## **Obituary**



It is with great sadness that AOGS announces the passing of Sir Ian Axford, one of three primary founding members of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society.

The space scientist died in his home at Napier, New Zealand, aged 77. He was the director of Max Planck's Institute for Solar System Research for 16 years from 1974, overseeing the successful Giotto space mission to Halley's Comet in 1986.

Axford conducted ground-breaking research in planetary science, comets and solar physics over 50 years and made significant contributions to the fields of plasma and space physics.

He played an instrumental role in the establishment of the Asia Oceania Geosciences Society, a role which is recognised through the annual Axford Lectures and the Axford Award.

A special tribute will be planned at the forthcoming AOGS 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Hyderabad.

## Drafting the AOGS Constitution July 2003 in Sapporo, Japan



AOGS Primary Founding Members
Seated Left to Right –
Sir Ian Axford, Professor Y Kamide, Prof Wing-Huen Ip
File Picture of the AOGS Secretariat Office