X-ray diffractometry or X-ray diffraction; PXRD = powder X-ray diffraction; XRF = X-ray fluorescence; EPMA = electron-probe microanalysis; EDS = energy-dispersive X-ray spectrometry; WDS = wavelength-dispersive X-ray spectrometry; SEM = scanning electron microscope or scanning electron microscopy; IR = infrared; UV = ultraviolet; *REE* rare-earth elements.

Other abbreviations and contractions in common use include: p. for page; pp. for pages; c. for circa; vs for versus; cf. for confer (compare); and in quotations [*sic*] for as it is written.
Abstracts are required for all articles. The abstract presents the topic of research and summarises the major findings, where as the introduction, which starts the article proper, sets the scene for the reader. Word counts of 100 to 250 are customary for abstracts, but longer summaries are acceptable for complex contributions. The abstract stands entirely on its own, and must not include any references.

Accuracy and precision need to be considered in articles which report numerical data. A set of data points from repeated measurements is precise if the values are close to each other, and accurate if their average is close to the true value of the quantity being measured. Precision is related to the random errors in measurements, accuracy includes systematic errors.

Modern ‘black-box’ analytical instruments commonly report data at inappropriate levels of numerical accuracy. Authors should consider the probable systematic and random errors in measurements and report numerical values to an appropriate number of significant figures. If figures are rounded, the convention is that if the last digit is five or greater, the figure is rounded upward.

Americanisations should be avoided. Use acknowledgements not acknowledgments; advertised not advertised; analyse not analyze; catalogue not catalog; colour not color; fibre not fiber, geological not geologic; grey not gray; lustre not luster; Palaeozoic not Paleo Zoic (and its variants); selvedge not selavage; travelled not traveled. Crystallise, mineralise; and crystallisation and mineralisation, are the appropriate English spellings; ‘ize’ and ‘iza’ are avoided.

Other American constructions, such as the use of likely as a mid-position adverb, as in ‘the mineral will likely be ...’, should be changed to the appropriate English form, in this case: ‘the mineral is probably ...’. The word ‘program’ in British English refers only to computer programs, such as Microsoft Word; programme is the appropriate form for a schedule of events.

And/or as a grammatical device is to be avoided if possible. It is clumsy and can be ambiguous.

Apostrophes should be used to indicate missing letters, or possession. They should not be used with possessive pronouns, namely: whose, ours, yours, his, hers, its or theirs. They should also be avoided in nouns that are plural but not possessive, such as CDs or 1980s.

Book titles should be in italic font and title case if they are used in the main body of the text. For example: ‘In his foreword to the facsimile reprint of the Manual of the Mineralogy of Great Britain and Ireland Peter Embrey notes ...’. There are a few exceptions, such as The Bible, which by convention, are not italicised.

Brackets have a number of functions in mineralogical articles. Their meaning in crystallography is described separately. Round brackets are generally used in normal sentence construction, to enclose supplementary information, which if removed would leave the sentence unchanged. Round brackets are also used for references. Square brackets are used in quotations to add supplementary information. Square brackets are also used in the Journal of the Russell Society (JRS) to enclose grid references e.g.
This last rule is an example of a convention that has evolved without obvious reason.

**Capitalisation** should extend to the full names of localities: use Carrock Mine, Coldstones Quarry and so on. The same applies to geological units such as the Sidmouth Mudstone Formation. If several locations are described plurals are not capitalised: use Sandbed and Driggith mines, with no capitalisation of the word mines.

**Chemical conventions** generally follow guidance from the IMA and the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC), but note that this journal uses sulphur, sulphides, sulphates and sulphosalts, and the spellings caesium and aluminium.

**Chemical formulae** should be taken from the latest version of the official IMA-CNMNC list of mineral names, available at: http://ima-cnmnc.nrm.se/imalist.htm. If other formulae are used, such as empirical formulae, structural formulae, or general formulae, they should be explained. Central dots (available in the special characters menu in MS Word) are used in formulae to distinguish water of crystallisation, but the modern trend to represent structural water as \((H_2O)_n\) within a formula is encouraged.

