Antarctic Palaeoenvironments and Earth-Surface Processes

Edited by
M. J. Hambrey, P. F. Barker, P. J. Barrett, V. Bowman, B. Davies, J. L. Smellie and M. Tranter

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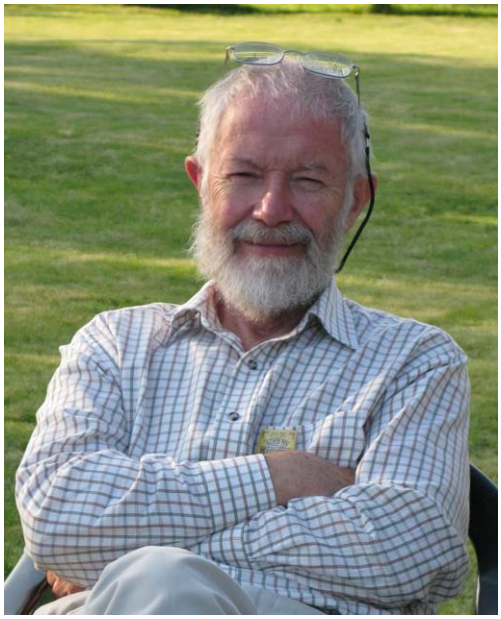
Peter Frank Barker (1939–2012)



Dr Peter Barker died on 25 June 2012, aged 73, in the midst of editing papers for this volume. During his research career at the University of Birmingham and the British Antarctic Survey he pioneered studies to unravel the tectonic and environmental history of the Southern Ocean. He took over the reins of the Antarctic Marine Group at Birmingham in 1965, when the plate tectonic revolution was still in its infancy, and was quick to recognize the opportunities the new paradigm presented. In addition to leading a series of research cruises on RRS *Shackleton* and RRS *Bransfield* that provided the foundations for understanding of the geological structure and tectonic evolution of the Scotia Sea region, Peter became deeply involved in scientific ocean drilling. During his career he was Co-Chief Scientist on four expeditions of the Deep Sea Drilling Project and Ocean Drilling Program that made fundamental contributions to our knowledge of the tectonic and environmental history of the South Atlantic region and the Southern Ocean. In 1986, Peter was appointed as Head of the British Antarctic Survey Geophysics Division, and moved to Cambridge. During his first few years in Cambridge, he played an important part in specifying the scientific facilities on a new polar research vessel, RRS *James Clark Ross*, on which he went on to lead several cruises. Peter retired in 1999 and held an E-fellowship with British Antarctic Survey until 2005, when he and his wife Jenny moved to rural Shropshire. He remained active as a sea-going scientist in retirement and his final research cruise was as an invited participant in a cruise to the Scotia Sea on a US research vessel in 2008. An international symposium on Scotia Arc geology was held in Spain in May 2013 in Peter's honour.

Robert D. Larter
British Antarctic Survey