

Noticeboard

Diary

☞ Further dates for your diary

- 30 May–3 June **SCAR 6th Biology Symposium: Antarctic Communities, Species, Structure & Survival.** Contact: Prof. B. Battaglia, SCAR 6th Biology Symposium, Dipartimento di Biologia, Università degli Studi di Padova, Via Trieste 75, 35121 Padova, Italy.
- 6–17 June **Physics of Ice-Covered Seas, an Advance Study Institute Summer School,** Savonlinna, Finland. Contact: Matti Leppäranta, Department of Geophysics, PO Box 4 (Fabianinkatu 24A), SF-00014 University of Helsinki, Finland.
- 5–10 June **8th International Symposium on Solar Terrestrial Physics.** Senai, Japan. Contact: H. Oya, Department of Astronomy and Geophysics, Tohoku University, Aoba, Aramaki, Sendai 980, Japan.
- 6–7 June **Weddell Sea Tectonics and Gondwana Break-up.** Cambridge. Contact Gill McDonnell, British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET, UK.
- 3–8 July **15th Polar Libraries Colloquy. Bi-polar Information Initiatives: the Needs of Polar Research.** Cambridge. Contact: William Mills, Scott Polar Research Institute, Cambridge, CB2 1ER, UK.
- 2–14 July ☞ **International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics. XXI General Assembly.** Boulder, Colorado, USA. Contact: IUGG XXI General Assembly, c/o American Geophysical Union, 2000 Florida Avenue NW, Washington D.C., 20009, USA.
- 8–12 August ☞ **International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium. Surface and Atmospheric Remote Sensing: Techniques, Data Analysis and Interpretation.** Pasadena, California, USA. Contact: IGARSS Business Office, 2610 Lakeway Drive, Seebrook TX 77586 - 1587, USA.
- 15–18 August **ICES Symposium: Zooplankton Production Measurement and Role in Global Ecosystems and Biogeochemical Cycles.** Plymouth UK. Contact: Dr R.P. Harris, Plymouth Marine Laboratory, Prospect Place, Plymouth PL1 3DH, UK.
- 15–19 August **The Oceanography Society/SCOR/WOCE. The South Atlantic: Present and Past Circulation.** Bremen, Germany. Contact: Dr Barbara Donner, South Atlantic Symposium, Fachbereich 5 der Universität Geowissenschaften, Postfach 33 04 40, W-2800 Bremen 33, Germany.
- 21–27 August **ANTOSTRAT International Symposium on the Antarctic Continental Margin — the Cenozoic Stratigraphic Record of Glaciation, Paleoenvironments, and Sea Level Change.** Siena, Italy. Contact: Dr A. Cooper, US Geological Survey, MS 999, 345 Middlefield Road, Menlo Park, CA 94025, USA.
- 22–26 August ☞ **6th International Symposium on Tardigrada (incorporating Gastrotricha).** Cambridge, UK. Contact: Miss S.J. McInnes, British Antarctic Survey, High Cross, Madingley Road, Cambridge CB3 0ET, UK.
- 24–26 August ☞ **8th Symposium. Informatics for Environmental Protection.** Hamburg, Germany. Contact: Umwelt-Informatik '94, c/o Congress Centrum Hamburg, Congress Organisation, Postfach 302480, D-20308, Hamburg, Germany.
- 29 August–9 September **XXIII SCAR.** Rome. Contact: Organizing Committee, ENEA Progetto Antardide, CRE Casaccia, CP 2400, 00100 Roma A.D., Italy.
- 31 August–2 September ☞ **Marine Biodiversity: causes and consequences.** York, UK. Contact: Marine Biodiversity Conference, Institute for Applied Biology, University of York, York YO1 5DD, UK.
- 2–7 September ☞ **Arctic Ocean Grand Challenge; Scientific Rationale-Strategy-Science Plan.** Helsinki, Finland. Contact: Dr Josip Hendekovic, European Science Foundation, 1 quai Lezay-Marnesia, 67080 Strasbourg Cedex, France.
- 3–8 September **16th General Meeting of the International Mineralogical Association,** Pisa, Italy. Contact: Stefano Merlino, Organizing Committee IMA '94. Dipartimento di Scienze della Terra dell'Università, Via S. Maria 53-I-56126 Pisa, Italy.
- 4–9 September **IGU/IPA Periglacial Slope Processes and Deposits, Past and Present.** France. Contact: J-C Ozouf/J-P Lautridou, Centre de Géomorphologie du CNRS, 24 Rue de Tilleuls, F14000 Caen, France.