**Chemical Equations** should use standard symbols recommended by IUPAC. For example:

\[
\text{Zn}_5(\text{CO}_3)_2(\text{OH})_6 + 3\text{CO}_2 = 5\text{ZnCO}_3 + 3\text{H}_2\text{O}
\]

Authors should ensure that equations balance. Minus signs, to represent the charges on anions, for example, are set using a superscripted en-rule (available in the special characters menu) not a hyphen: e.g. \(\text{SO}_4^{2-}\).

**Commas** are commonly misused. However, there are few undisputed grammatical rules relating to comma use; it is often a matter of style and ‘flow’. The comma splice is to be avoided. This consists of the use of a comma where stronger punctuation is needed, usually because the statement has two complete grammatical sentences. For example:

“The mine is believed to have been worked by the Elizabethans, the earliest records date from 1750”.

could be better expressed. The two clauses could be separated by a full stop, although this might be carrying the ‘short, clear sentences’ guideline too far. They could be joined by ‘although’ or connected by a semi-colon.

As with hyphens, commas are best thought of as a courtesy to the reader. A phrase which describes or qualifies the subject of the sentence, but which is not essential to its meaning, should always be placed within paired commas to make it easier to read:

“A quartz vein, apparently the continuation of the Silver Gill Lode, trends NE–SW across the northern slope of High Pike and is here known as the Low Pike Vein”.

Note that it would not be wrong to place another comma after ‘High Pike’, but it would be unnecessary.

**Compound words** follow guidance in the *Oxford English Dictionary*. Use bicoloured, groundwaters, longwave and shortwave ultraviolet, northeast, orebody, timescales and note that cuboctahedron is preferred to cubo-octahedron. Cross-cut and cross-cutting, and post-dates and post-dating are hyphenated.

**Compass points** should be written northwest, southeast and so on, without hyphenation, if they are doubly conjugate; they can be abbreviated NNW, SSE and so on if triply conjugate. More precise directions should be written: ‘striking 060°’ or similar.

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**Crystallography** uses the following conventions:

1. Coordinates in square brackets such as [100] denote a direction vector (in real space).
2. Coordinates in angle brackets such as <100> denote a family of directions which are related by symmetry operations. For example, in the cubic crystal system <100> refers to [100], [010], [001] and the opposite of any of those directions.
3. Miller indices in round brackets such as (100) denote a particular plane in a crystal structure. Negative intercepts with axes require a bar over the appropriate number, but should be written with a minus sign and highlighted in text.
4. Miller indices in curly brackets {braces} such as {100} denote a crystallographically equivalent family of planes or crystal faces; {111} for example defines the octahedral crystal form in minerals with appropriate symmetry.

Form letters are usually given in italic font. Nineteenth-century bases in crystallography defined using parametral planes are commonly at variance with modern unit cells. Modern unit cells should be used for Miller indices.

**Dates** should be written in the following format: 1 November 2018. Do not use 1st, 2nd or 3rd or any variation thereof unless in a direct quotation. Date ranges should be enclosed in brackets and separated by an en-rule (1878–1964); note that no spaces are included between two numbers, but a single space either side of the en-rule is used in (30 November 1878 – 24 February 1964).

**Deceased persons** are described as ‘the late’ (an expression that is another way to say ‘lately deceased’) for a period of a decade or so. Thereafter they are described using their names and dates at the first reference.

**Data** is a Latin plural. Technically the singular is datum. However, as language has evolved in recent years, the constructions such as ‘the data are’ or ‘the data show’
have begun to appear archaic. If authors decide to use data as a singular term, as long as they do so consistently, it will remain as such in the text.

**Degree symbol** The degree symbol (°) is a typographical symbol that is used, among other things, to represent degrees of arc (e.g. in geographic coordinate systems) and degrees of temperature. The symbol consists of a small raised circle, historically a zero glyph. In MS Word Alt + 0176 (on the numeric keypad).

