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Edited by Ian Anderson

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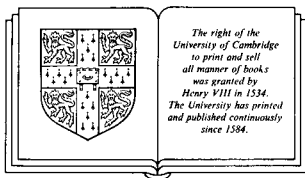
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Tenth British Combinatorial Conference

Edited by

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PREFACE

This volume contains eight of the nine invited lectures given at the tenth British Combinatorial Conference held in the University of Glasgow, 22 - 26 July, 1985. Although British in name and organisation, these biennial conferences are international in personnel, the nine invited speakers consisting of three from the U.K., three from Europe and three from North America.

Each of the invited speakers was asked to describe developments in a particular branch of combinatorics. The resulting volume provides a broad survey of many areas of contemporary research interest, both theoretical and applied, showing relation between combinatorics and number theory, probability and algebra. I should like to thank the authors for their cooperation in producing their typescripts in accordance with a tight schedule, thus enabling the preparation of this volume to proceed according to plan.

Contributed papers of the conference will be published in a special issue of *Ars Combinatoria*. This arrangement proved successful at the previous conference at Southampton in 1983.

Finally, thanks are due to the Cambridge University Press for their guidance and cooperation in the preparation of this volume, and to both the British Council and the London Mathematical Society for their financial support of the conference.

Ian Anderson