



PO Box 17, Minto, NSW 2566

**MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Held at 3 The Whitewater, Mt. Annan
on Wednesday 7th April 2010 at 7.30 pm

Meeting opened 7.32 pm, closed at 8.40 pm

1 OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

Commenced at 7.32 pm. In attendance were Trevor Rhodes (Chair), Tony Law, Ivan Fox, Stewart Grainger, Lloyd Wright, Roger Powell. Apologies: John Rombi (illness)

2 MINUTES OF MEETING

The previously distributed minutes were taken as read. Motion *“That the minutes of 3rd March 2010 Meeting be adopted”*. Moved: SG, Seconded: IF, carried unanimously.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 AGM

Deadline for reports is Monday 12th April. Geoff would like contributions earlier if possible. Reports expected from President, Treasurer, Auditor and Merchandise Officer.

Dick Everett will act as Returning Officer. The publicised nomination closure date has now passed. Secretary has received one nomination for each position. Ivan Fox was also nominated and seconded but declined.

Ten Year Awards to Phillip Kidd and Michael Wells. MW has not indicated if he will attend.

3.2 Annual Accounts and auditing.

The annual accounts have been balanced and approved by the auditor, Graeme Bellamy. Tony has issued his Treasurer's Report and Graeme's Auditor's Report to Geoff.

3.3 Meeting Room

No response yet from Vanda Whitworth at UWS regarding our request for a more accessible meeting room.

3.4 Relationship with UWS

There has been no recent contact with UWS

3.5 Light pollution concerns

Letters have gone to local politicians and the policy has been posted on our website.

3.6 Commonwealth Bank

The Bank has agreed to reinstate the free monthly statements.

3.7 Investment of funds

A term deposit will be opened soon.

3.8 PayPal: updating of web page for membership payments.

Website PayPal membership page is off-line pending updating to new membership fees and on-line surcharge. John has spoken to CM about this and will follow up with him.

3.9 Any other business arising from the minutes.

None.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer:

(i) monthly financial report.

TL presented a monthly report, which is attached to these minutes

Bank Balance:	\$7341.76
D. Taylor float:	\$37.25
S.Grainger float:	\$20.00
PayPal account:	\$59.43
Total Cash Balance:	<u>\$7458.44</u>

(ii) motion of adoption:

It was moved *"That the Treasurer's Report be adopted"*. Moved: TL, Seconded: SG, Carried unanimously.

4.2 Membership:

(i) membership approvals:

It was moved by TL and seconded by IF *"That membership applications of Jack Giles, SL Bell, and Karim Kooros be approved."* Carried unanimously.

(ii) current membership status.

Current membership is now 100, including those who were approved tonight and including 2009-10 members who have not yet renewed or may not renew. D. McEachern has indicated that he will not renew, after nine years membership.

4.3 Merchandise:

(i) sales and current stock holding.

SG submitted a Stock Take Report dated 15th March, which is appended. Total value of all stock at 15th March was \$1950.45. Since then several more items have been sold, including DVDs and Astronomy 2010. SG will provide a brief annual Merchandise Report.

Stewart suggested that *'Emu Dreaming'* book be reduced in price to \$10.00 each for members and non-members. This was agreed.

(ii) acquisition of new stock.

SG will obtain quotes for black mugs with MAS logo.

4.4 General meetings:

Speakers:

Apr: AGM, Trivia & Demonstration.
Jul: Assoc. Prof. P. Tuthill
Oct: Bob Bee.
Feb: tba
tba: L. Harvey-Smith

May: Dr. R. Bhathal
Aug: Dr. A. Hopkins
Nov: Prof. B. Gaensler
Mar: Les Dalrymple
tba: Gary Kopff

Jun: Prof G. Lewis
Sep: Dr. N. McLure-Griffith
Jan: tba
tba: T. Robishaw

Refreshments: Deb Taylor has said that she will continue until we find someone. But JR intends to inform the members at the meeting that if there aren't any volunteers, this service will cease.

4.5 Members observing nights at Stargard and The Forest:

(i) report on last month's observing nights:

Stargard: 13th March was cancelled. Unscheduled nights were held on 16th & 17th March (nine and two attendees respectively).

The Forest: 19th/20th March was a success for four attendees.

(ii) observing nights coming up

Stargard-10th April; the Forest-17th April.

LW noted that several members go to the Forest regardless of weather conditions and that it should not be announced as cancelled.

4.6 Public outreach events in 2010:

(i) public nights. UWS are not making their intentions clear so public nights for 2010 are cancelled. It was suggested we need to make our own alternative arrangements.

(ii) August: Anglo-Australian Observatory. Tony reported that seventeen people have registered an interest. Total cost will be \$200-\$250 for accommodation and transport, leaving Friday and returning Sunday. Lloyd will obtain quotes for the bus hire.