**Diacritical marks** should be used in mineral names and locality names. They should also be used for author names and in units such as Å. Most diacritical marks are easy to insert using modern word processors (in the special characters menu). The IMA maintains an up-to-date list of diacritical marks in mineral nomenclature.

**Double spaces** should *not* be used to separate sentences.

**Equations** should follow the standard mathematical convention, with variables in italic and constants and functions in Roman. They should be punctuated as part of the article, but set on separate lines:

\[ \int_{0}^{2\pi} dr = \int_{0}^{2\pi} \sqrt{1 + \cos^2(x)} \, dx \]

Short, simple expressions and equations may be set on a line with the text. In these cases fractions should normally be written with the solidus (/) and all necessary brackets must be included. A common error is to write Fe/Fe+Mg for Fe/(Fe+Mg). Multiplication signs are not generally required. Minus signs are set using an en-rule (which is available in the special characters menu of word processors). (Ctrl + minus sign on the numeric keypad).

In describing a graph or other plot of one variable versus another it is usual to write in the order \( y \) versus \( x \). It some cases it may be useful to think of \( y \) as the dependent variable as a function of \( x \) the independent variable, but there are many instances of chemical plots which should not be thought of in this way.

**Figures** are cited in text either as (Fig. 1) capitalised, in parentheses and with a full stop, or Figure 1 if not enclosed in parentheses. If two or more figures are cited use (Figs 1–3). Every figure should be cited at least once in the main body of the article.

**Foreign language** words are generally printed in italic font, unless they have become sufficiently anglicised to be well understood. Some anglicised expressions retain their diacritical marks, e.g. ‘the issues of funding created by the recent austerity crisis might generate a sense of déjà vu [established in English but retaining its accents]: *plus ça change, plus c’est la même chose*’ [French, in italics].

**Focused** is one of a number of words which may be spelled with either single or double ‘s’, the most common spelling is with a single ‘s’, and that is recommended.
Fossil and other biological species names should be given in italic font with genus capitalised and species in lower case: *Genus species*. Names should follow the international codes for zoological and botanical nomenclature.

**Geological names for rock units** are taken from the most modern version of the BGS lexicon e.g. Sherwood Sandstone Formation. Older names such as Bunter, Keuper and Magnesian Limestone should be avoided unless they are used in a historical context. Chronostratigraphic terms (e.g. Permian) should follow the International Convention on Stratigraphy unless there are good reasons for not doing so. British lithostratigraphic terms should follow the appropriate modern nomenclature which may be found in the BGS lexicon. Fossils forming part of a lithostratigraphic name should be capitalised but not italicised (e.g. Plenus Marls, Aegiranum Marine Band).

**Grid references** should be given for localities described in the text and enclosed in square brackets. Grid references should include letters for the appropriate 100 km grid square. The first set of numerals record the easting and the second set the northing. Grid references are easy to check with modern online mapping tools. Authors are reminded that it is their responsibility to get them right. An eight-figure grid reference with 10 m precision might be written [ST 4015 7185] and is appropriate to identify a small feature; a six-figure grid reference with 100 m precision may be better for a larger feature: [ST 402 719].

Errors in grid references are common. Data obtained during fieldwork using GPS systems may have much larger errors than manufacturers suggest, depending on the conditions on the day in question. Authors are encouraged to check that the grid references in articles are correct using an online mapping tool.

**Headings** are applied at three levels in the *JRS*. The first level applies to major divisions of the article such as the history, geology, minerals, discussion and references. First-level headings are set in bold capitals. Second-level headings are used to subdivide major sections; they are set in bold and in normal font. Third-level headings are not often necessary, they are set in normal font, except for mineral names where the following convention is used:

1. If an identification is reliable, the name is capitalised.
2. If there is some uncertainty the name is in lower case.
3. If the identification is erroneous or is not a currently recognised mineral, the title is in lower case and italicised.

Authors should note that the headings, even at third level, *do not* form part of the sentence structure of articles. For example, if linarite is being described, the paragraph of text below the heading ‘LINARITE’ should not begin ‘This mineral is ...’, but rather ‘Linarite is ...”.

