

Noticeboard

Diary

☞ Further dates for your diary

1993

- 1–3 December **XVI Symposium on Polar Biology, SARES & SIEFS Programs and Terrestrial Ecosystems.** Tokyo, Japan. Contact: The Secretariat, XVI Symposium on Polar Biology, National Institute of Polar Research, 9–10 Kaga, 1-chome, Itabashi-ku, Tokyo 173, Japan.
- 9–10 December **Sea Level Changes: Measurements and Analysis.** Linnean Society, London. Contact: The Secretariat, PSMSL, Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory, Bidston Observatory, Birkenhead, Merseyside, L43 7RA, UK.

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- 10–14 January **9th International Symposium on Gondwana Geology, Geophysics and Mineral Resources.** Hyderabad, India. Contact: The Secretary, Organizing Committee, 9th International Gondwana Symposium, c/o Director, International Wing, 27 Jawaharlal Nehru Road, Calcutta 700 016, India.
- 22–25 March **Polartech 94. International Conference on Development and Commercial Utilisation of Technologies in Polar Regions.** Luleå, Sweden. Conference secretariat: Lena Allheim Karbin, Centek, Luleå University of Technology, S-951 87, Luleå, Sweden.
- 28–30 March ☞ **International Permafrost Association Geocryology Workshop.** Cardiff, Wales. Contact: Dr C. Harris, Department of Geology, University of Cardiff, P.O. Box 914, Cardiff CF1 3YE, Wales.
- 4–9 April ☞ **VI Congreso Argentino de Paleontología y Bioestratigrafía.** Trelew, Chubut, Argentina. Contact: Dr N.R. Cúneo, Museo Paleontológico Egidio Feruglio, Av. 9 de Julio 655, (9100) Trelew, Chubut, Argentina.
- 10–15 April **ISOPE-94 Fourth International Offshore and Polar Engineering Conference.** Osaka, Japan. Contact the Conference Organizer: ISOPE-94 Osaka TPC, International Society of Offshore & Polar Engineers, PO Box 1107, Golden, Colorado 80402-1107, USA.
- 11–15 April ☞ **XVIII Antarctic Treaty Meeting.** Kyoto, Japan.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 29 August–
9 September ☞ **XXIII SCAR.** Rome. Contact: Organizing Committee, ENEA Progetto Antardide, CRE Casaccia, CP 2400, 00100 Roma A.D., Italy.

- 4–9 September ☞ **IGU/IPA Periglacial Slope Processes and Deposits, Past and Present.** France. Contact: J-C Ozouf/J-P Lautreidou, 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.
- 19–21 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.
- 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.

News

A history of Arctic science

Arctic science has a much longer and more diverse history than Antarctic science. Many of its early achievements were linked with exploration, as in the Antarctic, and some of its principal leaders were involved in both polar regions. Despite the extensive amounts of published and archival scientific information in many of the Arctic rim countries the subject has yet to be adequately treated on a regional basis. The best we can hope for is a series of good national accounts. In *Science and the Canadian Arctic – a century of exploration 1818–1918* by Trevor Levere (Cambridge University Press 1993; ISBN 0 521 41933 6) we have such an account for a key area. Though a well researched and very detailed account its layout makes hard reading with a plethora of footnotes and endless quotations from original documents. If you are willing to persevere the story it recounts is fascinating, especially when put alongside the recent account of the other polar region by G E Fogg “The History of Antarctic Science”.

Proceedings published

The proceedings of the SCAR 6th International Symposium on Antarctic Earth Sciences, held in Ranzan, Saitama, Japan, September 9–13, 1991 were published recently. The collected papers are published in a volume of 796 pages, entitled *Recent Progress in Antarctic Earth Science*. It is edited by Y. Yoshida, K. Kaminuma and K. Shiraishi, and published by Terra Scientific Publishing Company (TERRAPUB), Tokyo at \$US 299.

New guide to Antarctica

There are plenty of general books about Antarctica, many of them too heavy, too large or too trivial to be able to carry around. Visitors of all types would probably welcome a cheap and well researched paperback for taking with them. *Antarctica – an introductory guide* by Diana Galimberti (Zagier & Urruty, Miami Beach, Florida; ISBN 1 879568 04 7) at \$20 is such a book. The author is an Italian, now responsible for the Visitors Centre in Ushuaia with a special interest in tourism. She has done her homework well. The English is excellent, the overview up to date to 1991. The book covers geography and geology, glaciology, climate, biology, history, resources, legal and human presence questions, and ends with appendices on how tourists should behave, and a list of national Antarctic committees. The author has packed a great deal into 157 pages and she must be congratulated on providing all visitors with such a useful volume. The important question is just how easy will it be to get hold of?

New initiatives for Dry Valleys

NSF sponsored a workshop in 1991 to discuss new scientific initiatives for terrestrial and aquatic research in the Dry Valleys. Attended by 33 people, including five from outside the US, it was a stimulating meeting. The report “McMurdo Dry Valleys: a cold desert ecosystem” edited by R A Wharton is now available from Desert Research Institute, PO Box 60220, Reno, Nevada 89506-0220, USA. A series of research priorities are identified which include an integrated ecosystem approach to some studies, characterization of biodiversity and the effect of extreme conditions (including enhanced UV-B) on survival strategies and carbon and nutrient flows.