

The meeting opened at 7:30pm at Lloyd Wright's home, Mount Annan

1. **Present:** John Rombi, Dick Everett, Lloyd Wright, Bob Bee
Apologies: Kate and Daniel Ross
2. **Minutes of Previous meeting dated 3rd March 2008:** The minutes were moved/seconded and Carried that they be adopted..
3. **Business Arising from Minutes:**
 - 3.1 **Guessing Competition for spare society 8" telescope:** It was reported that there were reasonable ticket sales at the Campbelltown Show. Tickets will be brought to the next MAS general meeting nights for sale to members. They will also be sold at any public nights that can be arranged before drawing date.

Prizes for the competition are: 1st – 8" Dobsonian; 2nd – Meade 7x50 binoculars; 3rd – Autographed book by Fred Watson "Stargazer".
 - 3.2 **Application of new member:** Receipt of full membership confirmed and membership approved. Secretary to write and advise.
 - 3.3 **Campbelltown City Show:** John Rombi thanked Bob and Dick for the work in organizing the display. Bob and Dick expressed appreciation of the effort put in by the MAS volunteers. There was discussion on the features of the display, what was popular and what might not be used if the display is repeated. Bob was asked if he could write an article about the Show display for BinTel's *Night Sky*. Dick advised that in the 'how to' folder for the next show a note should remind the organizers to have all electrical leads tested and tagged for safety.
 - 3.4 **Tee-shirts and caps:** John reported that Martin was aiming to get members' logo designs to him this week. John will distribute to all members by Critical MAS email for them to vote on designs. John will then announce the winning design with the new logo. It is hoped that caps and tee-shirts will be available for the May general meeting.
 - 3.5 **Preparation for AGM:** Bob advised the meeting of the nominations received. To date, there has been no nomination for position of Secretary.
 - 3.6 **Status of booking of UWS Room and payments:** Booking for Room 5 Building 22 have been confirmed and payment of rental has been made to end of June 2008. It was reinforced that MAS is dependent on consistent donations by members to the tea/coffee tin to afford this rental.
 - 3.7 **Website:** John advised that Chris Malikoff has indicated he will continue to manage the website and develop the new format. This was greatly appreciated.
4. **Regular Business:**
 - 4.1 **Treasurer's report:** Dick Everett tabled the audited Financial Statement for year ended 29th February 2008. This will be presented at the AGM.

Payments made during the past month were: \$70 for renewal of PO Box rental; \$140 to UWS for room rental; \$190 to Creative Signs for the MAS banner.

Incidentals presented for approval and payment at this meeting were: \$22.50 for Show expenses by Bob Bee; \$90.18 for Show expenses by Dick Everett; \$22.60 to Dick Everett for post outs. M/S and Approved.
 - 4.2 **Membership:** An application for Full Membership was received by Mohammed Ali Baddah. This was approved pending receipt of a \$10 joining fee.

4.3 Speakers for 2008: No new speakers advised. However, there was discussion on how to promote the coming visit by **Prof. Bryan Gaensler** in May meeting. Secretary should include it in the public notices to both papers. Also, Bob offered to write a media release for the Chronicle. Dick will arrange for an announcement in C91.3 radio. Can also try to advertise within the UWS. John will see if we can arrange a better room for the night to accommodate an anticipated larger crowd.

4.4 Rotary Observatory and other Public nights: John advised that he is currently negotiating with Ragbir for a public night at the UWS Domes (Rotary Observatory).

4.5 Prime Focus: Kate has requested that new material should be in to her by 14th April.

5. Correspondence

5.1 Inwards

- a) From Rentals RUS – re listing of Wentworth Falls Observatory. At a sale price of \$685,000, it was decided not to take up the offer.
- b) Certificate of Insurance (to 5/3/2009) for Public Liability Insurance from Local Community Insurance Services.

5.2 Outwards

- a) To Campbelltown Show organisers with application form MAS participation.
- b) To Local Community Insurance Services with payment for renewal of Public Liability Insurance.
- c) Cheque to Australia Post for renewal of PO Box rent.

6. New Business

6.1 Custodian of MacDob telescope: Stewart Grainger offered to become custodian. Offer received with thanks. Associated paperwork to be supplied to Stewart to maintain records of loan outs.

6.2 Laser Pointers: A draft letter prepared by Bob, proposed to be sent to applicable politicians, was discussed. The wording of the letter was agreed to and approved to be sent out as soon as possible. Bob advised they would go out in the mail by 9th April.

7. Business for Next Committee Meeting

8. Next Meeting: Monday 5th May

9. Closing of Meeting: Meeting closed at 8:50pm.

Item No.	Action By:	Action
3.3	Bob Bee	1) Campbelltown Show: Write article for BinTel's Night Sky. 2) Insert note re safety tagging of leads in show 'folder'.
3.4	John Rombi	Distribute logo entries to members for voting. Announce winning logo.
4.3	Bob Bee Dick Everett John Rombi	Arrange various plans for advertising of Bryan Gaensler's visit in May.
4.4	John Rombi	Negotiate with Ragbir Bhathal for public night at domes.
6.2	Bob Bee	Mail out lesser re Laser Pointers to all appropriate politicians.