**Hyphens** are used for:

1. Written fractions: two-thirds, four-fifths, three-quarters;
2. Many words that begin with anti, non and neo (but check with a dictionary);
3. Separating identical letters (e.g. re-enter, but not for coordinate);
4. To avoid ambiguity (e.g. thirty-odd specimens as opposed to thirty odd specimens);
5. Ethnic origins (Greek-Cypriot, Irish-American)
6. Adjectives formed from two or more words (value-added, nickel-rich). See also ‘Compound Words’ above.

Hyphenation is a contentious issue. It is helpful to think of a hyphen as a courtesy to the reader; if it makes a sentence easier to understand, it is probably correct. An up-to-date dictionary giving British usage may be useful to check in uncertain cases. Hyphens are used in yellow-green but not in yellowish green where the ish takes the place of the hyphen. They are used as part of compound adjectives such as energy-dispersive analysis; fine-grained rock; alunite-group mineral.

Note that in using ‘well-known’ versus ‘well known’ and similar constructions: many authors want to write well-known, well-formed and similar with hyphens as they feel they are compound adjectives. This is not the case: well is an adverb (check the dictionary) and should be treated like any adverbial construction. It does not need a hyphen.

Double-barrelled nouns should not be hyphenated: ‘the boundary between New York and New Jersey’ not ‘the New York-New Jersey boundary’. Adverbial constructions are never hyphenated: highly modified faces and octahedrally coordinated ions are correct.

Longer dashes, known as en-rules – and em-rules — are occasionally encountered. They are available with other special characters in the ‘insert character’ menus of word processors. En-rules are used to separate number ranges, where they replace the word ‘to’, and as minus signs, but are not otherwise encouraged as part of punctuation. Em-rules are unlikely to be needed unless they form part of a direct quotation.

**Identifications** should be supported by appropriate analytical data. It is not necessary to support every mineral species described in an article by a raft of analytical data; in many cases a visual identification by an experienced mineralogist is sufficient. However, claims of unusual or rare mineral species must be backed by appropriate supporting evidence.

The gold-standard for mineral identification is provided by X-ray diffraction (XRD), however authors should be aware that XRD cannot differentiate between structurally similar species in certain mineral groups. Identification by XRD may be supported by electron beam techniques from which composition data may be calculated. Authors are encouraged to report these data, but should be aware of the uncertainties associated with modern standardless electron-beam analysis.

Analytical techniques, such as Raman spectrometry, infra-red spectrometry, polarised light microscopy and wet chemical analysis may provide further valuable data and their use is encouraged. The Society recognises that it may be difficult to access complex analytical techniques and may be able to provide help to authors on a case-by-case basis.
**Italic font** has a variety of uses, as well as its occasional value in adding emphasis to a particular word or phrase. Book and journal titles, such as the *Journal of the Russell Society*, are given in italics with the principal words capitalised. Italics are used for foreign words or phrases that have not become sufficiently anglicised to be part of normal language: e.g. *in situ* and *et al*. The Latin binomial names of animal and plant species are italicised, and the same applies to the obsolete Latin binomials for mineral species. Any mathematical quantity or other symbol that is a variable is listed in italic font in text and equations. This applies to *REE* which is used as a symbol to represent rare-earth elements.

**Lists** of things such as mineral species are usually given alphabetically, without a comma before the final ‘and’. Thus: ‘the minerals present include acanthite, barytocalcite, cerussite, fluorite, galena and quartz’.

Lists within the main text of articles tend to break up the flow, but they can be accommodated if necessary. In some cases they may provide a useful way to categorise things. The following example shows the preferred format:

‘Malachite is probably the most common supergene mineral that occurs in the quarry. King (1973) identified three different habits:

1. Pale shades of pastel green encrustations and small botryoidal masses.
2. Dark green lustrous tufts and rosettes of acicular crystals.
3. Wires of native copper coated with fur-like growths of acicular green malachite crystals projecting at 90° to the length of the wire, some forming rosettes up to 2.3 mm in diameter’.

