



## MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY

### MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Held at 31 George Caley Place, Mt. Annan, NSW  
on 1<sup>st</sup> August 2011

Meeting opened at 7.30 pm, closed at 9.58 pm

#### 1 OPENING OF MEETING & APOLOGIES

Present: T. Rhodes (Chair), C. Malikoff, T. Law, L. Wright, S. Grainger, C. McVeigh & R. Powell.

#### 2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Motion: "That the minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> July be adopted." Moved TR, seconded ChM, carried unanimously.

#### 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

**3.1 Weekend Away:** Parkes, 7<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> October. TL reported 19 confirmations. Price \$290.00. Motel deposits paid. Members deposits by 15<sup>th</sup> August. Full payment by 19<sup>th</sup> September.

**3.2 The Forest:** International House advised a new weekend fee of \$150.00 (currently \$77.00). TR has sought a \$40.00 discount again and offered to do more maintenance work. Waiting for reply. We owe \$49.00 for 2011, due to underpaying \$70pm instead of \$77pm.

**3.3 Meeting Room – UWS:** The situation is still unclear. A further message went to Prof. Celler on 29<sup>th</sup> July - waiting for a response. No sponsorship offers. RP will submit room application form this month, for 2012 (3 months early). The figure quoted last December was \$41.00 per hour (i.e. \$123 for 3 hours or \$102.50 for 2.5 hours).

**3.4 Meeting Room – Alternatives:** TL has investigated several options, including Hurley Hall at Campbelltown (\$18.00/hour) and Blair Atholl Community Centre (\$25.00/hour). Hurley Hall is not suitable. Blair Atholl is attractive but doubts were expressed over acoustics. Agreed to test this option for workshop on 19<sup>th</sup> September (one-off cost for 3 hours \$126.00). We may need to consider a second projector.

**3.5 Questionnaire:** To be e-mailed to all members by TL and form part of a new membership form.

**3.6 Hawaii Trip 2013:** TL will set up a bank account for members savings.

**3.7 Any other business arising from the minutes:** no other business.

#### 4 REGULAR BUSINESS

##### 4.1 Treasurer:

Monthly financial report: a cash report (dated 31st July) was provided by TL (attached). Summary:

Term deposit:	\$8,000.00
Cash account:	\$4,165.11*
PayPal account:	\$2.50
Refreshment float:	\$40.00
Merchandise float:	\$100.00
<b>TOTAL CASH ASSETS:</b>	<b><u>\$12,307.61*</u></b>

\* includes \$300 deposits for Parkes trip.

Motion: "That the Treasurer's Report be adopted," moved: TL, seconded: TR, carried unanimously.

##### 4.2 Membership:

There were no membership applications this month. Current status (including 3 honorary) is **91**.

##### 4.3 Merchandise:

(i) sales and current stock holding: SG presented a merchandise report dated 31<sup>st</sup> July (attached). In summary, sales for the month totalled **\$88.00**, current stock is: **\$1626.42**. Donations received: **\$22.00**.

(iii) acquisition of new stock: Astronomy 2012: TR to check numbers before purchase, to avoid over-stock.

#### **4.4 General meetings:**

Upcoming guest speakers: Aug: Geraint Lewis; Sep: Chris Malikoff (workshop); Oct: Gary Kopff.

Venue change: Members to be advised on 15<sup>th</sup> Aug about September venue change.

Committee Dinners: Still seeking an alternative to the Catholic Club.

#### **4.5 The Forest:**

(i) Last event: 29<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> July (Clear, 3,6); (ii) Next: 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> Aug. (iii) need to stimulate interest.

#### **4.6 Stargard:**

(i) Last event: 23<sup>rd</sup> July (cancelled); (ii) Next: 3<sup>rd</sup> Sept (moonlit). (iii) Consider The Oaks Airport Oct or Nov.

#### **4.7 Public outreach events:**

(i) International House Students' Night: 20<sup>th</sup> August. Volunteers needed.

