



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

**MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MINUTES  
FOR MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Held at 26 Ellis Lane, Ellis Lane.

Meeting commenced: 7.29pm Meeting Concluded 8.47pm

1 October 2012

1 OPENING OF MEETING AND APOLOGIES Present CM, SG, HS, NI. Apologies TL, BM & LW.

2 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING Motion that the Minutes dated 6 August and 3 September be adopted, motion made by CM, seconded by HS.

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

3.1 Future Observatory RP has organised with the Macarthur Advertiser to be interviewed with CM to publicise the project.

RP has also organised a meeting with the National Parks Association (independent group who offers their service and advice to NPWS) to meet with Julie Shepherd, who suggested we attend a committee meeting to engage their support on Wednesday 24th October at Campbelltown Catholic Club at 7.30pm. RP and CM will attend and present at keynote speech on our Observatory Proposal focusing on what our club and the observatory contributes to the local community, and ask for their support.

The official proposal is high quality and almost complete, due in ten months. The final draft will be passed to BHP and Local MP in approximately 3-4 months.

3.2 Invitations from other societies All deferred until further notice.

Western Sydney Amateur Astronomy Group: invitation to Linden Observatory - deferred

Sutherland: invitation to Observatory - deferred

UWS Werrington: deferred

3.3 Meeting catering Penny will continue until the New Year; has possession of refreshments and equipment.

3.4 Children's booklet Deferred until further notice.

3.5 Sister Societies deferred until New Year.

3.6 Guest dinner payment procedures Dinner mains are ordered individually, side plate costs are shared. Speaker's dinner and sides are paid for.

3.7 Pull-up banner Deferred until next meeting for BM to expand.

3.8 INSPIRE program CM will contact Mandy Perrin at Macarthur Advertiser and find out if they would like us to participate.

3.9 Any other business arising from the Minutes

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report Monthly financial report - Bank Transactions listed in Appendix 1

**MAS Treasury Report 27<sup>st</sup> Sept 2012**

**Current Funds**

Term deposit	\$12,000.00
Cheque account	\$4,005.95

Petty Cash float \$ 66.60  
Paypal account \$18.16 ( Logged in and checked 27/9/2012)  
Refreshment float \$40.00  
Merchandise float \$100.00

TOTAL CASH ASSETS \$ 16,230.71(value at Sept 27, 2012)

Less

Un presented Cheque 395 \$54.09 (Carol Mc Veigh wine gift to speakers)  
Un presented Cheque 401 \$502.40 (pans sport jackets)  
Un presented Cheque 404 \$109.56 (Kwik copy - August prime focus)  
FINAL BALANCE \$15,564.66

Annual budget deferred

4.2 Membership No new membership applications. Current membership stands at 95 paid members and 3 honorary members.

4.3 Merchandise Monthly sales figures \$382 being for \$330 for jackets; \$10 Emu Dreaming; Donations \$TBC, Prime Focus \$42. SG will give cash to BM at the next meeting for deposit. Current stock holding report deferred until Tony returns.

Canvas banner – SG still investigating production.

Astronomy 2013 orders – orders will be taken after October meeting and sold for \$23 each.

An announcement will be made over Private Message and at the next meeting, names will be taken and we will only order that number of copies, to be delivered at November meeting. SG will coordinate.

4.4 General Meetings Speakers for the rest of 2012 are:

15 Oct. Dr Simon O'Toole (AAO + Deputy Gemini Scientist)

19 Nov. Dr Emil Lenc (CSIRO-ATNF)

Speakers for 2013 are C.Malikoff (Jan) M. Salway (Feb) and then in no particular order (at the moment) are Brian Schmidt, Lisa Harvey-Smith, Peter Reid, Mark Phillips and Fred Watson. That makes 7 in total." From JR.

Two meetings will be designated for workshops which are January and February.

No speaker for the AGM. One meeting with the SKA engineers and two more speakers.

NI will advise JR.

Gift for this month's speaker is a bottle of wine and MAS mug. SG holds these.

4.5 The Forest Event since last meeting 15/16 Sept: Spectacular conditions on the Friday with two members. Saturday was cloudy and windy, closed at 9pm with five members.

Next event see website.

4.6 Stargard Events since last meeting 8 September cancelled due to bad weather.

Next event: see website.

Special Night: 15 September Glob Hunt – cancelled. To be held in 2013 after several months' training sessions at Members' Nights.

4.7 Public Outreach

20 October at The Oaks: call for volunteers at General Meeting and publicity sent to local outlets.

*Inspire* campaign – approach to Prof Fred Watson. CM to ask Many Perrin as per 3.8.

Wedderburn Airfield – 18 November, dinner and stargazing.

Bunnings fundraising BBQ – cancelled.

Bunnings has asked us to participate in a School night on 18th October. Have called for volunteers, we need about four or five.  
Tharawal Land Council has not proceeded, and they are yet to come back to us with another contact name, after our previous contact has moved on.

4.8 Members' Trips Hawai'i Final numbers TBC by end of November. Deferred until TL returns from OS.

Tidbinbilla trip still to be confirmed and will be deferred until TL returns from OS.  
Email enquiry from Cox and Kings re: tailored astronomy trip to Chile. Will mention to members at the next General Meeting.

4.9 Fundraising Possibilities deferred until Observatory proposal completed.

4.10 Prime Focus October issue will be final edition. CM called for other interested people to take over the editing. Possibility of a quarterly or four monthly edition with content from the website and/or Facebook.

4.11 Website, Forum, Facebook

New website will have blog and commenting access which may take over the role of Prime Focus as a place for members to contribute.

4.12 Technical Advancement Glob Hunt at Stargard deferred until next year after several training nights at Stargard and The Forest. Ask JR to propose how he wants to approach this at the next Committee Meeting.

4.13 Correspondence Astronomy 2013 information and order form.

4.14 Publicity sent to usual outlets and registered as ongoing event on What's On in Macarthur website. Public Night registered with CCC What's On to be uploaded early this month.

4.15 UWS Room Needs to be reapplied for use in 2013. NI will send email to RP asking how we apply for the room.

## 5 NEW BUSINESS

CM will speak to LW about absences from the Committee Meetings and what he wants to do moving forward.

NI resigned from the position of Secretary moving forward. CM will announce at October General Meeting for volunteer to take over.

## 6 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

Date: 5 November

Location: CM's place 55 Crommelin Crescent, St Helens Park.

## 7 CLOSE OF MEETING