This sort of construction is useful if the authors go on to describe type 1, 2, and 3 malachite in subsequent sections of the article. Otherwise it might have been written:

‘Malachite is probably the most common supergene mineral at the quarry. King (1973) described: pale pastel green encrustations and small botryoidal masses; dark green tufts and rosettes of lustrous acicular crystals; and copper wires coated with furry acicular malachite, forming rosettes up to 2.3 mm across’.

**Microprobe** and other analytical data obtained using electron-beam techniques should include details of the instrument, operating conditions and standards used. Most analyses are tabulated as weight percent oxides.

**Mine names** should be capitalised, e.g. Carrock Mine. It is not usual to include the ores that were produced as part of the mine name: do not use ‘Carrock Tungsten Mine’. Mine names do not generally need to be preceded by ‘the’: use Brownley Hill Mine, not the Brownley Hill Mine.

**Mineral names** should be taken from the latest version of the official IMA-CNMNC list of mineral names, available at: [http://ima-cnmnc.nrm.se/imalist.htm](http://ima-cnmnc.nrm.se/imalist.htm). Varietal names can be used if this is clearly stated. For example, if referring to bravoite, it should be defined somewhere as ‘the nickel-rich variety of pyrite, bravoite’.
Minus signs, which commonly show the electronic charge on anionic species, (e.g. $\text{SO}_4^{2–}$) are written using an en-dash (in this case superscript), which is available in the ‘special characters’ menu in word processors.

Numbers are usually best spelled out in the text if they are less than ten or can be written as one word (e.g. thirty). Large numbers, in excess of 10,000, should be comma delimited. Exponential notation is preferred for very large numbers. To indicate a decimal point, use a full stop, not a comma.

Paragraphs can be set up in various ways in modern word processors, they do not generally translate to the packages used by typesetters. Authors are asked not to indent the first line in the paragraph in their manuscripts and to separate paragraphs using a single blank line.

Permission must be obtained to use figures taken from previous publications. Some data may be used under licence with an appropriate acknowledgement. Public museums and archives commonly require a particular form of words if specimens or documents are figured. Full accession numbers including the ‘museum code’ should be included.

Specimens which have been collected ‘recently’ must have the consent of the landowner and, if appropriate, permission from appropriate regulatory bodies (such as Natural England) if they are to be described in the Journal of the Russell Society.

Quote marks should be double for direct quotations, which should reproduce the quotation exactly, obvious spelling errors can be identified [sic] and any omission identified with an ellipsis (…) which should be separated from the surrounding words using a single space. It is not necessary to use ellipses at the beginning and ending of quotations even if they begin or end part way through a sentence. Long quotations are typically set indented on separate lines within a paragraph of text, short quotations may be left within the body of a paragraph. As a general rule full stops are placed outside of the quote marks: “end of quote”. References to quotations, especially from long volumes, should include pagination in the form ‘(Author, date: pagination)’ as in the following:

‘A summary of the mineralogical discoveries duly appeared as the tenth of a series of articles of ‘scientific intelligence’ in The Edinburgh Philosophical Journal (Murray, 1825: pp. 175–176) and is reproduced in full herein’.

References cause such confusion that a separate section following the style guide is included with guidance on how they are used and examples of how they are written. Authors are asked to check that every reference used in the text is cited in the references at the end of the article, and vice-versa.

Slashes should be avoided; the and/or construction is commonly ambiguous and, if possible, sentences should be re-worded to avoid it. Care should be taken in listing variations in the appearance of specimens at a locality; usually these should be connected using the word ‘and’, not the word ‘or’. In most cases hyphenation is preferable to the slash: use a galena-sphalerite matrix not a galena/sphalerite matrix.
Single quote marks should be used where the term ‘so called’ might otherwise be employed.

Single Spaces should be used after a full stop to separate sentences. Single spaces should be used between a word and an ellipsis in quotations. It is useful to use a non-breaking space between a number and units as in 19.2 kg m\(^{-3}\), which avoids these being spread over different lines. Non-breaking spaces are inserted using Ctrl Shift Space. Do not use double spaces.

