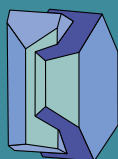


OCTOBER 2022 - VOL. 86 (5), NO. 566

MINERALOGICAL MAGAZINE



JOURNAL OF THE MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY



MINERALOGICAL SOCIETY



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

MINERALOGICAL MAGAZINE

ISSN 0026-461X

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Mineralogical Magazine is published six times per year in February, April, June, August, October and December. The Journal is now primarily an online one.

The subscription price (excluding VAT) to *Mineralogical Magazine* for volume 86 (2022), which includes print and electronic access, is £840 (USA, Canada and Mexico US\$1088) and includes delivery by air; single parts are available at £161 (USA, Canada and Mexico US\$209) plus postage. The electronic-only price available to institutional subscribers is £620 (USA, Canada and Mexico US\$801). EU subscribers (outside the UK) who are not registered for VAT should add VAT at their country's rate. VAT registered subscribers should provide their VAT registration number. Orders, which must be accompanied by payment, may be sent to any bookseller or subscription agent or direct to the publishers: Cambridge University Press, UPH, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8BS, or in the USA, Canada, and Mexico to Cambridge University Press, Journals Fulfillment Department, 1 Liberty Plaza, Floor 20, New York, NY 10006, USA. Japanese Prices for institutions are available from Kinokuniya Company Ltd, P.O. Box 55, Chitose, Tokyo, Japan.

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Front cover image: variety of colours produced from sapphires treated with Be. In this issue the paper by Jolland *et al.* investigates how the Be is incorporated into the matrix of octahedrally coordinated corundum. Calculations using density functional theory suggest that Be is incorporated into corundum in triangular coordination - the first known example for a naturally occurring mineral. Photo credit: Jian Xin (Jae) Liao (GIA).