

## RADIOCARBON UPDATES

### Rodger Sparks Retires

After serving many years as the leader of the Rafter Radiocarbon Laboratory in Lower Hutt, New Zealand, Dr. Rodger Sparks recently announced his retirement. Dr. Christine Prior is taking over leadership of the lab. The radiocarbon community is indebted to Rodger's achievements in  $^{14}\text{C}$  dating, and we wish him the best for a happy and well-deserved retirement. We would also like to welcome to the *Radiocarbon* editorial board Nancy Beavan Athfield, who is replacing Rodger Sparks.

### VIRI Results Needed

Dr. Marian Scott asks that all labs who have not yet done so, please email their VIRI results as soon as possible to [marian@stats.gla.ac.uk](mailto:marian@stats.gla.ac.uk).

### Upcoming Conferences

#### *AMS 10th Annual Conference Circular*

The 10th International Conference on Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS-10) will be hosted by Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory's Center for Accelerator Mass Spectrometry. The conference will take place September 5–10 on the campus of the University of California, Berkeley. The purpose of the conference is to provide a forum for scientists to present and discuss recent developments in AMS technology and applications. The conference Web site is <http://ams10.ucdavis.edu/>.

#### *LSC 2005 Conference: Advances in Liquid Scintillation Spectrometry*

The Central Mining Institute will host the LSC 2005 Conference, and *Radiocarbon* will publish the proceedings of the conference. The conference will be held in Katowice, the capital city of Upper Silesia, Poland, from October 17–21, 2005. The organizers welcome you to present your achievements, to learn the latest developments of your colleagues, and to enjoy the traditional hospitality of the Polish people.

The main goal of the conference is to provide a forum for all scientists working in areas related to liquid scintillation counting and spectrometry. The conference will enable and promote the exchange of information, the development of future directions in LSC, and the opportunity to meet old and new friends. The conference organizers would like to pay particular emphasis to environmental studies and applications. Participation of young scientists and students is highly encouraged.

Please check the conference Web site (<http://www.gig.katowice.pl/gig/lsc.php>) for news and updates or email conference chairman Stanislaw Chałupnik ([lsc@gig.katowice.pl](mailto:lsc@gig.katowice.pl)) for further information.

#### *19th International Radiocarbon Conference*

The 19th International Radiocarbon Conference will be held in Oxford, at Keble College, from April 3–7, 2006. Further announcements about the conference will be sent out via email and posted on the conference Web site, <http://www.rlaha.ox.ac.uk/orau/conference.html>, and the *Radiocarbon* Web site.