Sizes of specimens and geological features should be given in metric units, unless there is a particular historical context. Specimen sizes should be separated by a times symbol \(\times\) [usually Alt-0215 on the numeric keyboard]; not a letter x. It is not necessary to include brackets with metric equivalents after common imperial units in quotations; most readers are aware of the size of an inch, foot, yard and mile, and the weight of a British ton (1016 kg) is so close to a metric tonne (1000 kg) as to be almost interchangeable. Certain US imperial units differ considerably from their British counterparts.

Statistical averages are occasionally used in articles that include tables of numerical data. The most common is the arithmetic mean. The mean and standard deviation (usually reported at either 1\(\sigma\) or 2\(\sigma\)) of a distribution are easy to calculate using modern spreadsheets. Numerical values should be reported at an appropriate number of significant figures.

An awareness of the difference between the standard deviation, which characterises the spread of values in a distribution, and the standard error of the mean, \(\sigma/(n–1)^{\frac{1}{2}}\), which is a measure of the precision of the mean value, is essential. The editor will provide further guidance.

Symbols for physical quantities which do not require explanation include: \(P\) for pressure; \(V\) for volume; \(T\) for temperature; \(D\) for density; \(d\) for interplanar spacing in a crystal lattice, which may have axes \(a\), \(b\) and \(c\). These symbols are listed in italic font as they represent variables.

Units are written as a number followed by a space and a unit symbol: e.g. 6.7 kg. The symbols for angular degrees, minutes and seconds (\(^\circ\), ‘ and ”), are placed immediately after the number with no intervening space as are \(^\circ\)C, % and ‰. The spelling of units of length is metre (and its derivatives), rather than meter. There is no \(^\circ\) symbol before absolute temperature, which is measured in kelvins, written K.

Symbols for units formed by multiplication, e.g. N m, are joined with a non-breaking space (hold down the Ctrl and Shift keys and press the Spacebar). Symbols for units formed by division are given as a negative exponent; grams per cubic centimetre is written \(g\ cm^{-3}\). Symbols do not have an appended full stop. Symbols for units are written in lower case (m, s, mol), except for symbols derived from the name of a person. For example, the unit of pressure is named after Pascal so its symbol is written Pa. A prefix is part of the unit, and its symbol is prepended to the unit symbol without a separator (e.g. k in km; M in Ma). Symbols of units are never pluralised: ‘10 cm’, not ‘10 cms’.
REFERENCES

No other area of manuscript preparation gives as much trouble as references. They follow a set of seemingly arbitrary technical conventions.

References are cited in text to support a statement, or to direct the reader to a source of information, or for both purposes. Every reference in the reference list at the end of an article must be cited at least once in the article. The reference list must not include any works that are not cited in the text.

References can be cited in the text in two ways: the largest recorded crystals are 3.6 mm (Author, 2010); or crystals to 3.6 mm are recorded by (or in) Author (2010). If the reference has two authors this would be: the largest recorded crystals are 3.6 mm (Author1 and Author2, 2010); or crystals to 3.6 mm are recorded by (or in) Author1 and Author2 (2010). More than two authors are abbreviated using et al.: the largest recorded crystals are 3.6 mm (Author1 et al., 2010); or crystals to 3.6 mm are recorded by (or in) Author1 et al. (2010).

All direct quotations must include a reference. It may be useful, especially if the quote is from a long and detailed work, to include the pagination in the form (Author(s), date: pagination).

If there are two or more references to the same author or authors in the same year the letters, a, b, c and so on are added to distinguish them.

The format of references often gives cause for confusion and is best learned by example. Book titles and journal titles should be fully spelled out. In book titles and journal titles, every major word is capitalised, but in article titles only the first word and proper nouns are capitalised.

Books

The JRS uses the following style for books:

Author, A.N. (year of publication). *Title of Book in Italic Font with Major Words Capitalised*. Publisher, Publication City, Country (unless the city is a capital, New York or Amsterdam, in which case only the city is required) [any further useful information in square brackets].

A bracket either (ed.) or (eds) after the author or authors signifies an edited book.


