Supplementary Information for

## Lanthanide Discs Chill Well and Relax Slowly

Joseph W. Sharples, <sup>a</sup> Yan-Zhen Zheng, <sup>a</sup> Floriana Tuna, <sup>a</sup> Eric J. L. McInnes <sup>a</sup> and David Collison\* <sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> School of Chemistry, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL, United Kingdom. Fax: +44 (0) 161 275 4598; Tel: +44 (0) 161 306 9260; E-mail: david.collison@manchester.ac.uk

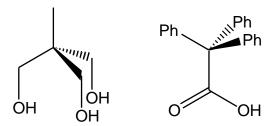
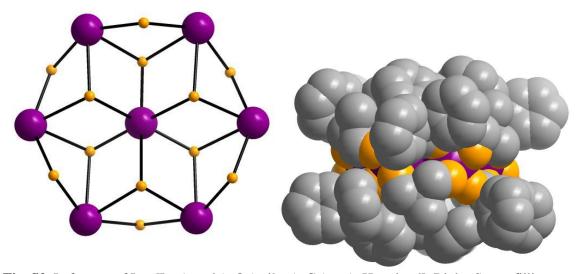
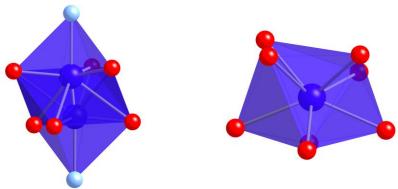


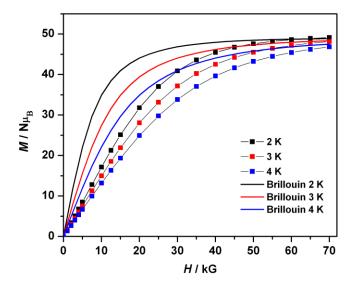
Fig S1. Schematic of organic ligands thmeH<sub>3</sub> (left) and tpaH (right).



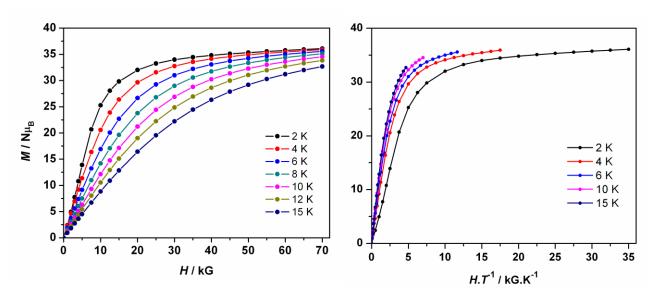
**Fig. S2**. Left: core of  $Ln_7$  [Ln (purple), O (yellow), C (grey), H omitted]. Right: Space-filling diagram, viewed in the  $Ln_7$  plane.



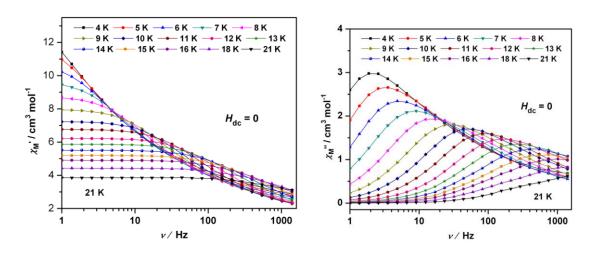
**Fig S3**. Views of the  $\{LnN_2O_6\}$  (left) and  $\{LnO_8\}$  (right) coordination polyhedra; the two disordered metal ion sites are shown in the former. The geometry at the central ion can be described as bi-capped compressed octahedral, with the caps on the trigonal compression axis (N-Dy-N). [An alternative description is as distorted cubic, with elongation along the N-Dy-N body diagonal.] The peripheral ions are lower symmetry, best described as bicapped trigonal prismatic.



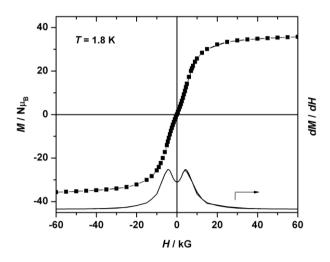
**Fig. S4**. Experimental M(H) for **2** at 2, 3 and 4 K, with calculated Brillouin curves for seven uncoupled s = 7/2 ions (g = 2.0).



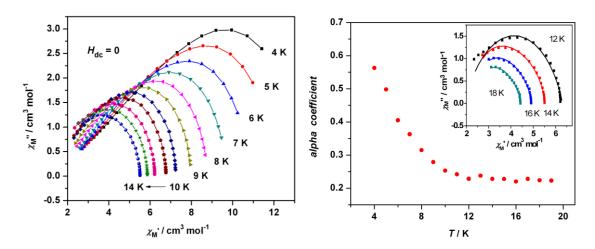
**Fig. S5** Left: *M*(*H*) for **1** at 2-15 K. Right: *M*(*H*/*T*) for **1** at 2, 4, 6, 10 and 15 K



**Fig S6.** Frequency dependence (in zero-dc field) of the (left) in-phase ( $\chi_M$ ') and (right) out-of-phase ( $\chi_M$ ') ac susceptibility of **1** at several temperatures between 4 and 21 K.



**Fig S7.** M(H) for **1** at 1.8 K between -60 and 60 kG.



**Fig S8.** Left: Cole-Cole diagrams for **1** at different temperatures between 4 and 14 K. Right: temperature dependence of  $\alpha$  parameter from fits to Cole-Cole plots (shown as solid lines in inset).