- 12–16 September **ECOPS European Conference on Grand Challenges in Ocean and Polar Sciences.** Bremen, Germany. Contact: Prof. Dr M Tilzer, Chairman, Local Organizing Committee, ECOPS Conference, Alfred Wegener Institute, P.O. Box 12 01 61, D-27515 Bremerhaven, Germany.
- 19–23 September **4th Paleobotanical-Palynological Conference,** Heerten, The Netherlands. Contact: Dr GFW Herngreen, c/o Geological Survey of the Netherlands, PO Box 157, 2000 AD Haarlem, The Netherlands.
- 19–21 September **ITC 94. Fourth International Conference on Ice Technology.** Cambridge, UK. Contact: Sue Owen, Wessex Institute of Technology, Ashurst Lodge, Ashurst, Southampton SO4 2AA, UK.
- 26–28 September **SNOWSYMP '94. International Symposium on Snow & Related Manifestations.** Manali HP, India. Contact: Lt. Col. S G Nair, HQ Snow & Avalanche Study Establishment, (SASE), Manali, Distt Kullu (HP), India.
- 26–30 September **International Symposium on Satellite and Remote Sensing: Oceanic Remote Sensing and Sea Ice Monitoring.** CNR, Rome, Italy. Contact: Satellite Remote Sensing EUROPTO, c/o Direct Communications GmbH, Xantener Straße 22, D-10707 Berlin, Germany.
- 26 September – 2 October **8th Congress of European Ichthyologists. Fishes and their environment.** Ovideo, Spain. Contact: VIII Ordinary General Meeting of the SEI, Museo Nacional de Ciencias Naturales, Jose Gutierrez Abascal 2, 28006 Madrid, Spain.
- 10–4 October **5th International Conference on Paleoceanography. Linkages: The Role of Paleoceanographic Linkages in the Global System.** Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. Contact: Trudy D. Lewis, lewis International Inc., ICP-V, Richmond Terminal, Pier 9, 3295 Barrington Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada B3K 5X8.
- 5–10 November **Glacial-Interglacial Sealevel Changes in 4 Dimensions: Continental Shelf Evidence of Sealevels over the Last 20 KA.** St Martin (near Mannheim) Germany. Contact: Dr Josip Hendekovic, European Science Foundation, 1 quai Lezay-Marnesia, 67080 Strasbourg Cedex, France.
- 17–21 October **7th Congreso Geológico Chileno.** Concepcion, Chile. Includes a special symposium on the geology and palaeontology of Antarctica. Contact: Committee Organizer, 7th Congreso Geológico Chileno, Universidad de Concepción, Departamento de Ciencias de la Tierra, Casilla 3-C, Chile.
- 15–26 October **4th International Congress on Jurassic Stratigraphy and Geology.** Mendoza-Neuquén, Argentina. Contact: Dr A.C. Riccardi, C.C. 886, 1900 La Plata. Argentina.

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- 3–7 April **The Geological Society of South Africa Centennial Geocongress.** Johannesburg, South Africa. Contact: The Congress Secretariat, Centennial Geocongress, PO Box 36815, Menlo Park, 0101 South Africa.
- September **Disturbance and Recovery of Arctic Terrestrial Ecosystems.** Rovaniemi, Finland. Contact: Prof. RMM Crawford, School of Biological Sciences, University of St Andrews, UK.
- 11–15 September **VII International Symposium on Antarctic Earth Sciences.** Sienna, Italy. Contact: Carlo Alberto Ricci, Università di Siena, Dip. Scienze della Terra, Via delle Cerchia 3, 53100 Siena, Italy.

News

XVIII Antarctic Treaty Meeting

The outcome of recent Antarctic Treaty Meeting held in Kyoto, Japan from 11–22 April 1994 was of considerable interest to Antarctic scientists. All three organisations closely connected to the Treaty System — SCAR, COMNAP and CCAMLR — were present. SCAR was represented by the President, the Convenor of GOSEAC and the Executive Secretary whilst CCAMLR was represented by its Executive Secretary and COMNAP by its Chairman. A considerable number of other NGOs were also there — IUCN, WMO, UNEP, IHO, ASOC, IAATO.

The SCAR report to the Treaty laid particular stress on the global change initiative, the close working relationships with COMNAP for several projects, the development of plans for an Antarctic Master Data Directory, the work of GOSEAC,

and the new programmes for the Antarctic sea-ice zone and pack ice seals. The SCAR contribution was warmly welcomed by many delegations and the SCAR/COMNAP inspection checklist for permanent stations was adopted in an amended form. Significant progress was achieved with the four main items of SCAR business — code of ethics on animal experimentation, collection of geological samples, report on data management, and scientific development of environmental monitoring.

Of particular importance was the agreement of the Treaty Parties to move towards *de facto* implementation of the Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) even though only eight countries have so far legally ratified the Environmental Protocol. At the next meeting in May 1995 in Seoul a new working group, Transitional Environmental Working Group (TEWG), will examine all the agenda items that are within the remit of the CEP and make appropriate recommendations to the plenary meeting. Agenda items already slated for TEWG include protected and managed area plans, environmental monitoring, waste management, marine pollution, and environmental impact assessment. Continuing discussions on the establishment of a Treaty Secretariat have now provided international agreement on most aspects of its remit, staffing and organization. The question of location remains unresolved.

British Antarctic Survey vessel sustains major motor damage

Overheating of an engine propulsion unit caused the RRS *Bransfield* to become temporarily stranded in seven tenths pack ice in the Southern Weddell Sea this February. The incident happened shortly after she had successfully completed a depot laying exercise for next season's EUROSHACK project. *Bransfield's* engineers were able to restore sufficient power to enable her to move out of the pack ice and head for the Falkland Islands. Assistance from her sister vessel RRS *James Clark Ross*, caused considerable disruption to the BAS scientific cruise programme. *Bransfield* is now back in UK awaiting a major motor repair and general refit and will resume service next season.

New book

Arctic Exploration and Development c. 500 B.C. to 1915 — An Encyclopedia by C. Holland. (ISBN 0 8240 76486) published by Garland Publishing 1994. After five years of scholarly research Clive Holland has produced a magnificent guide to Arctic expeditions. It covers the whole of the Arctic and includes many expeditions — especially over to Siberia — that many will never have heard of before. Arranged chronologically, the volume also has a list of main expedition members, 30 pages of maps and a detailed index. This is truly a major addition to the reference literature of the Arctic and a goldmine of invaluable information for many years to come. It complements perfectly the Antarctic volume by R.K. Headland "Chronological List of Antarctic Expeditions and Related Events" (CUP 1989).