(ii) Magnitude Public night at The Oaks on 10<sup>th</sup> Sept. Volunteers needed.

(iii) Astronomy Class from Texas (May/June 2012). Agreed in principle, TL to discuss details with the group.

#### **4.8 Fundraising:**

(i) Bunnings barbecues; Tony Law is in contact with Bunnings at Harrington Park. Our application is with them. Bunnings supply everything except the food and drinks. We are also committed to a "Fun Day" on 5<sup>th</sup> November.

(ii) Forum sponsorship, website advertising & Prime Focus advertising mailout: A document was sent to twenty targets on 26<sup>th</sup> July, followed up where possible with an e-mailed Prime Focus. One response, from Nikon, declining.

(iii) Current negotiations: TL is awaiting further talks with Australian Geographic, Celestron and MCU.

**4.9 Prime Focus magazine**: the deadline for contributions is 8<sup>th</sup> August. R. Zindler will submit articles on his concepts of cosmology. The size will be limited, publication will be bi-monthly and may require a caveat. ChM. Is proposing a comic strip called "MAS Hysteria."

**4.10 Website, Web Shop, Forum and Facebook**: Web Forum use has improved lately. May need to consider a page on Google Plus. SG to give ChM a box with one of every piece of merchandise for photographing for a new web shop.

**4.11 Technical Advancement**: deferred.

#### **4.12 Correspondence & Publicity:**

Correspondence in:

Letter from National Australian Convention of Amateur Astronomers re convention in Brisbane, April 2012.

Letter from Nikon declining our advertising & sponsorship opportunity.

Correspondence out:

Membership approval letters to Nicole Ireland & Andrew Wood.

Mailout to twenty organisations re advertising & sponsorship opportunity.

Publicity: Media statement re Forum for 15<sup>th</sup> August to be issued tomorrow. Diary notices for print and electronic media and Facebook for 15<sup>th</sup> August, have been issued; Need to add listing to "In Macarthur" magazine.

Letter to Mayor (3<sup>rd</sup> June) re: Light Pollution: No written response. RP sent an SMS message last week. The Mayor (Cr. Lake) rang to advise a written response would be provided.

### **5 NEW BUSINESS**

**5.1 Stargard**: procedures to be adopted in the event of uncertain weather. It was agreed that Stargard

would not be cancelled in future, except in the event of unsafe weather. Cancellation would be after consultation. Need to try and treat Stargard as a social event if weather is poor.

**5.2 Acknowledgements:** All members who do work for the Society need to be acknowledged at meetings.

**5.3 First Aid Kit:** It was agreed that TR will investigate the purchase of a first aid kit, mainly for Stargard. TR will also identify members with first aid training.

**5.4 Second Projector:** We may need to consider a second projector if we leave UWS.

**5.5 Children's Booklet:** ChM is proposing to collaborate with ASAW and possible other societies to produce an entry level low cost booklet.

**5.6 Sister Club:** It was proposed that MAS seek a sister club arrangement with a similar English speaking Society in the Northern Hemisphere.

**5.7 Christmas Party:** Proposed party at Blair Atholl, 19<sup>th</sup> December. BYO everything.

**5.8 Red Lights:** We need to look for good quality cheap red lights for public nights. ChM will look.

**5.9 Stargard Approach Sign:** SG suggested a sandwich board to be used at Stargard, to warn late-comers to dim their lights. Decided not to proceed at this stage.

**5.10 Bintel:** The Nightsky magazine still lists John Rombi's phone number. RP to contact Bintel.

## 6 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Will be held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September at **Tony's** house.

**7 CLOSE OF MEETING** The meeting closed at 9.58 pm.

Roger Powell,  
Secretary  
2<sup>nd</sup> August 2011

Signed: T. Rhodes (President) ..... R. Powell (Secretary) .....

