Editorial

With this issue, the Journal enters its fifth year of operation. The first appearance of the Journal coincided with the first congress of the European Ceramic Society held at Maastricht in June 1989. Since then, the Society has held its second congress in Augsburg in September 1991 and is in the closing stages of planning its third congress to be held in Madrid, 12–17 September, 1993. The rôle of the three national societies, namely the Nederlandse Keramische Verenigung, the Deutsche Keramische Gesellschaft and the Sociedad Española de Cerámica y Vidrio in undertaking the organisation of these meetings has been crucial for the establishment of the European Society. As is clear from the programme which Spanish colleagues have succeeded in preparing for the Madrid meeting, the Third Conference will again be a major event in the international ceramics calendar, and it deserves the strongest support.

Information on the Conference can be obtained from:

Secretariat of Third European Ceramic Society Conference, Sociedad Española de Cerámica y Vidrio, Ferraz 11, 3°Dcha, 28008 Madrid, Spain Fax: 34 1559 05 75

In another mater, the Journal is pleased to announce that Austrian colleagues have awarded the Steiermark Research Prize to Robert Danzer for his paper 'A General Strength Distribution Function for Brittle Materials' published in the Journal in Volume 10 (1992) 461–472. The prize will be conferred in the White Hall of Graz Castle. The Journal offers its congratulations!

R. J. Brook Editor