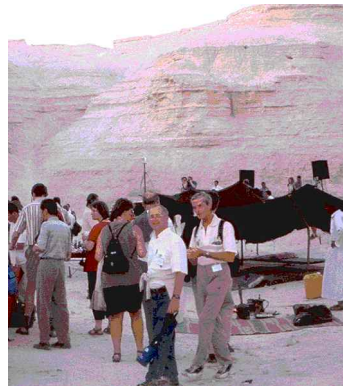


FROM THE EDITOR

Our new issue of *Radiocarbon* contains a number of interesting papers on diverse subjects. The first two papers delve into the intricacies and problems of interpretation using Bayesian statistics, which is still controversial. This method is used to try to gain the maximum information from a series of radiocarbon dates using prior information about a distribution of results. We then have a traditional archaeological paper, even including a date list. Also, the group from Woods Hole reports on attempts to isolate and date individual compounds and their dating by AMS. The remainder of the papers in this issue highlight different applications of radiocarbon dating—to the Quaternary, groundwater, recent coral records, reservoir ages, mammoth bones, and AMS measurements of atmospheric particulates. Some technical comments round out this issue.

The diversity of topics discussed in this issue mimics the wide range of topics presented at the recent 17th International Radiocarbon Conference in Israel. This meeting was ably organized by Israel Carmi and Elisabetta Boaretto. The meeting showed how important radiocarbon and other radionuclide measurements are to environmental, archaeological, and paleoclimate studies. Many of these fields are growing in importance. Next summer, two issues of *Radiocarbon* will be devoted to papers resulting from this conference.

The conference allowed attendees not only to listen to many original presentations and new applications, but to see Near-Eastern archaeology up close and personal (see below). We saw the Wailing Wall and had an exciting field trip to the Dead Sea, where I got a new view of my colleagues covered in some black mud. We also visited the impressive fortress of Masada. A banquet that evening in the desert near Masada was an experience, and quite different from a similar experience in Arizona. We all look forward to visiting New Zealand in 2003 for the next Radiocarbon Conference.



We are pleased to announce that *Radiocarbon* is now available on-line at no charge to subscribers through our new arrangement with CatchWord (www.catchword.com/titles/00338222.htm). This new service will allow easier access and searches than our previous in-house service. More options will be added in the months to come. Also, new subscribers can sign up easily.

We are committed to maintaining both the print subscription combined with on-line access. *Radiocarbon* has always scored highly in its “impact factor” compared to other scientific journals, and we believe these new ventures will improve this position.

Tim Jull

ERRATUM

In Volume 41(1), 2000, the captions were reversed for Figures 5 and 9 in Color Plates 3 and 5. We apologize for the error.