

Virtual Museum of the History of Mineralogy

Newsletter 2011/2 (December 2011)

<http://www.mineralogy.eu>

Recently we moved our site from mineralogy.be to a new address [mineralogy.eu](http://www.mineralogy.eu). Temporarily our site is still accessible through both URL's but we encourage you to use the new address as only the [mineralogy.eu](http://www.mineralogy.eu) site will remain operational in the future.

To facilitate visiting our collections we also changed the links on the homepage such that the different subcategories may be reached by only one click. This speeds up the consultation of the different parts of our virtual collection.

Furthermore we renewed the way the site-search-results appear to the user. The lay-out has been altered and once the search results are presented there is now the possibility to search for images only. [Search](#) may be reached from the scroll down menu and is also available at the bottom of the homepage.

We also changed the means for the delivery of this newsletter. From now on, we will make use of the Google Groups facility. This requires you to renew your subscription and a separate e-mail with the subject "Google Groups Invitation: VMHM newsletter" is on its way to you. In that e-mail just click the "accept-this-invitation-button" and you will continue receiving this newsletter twice a year.

2012 is a very special year in the history of crystallography and for science in general. Actually, 100 years ago, Max von Laue discovered that x-rays are diffracted by crystals. This discovery was the basis for a technique that would drastically change crystallography and many different branches of science. Already in 1912 father and son Bragg determined some simple crystal structures. In the decades following Laue's discovery, mathematical methods as well as experimental techniques were improved, enabling the unraveling of complex crystal structures and up to now more than half a million crystal structures are described and available for researchers worldwide.

Rests us to wish you a Merry Christmas and a fruitful 2012 and we hope that you will continue using and enjoying our virtual museum.

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