Noticeboard

Diary

☞ Further dates for your diary

1996

26–29 March	☞ **SCAR/COMNAP Second Workshop on Antarctic Environmental Monitoring.** College Station, Texas. Contact: MC Kennicutt II. Geochemical & Environmental Research Group, University College Station, Texas A&M, Texas 77843, USA.
1–3 April	☞ **7th Global Warming International Conference & Expo (GW7).** Vienna. Contact: Prof. O. Preining, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Clean Air Commission, Postg. 7–9/4/3. A-1010 Vienna, Austria. tel: (43) 1 51581519, Fax: (43) 1 51581 518.
29 april–10 May	☞ **Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting**, Utrecht, Netherlands.
26–31 May	☞ **ISOPE96. Sixth International Offshore and Polar Engineering Conference**. Los Angeles. Contact: ISOPE96 Los Angeles TPC, P.O. Box 1107 Golden, Colorado 80402-1107, USA.
30 June–5 July	**Fifth Quadrennial Conference of the International Organization of Paleobotany**. Santa Barbara, California. Contact: S.J. Vito, Campus Conference Services, Santa Rosa Hall, University of California at Santa Barbara, California 93106-6120, USA.
1–4 July	☞ **Polar Desert Ecosystems.** University of Canterbury, Christchurch, New Zealand. Contact: Polar Desert Symposium, NIWA, Box 8602, Riccarton, Christchurch, New Zealand. Tel: (64)3 348 8987, Fax: (64)3 348 5548 E-mail: carol@chch.niwa.cri.nz
7–12 July	☞ **VI International Symposium on Cold Hardiness in Animals and Plants**. Copenhagen. Contact: H. Ramløv, Chemical Institute Lab. 111, H.C. Ørsted Institute, Universitetsparken 5, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø, Denmark. E-mail: hans@kiku.dk
26–26 July	☞ **IGCP Project 315. The Seventh International Symposium on Rapakivi Granites and Related Rocks**. Helsinki, Finland. Contact: I. Happala and O.T. Rämö, Department of Geology, P.O. Box 11, FIN-00014, University of Helsinki, Finland.
28 July–2 August	**2nd World Fisheries Congress**. Brisbane, Australia. Contact: National Organizing Committee of 2nd World Fisheries Congress, PO Box 1280 Milton, Queensland, Australia 4064.
August	**8th International Cold Regions Engineering Conference, Fairbanks, Alaska**. Contact: Larry Bennett, School of Engineering, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775, USA.
4–14 August	**30th International Geological Congress, Beijing, China.** Contact: Professor Zhao Xun, 30th International Geological Congress, PO Box 823, Beijing 100037, China.
12–15 August	**International Symposium on Representation of the Cryosphere in Climate and Hydrological Models.** Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Contact: The Secretary General, International Glaciological Society, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER, UK.
5–16 August	**XXIV SCAR Meeting**. Cambridge, UK. Contact: Mr P. Irving, Conference Contact, 42 Devonshire Road, Cambridge, UK. Tel (44)1223 311946/323437.
27–31 August	**IX International Symposium on the Physics and Chemistry of Ice**. Hanover, NH, USA. Contact: PCI-96, Professor Victor F. Petrenko, Thayer School of Engineering, 8000 Cummings Hall, Dartmouth College, Hanover, N.H., 03755-8000 USA.
28 August–5 September	**XXV General Assembly of the International Union of Radioscience (URSI)**. Lille Grand Palais, Lille, France. Contact: AG URSI, Secrétariat Pr. P. Degauque, Université de Lille 1, F-59655 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex, France. Tel: (33) 20 33 72 06, Fax: (33) 20 33 72 07, E-mail: agursi@univ-lille1.fr.
2–6 September	**Third International Penguin Conference.** Cape Town, South Africa, 2–6 September 1996. Further information: John Cooper, African Seabird Group, PO Box 34113, Rhodes Gift 7707, South Africa. E-mail: jcooper@botzoo.uct.ac.za

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14–16 July	**Symposium on the Antarctic and Global Change**, University of Tasmania, Hobart. Contact: Secretary General, International Glaciological Society, Lensfield Road, Cambridge, CB2 1ER, UK.

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23–27 June	**Seventh International Conference on Permafrost.** Yellowknife, MWT, Canada. Contact: J.A. Heginbottom, Terrain Sciences Division, Geological Survey of Canada, 601 Booth Street, Ottowa, Canada K1A 0E8.
1–5 September	**SCAR Seventh Biology Symposium**, Christchurch, New Zealand. Contact: Dr Clive Howard-Williams, National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research Ltd, Christchurch, New Zealand.

News

Major review of US programme

The US Senate, in dealing with future funding for the NSF Antarctic Program, has called into question the basis for the present activities. It has asked that the National Science and Technology Council undertake a review of the need for a year-round presence, the need for three stations and the value of the science performed in Antarctica. The Council is also requested to address the affordability of a continued US presence and consider options for reducing the budget. As a minimum budget saving options that should be considered include greater international cooperation, less than a year-round presence and closing one or more stations. The results of the review must be with the Senate Appropriations Committee by 31 March 1996.

Brian Roberts

For more than a quarter of a century Brian Roberts was closely involved with Antarctic affairs, playing a leading role in the drafting of the Antarctic Treaty and providing so much of the basic framework for today's wildlife conservation and environmental protection legislation. A man of many parts - ornithologuist, bibliographer, diplomat, sailor - but with the Antarctic always as his principal interest, he played a key role in the development of the Antarctic Treaty System and in the policies resulting in the establishment and evolution of what is now British Antarctic Survey. His many friends and colleagues have contributed to a reflective festschrift called "Polar Pundit: reminisences about Brian Birley Roberts" edited by H G R King and A Savours. It is available for £11 or $20US post free from the Scott Polar Research Institute, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER.

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