Authors should note the publications of the British Geological Survey are listed as books to avoid the confusion that multiple editions separated by many years may produce if they are set as journals. A guide to the publisher, which may be the British Geological Survey or HMSO can be obtained from the BGS publications viewer, available at: https://www.bgs.ac.uk/data/publications/pubs.cfc?method=viewHome.


Some books may have institutional authors:


**Journal Articles**

The style for journal articles is:


Articles in some journals, especially at an early date, may be anonymous; the abbreviation ‘Anon.’ is used in these cases and cited as such in the text.

Anon. (1814). A list of donations to the library; to the collection of maps, plans, sections, drawings, and models; and to the cabinet of minerals, belonging to the Geological Society, from the commencement of the fifth session in November 1811, to the close of the seventh session in June, 1814. Together with the dates at which they were respectively made, and the names of the donors. *Transactions of the Geological Society, 2*, 533–546.

In some cases an anonymous author’s name can be inferred from other sources, in this case it is placed in square brackets in the reference list:


If no date is known a reference should include the bracket (n.d.). An article which is accepted for publication and in press should include the bracket (in press). Articles which have been submitted but not accepted for publication should not be cited.

**Chapter in an Edited Book**

The general format for a chapter in an edited book is:

Author, A.N. (year of publication). Title of author’s chapter in book in sentence case. Page range in: A. Editor and B. Editor (eds) *Title of Book in Italic Font with Major Words Capitalised*. Name of series with volume number if appropriate. Publisher, Publication City, Country (unless the city is a capital, New York or Amsterdam, in which case only the city is required) [any further useful information in square brackets].


Theses

Unpublished PhD and MSc theses are valuable source material in some studies. They are increasingly available online. As a courtesy to readers it is useful to provide an online link following the reference if such is available. The general format is:


Maps

Maps are a valuable source of primary information and may be geological or topographic in nature. The principal map-maker in Britain is the Ordnance Survey whose maps form a basis for those published by the British Geological Survey. The general format is:

Mapmaker (year of publication). *Title of Sheet in Italic Font*. Series. Publisher, Publication City, Country.


Archival and Other Sources

Material which is taken from sources that have not been refereed should be treated with caution, especially if it is used to support a scientific statement, such as the claimed occurrence of a rare mineral. One way to include reliable information is in the format (Author Name, personal communication, date). For example:

‘The first British discoveries of celestine were made in the area around Bristol in the 1790s (Tom Cotterell, personal communication, 2018)’.

Articles which include historical research or biographical detail commonly draw on a wide range of archival and other material. In professionally curated archives, the archivist will be able to give guidance as to how to identify a unique document. If a reference is quoted, it must be possible, in principle, for a reader to obtain access to it. In effect, it must be held by a responsible public body. In extremis, if material is only
held in a private archive, it may be possible to deposit material as electronic copy with the Journal Editor and place it on the Society Website. Examples include:


Uttley, S. (1993). *Coalfield Minerals of South Yorkshire*. [Privately printed spiral bound manuscript]. [Copy from the private library of Max Freier; available in electronic form from the Journal Editor].

Other sources which may be of value, especially in historical research, include newspaper reports, and the annual reports of learned societies.


Tyne Mercury (1826). Presents to the museum of the Literary and Philosophical Society. 24 October, p. 3.

Yorkshire Gazette (1864). Death of Peter Murray, Esq., M.D., of Scarborough. 5 March, p. 9.

It has been recommended that newsletter articles are fully cited in the text, however in some cases, substantial articles are better placed in the references:


(N.B. Although the Newsletter is not held in any of the legal deposit libraries it does have an ISSN and from a couple of years ago has been held in that system).

**Websites**

It is impossible to ignore online information, but as with archival sources care should be taken to ensure that information is reliable, especially if it is used to support a scientific statement, such as the claimed occurrence of a rare species. The general format is:

Author, A.N. (year of publication). Description or title of webpage in sentence case. Available at: website address [date accessed in square brackets].

