

## **Sir Arnold Wolfendale FRS, 14th Astronomer Royal**

### **Vita**

Arnold Wolfendale has been studying Cosmic Rays since 1948, when his Professor, the famous P.M.S. Blackett, told him to!

His contributions have been to the discovery of cosmic ray neutrinos, the properties of muons at ground level and deep underground, and many aspects of cosmic ray astrophysics, including the origin problem. An important outcome of his cosmic ray research was an acute interest in Astronomy; Wolfendale led many researchers in Durham University to transfer their interests to Astronomy, Cosmology and Instrumentation. Durham is now famous in these areas.

### **Comments about the Conference**

The advent of a Centenary is a time for both looking back at the development of the subject and forwards: 'where do we go from here?'

The Conference will describe the pre-history of the discovery, the dangerous balloon flights and the difficulty of having the early results accepted.

It will point up the crucial role of superior instrumentation and the willingness of some to believe the unbelievable. Fascinatingly, many of the discoveries were made by scientists from small countries and from disparate disciplines. Although rivalries were not uncommon, collaborations were also to be found and there was a general friendliness of the participants.

Cosmic Ray research has led to new areas of research, including 'the new astronomies' and the future for them is bright, indeed. Neutrino Astronomy is on the verge of starting and Gamma Ray Astronomy has begun in earnest. Searches for 'Dark Matter' and 'Dark Energy' include Cosmic Ray aspects. The Conference will enable us to get the future developments in perspective.