(iii) 21st August: International House – student's night at the Forest. Nothing to report.

(iv) 3rd - 10th October: special event with Campbelltown City Council. JR has tried to contact Gallery but getting no response.

4.7 Prime Focus magazine

Contributions for Prime Focus and the Annual Report close with Geoff on 12th April.

4.8 Website, Web Shop, Forum and Facebook:

Membership form transmission from website by membership applicants results in receipt of a garbled xml file and unusual instructions. John has spoken to CM about this and will follow up.

4.9 Telescopes for beginners:

No new enquiries.

5 CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Correspondence In

Wollondilly Shire Council re heavy machinery at Stargard.
Membership application forms from Jack Giles and Karim Kooros
Partial membership fees from Matt & Jack White and from Robert & Sue Leonard.
Membership renewals from Steve Murphy and Wayne Harrison.
Letter from Chris Hayes MP (Werriwa) re 2010 Volunteer Grants Programme.
Night Sky magazine from Bintel (March x 10)
LCIS insurance certificate.

(ii) Correspondence Out

Membership approval - Alan George
Letters to Mayors of Campbelltown, Camden, Wollondilly and Liverpool; to NSW MPs for Maquarie Fields, Campbelltown, Camden and Wollondilly; to Federal MPs for Werriwa and Macarthur; and to NSW Opposition Leader. All regarding our Light Pollution Policy.

(iii) Media

Media statements: nil
Diary notices to Advertiser and Chronicle.
Website diary notices to Advertiser and Chronicle.

6 NEW BUSINESS

6.1 Vote of Thanks

As this was his last committee meeting, the meeting expressed it's thanks and appreciation on behalf of the membership to Ivan Fox, for the contribution he has made during the two years he spent on the committee.

6.2 MacDob

SG said no-one had hired MacDob lately and he would like someone to have it while he moved house. This was arranged by TR.

6.3 Local Radio

SG suggested we should try for a regular spot on local radio and it was agreed this was worth investigating.

7 BUSINESS FOR THE NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Post-AGM issues, Meeting Room, UWS relations, Term Deposit, Web pages for PayPal membership payment and auto membership form delivery, AAO visit, public nights, Art Gallery, community radio.

8 DATE & LOCATION OF NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

Wednesday 5th May 2010 at Stewart Grainger's residence.

9 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

Roger Powell
Secretary
8th April 2009

APPENDIX 1

MAS Treasury & Membership Report 4th April 2010

1. Treasury

As Graeme Bellamy still has my books I can't give a detailed breakdown of the bank deposit.
Has been a hectic month for me so did not get to do fixed deposit. Cash Account movements:

3/03/2010LCIS	289	\$ 734.88	6489.15
3/03/2010Australia Post	290	\$ 79.50	6409.65
15/03/2010T &R Rhodes - stationary	291	\$ 34.89	6374.76
15/03/2010Fred Watson	292	\$ 100.00	6274.76
15/03/2010FW Gift	293	\$ 34.00	6240.76
6/04/2010Banking to be reconciled		\$ 1,101.00	7341.76

Debra is holding a cash float of \$37.25 for coffee etc.
Stuart has \$20.00 cash float for merchandising
PayPal account \$59.43

2. Membership

We have two new applications to consider: Jack Giles and SL Bell
At today's date we have 99 members including 3 honorary – assuming approval given to the current applications.

Tony Law
Treasurer

APPENDIX 2

Macarthur Astronomical Society stock list as of 15/03/10. Prices listed are per item and total of that amount

DVD 'Magnitude'	8	\$4.50 ea.	\$36.00
Star Wheels Large	14	\$19.20 ea.	\$268.80
Star Wheels Small	2	\$12.50 ea.	\$25.00
Patches White	20	\$7.00 ea.	\$140.00
Patches Black	14	\$7.00 ea.	\$98.00
Beanies	19	\$11.22 ea.	\$213.18
Baseball caps	5	\$15.30 ea.	\$76.50
Astronomy 2010	7	\$17.11 ea.	\$119.77
Emu Dreaming	12	\$10 each	\$120.00
Heavens Above	15 copies on loan		

Shirts:

Men's white	M x 3; L x 3; XL x 2; XXL x 1
Men's Navy	M x 4; L x 1; XL x 2
Men's Black	S x 1; M x 4; L x 4; XL x 1; XXL x 1; XXXL x 1
Ladies Navy	12 x 1; 14 x 1

Total 30 shirts. All shirts priced at \$28.44 ea. Total shirt value: \$853.20

Total value of all stock at 15/03/10: \$1950.45

Stewart Grainger
Merchandise Officer