

1. **MEETING OPENED at 7:35 pm at Ivan Fox's residence, Mt Annan.**
Present: , Daniel Ross(Chair), Dick Everett, Lloyd Wright, Ivan Fox, Stewart Grainger, Roger Powell. Noel Sharpe (part time). **Apologies:**. John Rombi.
2. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING DATED 5th MAY 2008:**
The Minutes were read by DR. Motion to adopt the minutes as a true and accurate record: moved DR, seconded IF, carried unanimously.
3. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:** **ACTION**
- 3.1 **Guessing Competition Ticket Sales:** Ticket books have been distributed and Kate has more if required. The draw will be made at the July General Meeting. It was agreed that (a) a big effort should be made to sell tickets at the Open Night on 14th June; (b) advance publicity should refer to the competition and prize; (c) the main prize should be on display that night; and (d) the result of the competition should be subsequently publicised on the website and in the media. All
- 3.2 **Tee Shirts and Headgear Orders:** JR has e-mailed members to gauge the numbers required and has firm orders for 14 shirts. He found a company at Lane Cove requiring a min of only 25 shirts as opposed to 50 shirts from the Penrith organisation. Beanies minimum number is 50. JR has suggested we buy 30 shirts @ \$25.00 = \$750 and 50 beanies at \$6.40 = \$320. Sell to members at cost, non-members at mark up. Decided to hold this item over for one month. JR
- 3.3 **Laser Pointer Legislation:** RP advised that State legislation to class laser pointers as "dangerous implements" is before the Upper House this week. It requires a person to have a "reasonable excuse" to use or have custody. Pending Federal legislation will ban importation. RP is in contact with the offices of Pat Farmer MP, G. West MP and M. Gallacher MLC (Shadow Minister) and will follow up. No decision on informing The Oaks Police prior to each Stargard night. RP
- 3.4 **Commonwealth Bank Signatories.** RP went to the Commonwealth Bank at Macarthur Square. A new form was required by the Bank. RP and RE have now signed it. JR to sign. DR to take form to Bank with four forms of identification. JR
DR
- 3.5 **Stargard Toilet Facilities.** SG reported that the Archery Club had paid \$216 in 2003 for a portaloos (in fair but usable condition) from Camden Hire in 2003. Pickup \$55 a visit. RE will also evaluate. Decided in principle to approve, subject to further evaluation and costings to be reviewed at next meeting. RE
- 3.6 **Belanglo Forest, Hunting.** SG reported that Belanglo is not on the list for current or proposed hunting licences. No further action unless shooting is heard, in which case the Gaming Council may be consulted and/or invited to address committee.
- 3.7 **Belanglo Forest, Additional Observing Nights.** Permission is granted by International House, provided we let them know. Ned Pastor's to coordinate.
- 3.8 **Ten Year Badge – Thomas Flint.** JR found earliest recording of Thomas in the attendance register was "early 2000". RE to check if any earlier records exist. RE
- 3.9 **2008 AGM Nomination Forms, Location Status.** JR checked with Returning Officer Debbie Taylor. Location of forms is unknown. Assumed lost or destroyed.
- 3.10 **Any Other Business Arising From Minutes.** There was no other business.
4. **REGULAR BUSINESS**
- 4.1 **Financial Report:** RE circulated a Financial Report, indicating a current balance of \$5135.70 at 19th May 2008. Since the last meeting, income was \$375.00 from membership fees. Outgoings of postage & DOFT fee totalled \$54.00. Motion to adopt the Report: moved DR, seconded SG, carried unanimously.
- 4.2 **Membership Applications & Renewals:** RE advised that membership at the close of 2007-08 was 66 and advised that the current membership for 2008-09 is already 62. RE sent reminder notices to members who have not renewed yet. Only six members have still not renewed. Receipt of full membership fees was confirmed and membership approved for Giorgio De Scala and Carol McVeigh. RP

RP to send receipts and acceptance letters.

- 4.3 Guest Speakers:** June: Dr Laszlo Kiss from Sydney University; July Movie; Aug: JR
Ian Cook; Sept: Andrew Wood (Siefert Variables); Oct/Nov no booking yet.
- 4.4 Public & Community Education Nights:** Rotary night: Saturday 14th June. Jenny
Rombi & Christiane Gurney will run the Help Desk and Kate Ross may assist.
Ragbir Bhatl ,UWS is coordinating security etc. Decided that JR should e-mail
membership to get as many telescopes as possible. Bob Bee has written it up in JR
"Heaven's Above" for this week. RP to issue media release.
- 4.5 Prime Focus:** Kate has requested articles to be submitted to her by 9th May. All
- 4.6 Website:** JR may invite Chris Malikoff to a committee meeting to get instructions, JR/CM
ideas and comments. In the meantime, RP has requested Chris to advertise the
Public Night; new Meeting location (Bldg 22); and list of 2008-09 office bearers.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

5.1 Inwards:

Letter: Ministry for Police, dated 7th May 2008 (via G. West MP).

Letter: Police Director-General, dated 9th May 2008 (G.West MP)

Letter: Police Director-General, dated 9th May 2008 (G.Corrigan MP).

*E-mail: Editor Camden Advertiser re publishing photographs, 16th May.

E-mail: John O'Byrne, ASA, Sydney Observatory Seminars , 24th May.

Leaflet: Fairfield Council, information re: City Farm, 26th May.

*The Camden Advertiser have suggested MAS may like to submit a picture to include as their 'Camden snapshot', which is a "photograph contributed by a reader, preferably shot within the Camden local government area". RP

5.2 Outwards:

Media Release: May guest speaker, 4th May.

Letter: JR Open Letter to Editor, re laser pointers, 5th May.

Letters: Membership receipts to Rhodes, Baddah, 6th May.

Forms 9 and 12: Office of Fair Trading, 6th May.

Form: Campbelltown Council, Society details, 6th May.

Letter: Bintel, requesting MAS details change in "Night Sky", 6th May.

Letter: Quasar Publishing, contact details, 6th May.

Letter: International House, insurance certificate, 6th May.

Letter: Pat Farmer MP, importation of laser pointers. 28th May.

6 NEW BUSINESS

- 6.1 Proposed purchase of contact cleaning solution:** Six members expressed interest. Total cost would be \$600. Decided against proceeding.
- 6.2 Stargard Liaison Officer:** Noel Sharpe reported on a recent meeting of the Management Committee of The Dudley Chesham Sportsground: (a) Good relationship with Pony Club Pony Club Rep. (Joanne), who wants to attend Stargard. (b) MAS may be asked to assist mowing. (c) potential light pollution from proposed nearby 100 block property development in Hardwick Street; (d) possible benefactor provision for facilities upgrade. Motion that NS be given JR/NS authority to discuss ,on behalf of MAS, potential club house, toilets, improved road access and possible acquisition of club artifacts. Moved RP, seconded DR, carried unanimously.
- 6.3 ASA Status:** It was agreed to investigate qualification criteria for listing for ASA DE
"Designated Observatory Status".

7 BUSINESS FOR THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Guessing competition; tee shirts, laser pointers, bank signatures, Stargard portaloo, T.Flint, Stargard development, Camden Advertiser picture submission.

8. NEXT MEETING: Monday 7th July 2008 at Lloyd Wright's residence.

9. CLOSE OF MEETING: The meeting closed at 9.20 pm