Examples include:


**Order of References**

References are listed alphabetically except for long lists from the same author, which are grouped as follows:

- single author papers first in chronological order;
- papers with one co-author next, in alphabetic order of the co-author;
- papers with two or more co-authors next, in chronological order.

Thus in a reference list:

Brown, A. (1975) ...
Brown, A. (1978) ...
Brown, A. and Green, D. (1972) ...
Brown, A. and White, E. (1970) ...
Brown, A., Green, D. and White, E. (1965) ...
Brown, A., White, E. and Green, D. (1977) ...

**FIGURES**

In articles of mineralogical interest, an image really can be ‘worth a thousand words’. Subtleties of colour and form that no amount of text can describe are communicated with ease. The variety and quality of illustrations can make or break an article. Figures may include charts, graphs, maps and plans, mineral photographs, site photographs and SEM images. They should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are mentioned in the text. Every figure should be mentioned at least once in the main body of the article. The style used is either (Fig. 1) capitalised, in parentheses and with a full stop, or Figure 1 if not enclosed in parentheses. Authors should ensure that figures are chosen to illustrate the themes of the article. It may be possible for the editor to arrange for specimens to be photographed.

Printers request images at 300 dots per inch (dpi). Two image sizes are typically used in the JRS, single column images are 83 mm wide and double column images are 180 mm wide. There should be real detail in the image at that level. A single column image should have approximately 1000 pixels and a double column image a little more than 2000 pixels of ‘real detail’.

Authors are asked not to embed images in the manuscript; they should be supplied as separate files. Rarely, it may be necessary, for reasons of page layout, to make changes to an author’s order of figures. For this reason please keep text references to figure numbers to those essential to the reader’s understanding and convenience.

Captions for mineral specimen photographs should include the name of the species illustrated, the size, in metric units, of the most important crystal or mineral aggregate and the owner of the specimen, catalogue number and name of the photographer. The
specimen size should be written ‘30×36 mm’ using the × symbol [Alt-0215]. Please do not supply the ‘magnification’ of the image as this is meaningless in any image that has a level of perspective. Even an image of a ‘flat’ object, such as a thin-section, may have to be cropped or re-sized for reproduction. Digital images should be supplied as high resolution JPEG (saved at level 12) or TIFF files, separate from the manuscript.

Although there is no standard in terms of colour and ornamentation for maps, plans, graphs and charts, they should be clear and consistent within an article. Authors should aim for readable text, in a simple standard font (such as Arial or Calibri) in a size range [as printed on the final page] of between eight and twelve point. The sizes commonly used for maps are single column (83 mm) and double column (180 mm). The larger size is more convenient for complex maps, plans and diagrams. All maps and plans should include a north point and a scale.

Permission must be obtained (if at all possible) to use any figures taken from previous publications.

**TABLES**

Tables should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are mentioned in the text; a list of table captions should be provided on a separate page, at the end of the document. In captions placed below tables and in the main text the word ‘Table’ is used in full; if more than one table is being referred to, use ‘Tables 1–3’ or similar. For advice on captions, please refer to the tables below. Please do not use keyboard space characters to align text and numbers in tables; instead, either use tabs, or preferably the table tools within Microsoft Word.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>P342</th>
<th>P342</th>
<th>P342</th>
<th>P342</th>
<th>P342</th>
<th>P342</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>49.31</td>
<td>49.05</td>
<td>49.13</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.95</td>
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<td>0.61</td>
<td>0.39</td>
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<tr>
<td>V₂O₅</td>
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<td>36.99</td>
<td>36.61</td>
<td>36.63</td>
<td>37.37</td>
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<tr>
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<td>11.06</td>
<td>11.10</td>
<td>11.27</td>
<td>11.36</td>
<td>11.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>98.33</td>
<td>97.65</td>
<td>98.67</td>
<td>98.39</td>
<td>98.10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table 1.** Composition data for a crystal of volborthite from Newhurst Quarry, coded P342. Standards used are: Cu and V = pure metals; As = cobaltite. The total including H₂O is calculated on the basis of the formula Cu₃V₂O₇(OH)₂·2H₂O. Extract from Tindle and Green (2009: Table 1).