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## APPENDIX 1:

### MAS Treasury & Membership Report 31<sup>st</sup> July 2011

#### Treasury

Cash float of **\$40.00** with Carol for coffee etc., Stewart has **\$100.00** cash float for merchandising, PayPal account **\$2.50**, Term deposit **\$8,000.00**

#### Banking

1/07/2011	International H	333/334									\$140.00	\$4,565.04
18/07/2011	Deposit		\$ 63.00		\$14.00	\$ 80.00	\$157.00					\$4,722.04
19/07/2011	T.Rhodes-dinner		85320			\$ 44.05	\$44.05					\$4,766.09
22/07/2011	TL - Parkes dep		85319			\$200.00	\$200.00					\$4,966.09
22/07/2011	IF -Parkes dep		85318			\$100.00	\$100.00					\$5,066.09
25/07/2011	Interest TD					\$ 34.52	\$34.52					\$5,100.61
25/07/2011	Transfer to TD									\$1,000.00		\$4,100.61
											* unrepresented	\$ 64.50
												\$4,165.11

Date	Details	Cheque	Receipt	Merchandise	Membership	Forest	Donations	Other	Income	Expense	Dated Banked	Balance
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As per last committee meeting we transferred a further \$1,000.00 in to a new term deposit @ 6% for 6months.

Cheques for deposits at the Golden West Motel and Gang Gang Tours, totaling \$828.00, have been posted. Have had no response regarding setting up the bank account for Hawaii though at least 7 members have expressed firm interest in going though – not needing to use an account

**Membership:**

No new applications to consider. Total Membership stands at 88 members and 3 Honorary.

*Tony Law*  
*Hon. Treasurer*

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**APPENDIX 2:**

stock control 1st August 2011									
Item	Stock	Unit Cost	Total Cost	SP Memb	No.	Sales Public	No.	Total	Stock Balance
DVD Magnitude	1	\$4.50	\$4.50	\$10.00		\$15.00		\$-	1
DVD Magnitude II	0	\$2.50	\$-	\$10.00	1	\$15.00	1	\$10	0
Star Wheels Large	5	\$19.20	\$96.00	\$25.00		\$30.00		\$-	5
Star Wheels Small	1	\$12.50	\$12.50	\$15.00		\$15.00		\$-	1
Sew on Patches White	7	\$7.00	\$49.00	\$10.00		\$12.00			7
Sew on Patches Black	11	\$7.00	\$77.00	\$10.00		\$12.00	1	\$30	7
Beanies	10	\$11.22	\$112.20	\$15.00		\$20.00		\$15	10
Baseball Caps	6	\$15.30	\$91.80	\$20.00		\$25.00		\$-	6
Coffee Mugs	52	\$8.50	\$442.00	\$10.00	1	\$12.00	1	\$10	50
Astronomy 2010	2							\$-	2
Astronomy 2011	1	\$17.30	\$17.30	\$20.00		\$25.00	2	\$20	-1
Emu Dreaming:	7	\$10.00	\$70.00	\$10.00		\$15.00			7
Heavens Above - on consignment	8	\$15.00		\$18.00		\$25.00		\$3	8
Compendium - on consignment	12	\$20.00		\$25.00		\$30.00		\$-	12
Shirts									
Mens White M	2	\$28.44	\$56.88	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	2
Mens White L	1	\$28.44	\$28.44	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	1
Mens White XL	2	\$28.44	\$56.88	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	2
Mens Navy M	4	\$28.44	\$113.76	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	4
Mens Navy L	1	\$28.44	\$28.44	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	1
Mens Navy XL	2	\$28.44	\$56.88	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	2
Mens Black S	1	\$28.44	\$28.44	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	1
Mens Black M	4	\$28.44	\$113.76	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	4
Mens Black L	2	\$28.44	\$56.88	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	2
Mens Black XL	2	\$28.44	\$56.88	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	2
Womens Navy 12	1	\$28.44	\$28.44	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	1
Womens Navy 14	1	\$28.44	\$28.44	\$35.00		\$40.00		\$-	1
<b>Total Value</b>			<b>\$1,626.42</b>		11	<b>Monthly Sales</b>		<b>\$88</b>	

*Stewart Grainger*  
*Merchandise Officer*