

Aug 2014



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW
2566

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

Held at 58/53 Auburn Street, Sutherland
Monday 7th July at 7.30pm
Attending: CM, TL, SG, HS, RC and JG.

1 OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: Opened by CM at 7.30pm.

2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Correction to previous minutes. BHP contact is Richard Walsh, not Kevin. Adopted by SG, seconded by HS

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

3.1 Future Observatory at Dharawal National Park

- TL has arranged a meeting with Richard Walsh from BHP on Wednesday the 13th at the car park of the national park.

3.2 Children's Booklet.

- CM is reformatting the booklet from a Microsoft Publisher format to a more modern one.

3.3 Any other business

- SG has not had a chance to work on the display boards yet.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS.

4.1 Treasurer's Report - See attached

4.2 Membership

- New members: Stephen William Edwards, Trevor Rhodes
- Current membership stands at 99 members including 4 honorary members.

4.3 Merchandise

- 7 beanies and one patch have been sold.
- Cash sales for the month \$110
- \$61.60 in donations received.

4.4 General Meetings

- Next meeting: 18th August - Dr. Roberto Soria

4.5 The Forest

- Last gathering: 25th-27th July. Clear skies, great weather.
- Next: 22nd-24th August; 29-31st August (IH Weekend)

4.6 Stargard

- Last gathering: 19th July (Wedderburn). Great night, well hosted.
- Next: 16th August

4.7 Public Outreach

- MAS will host a training session for Camden library staff at Stargard
- Wooglemai will be organised by Barry Moore. Date set for 29th November 2014.

4.8 Members' Trips

- Lowe Observatory and Narrabri trip - 15-17th August. All arranged and ready to go.
- Atacama / Machu Pichu 2016 - Tony has estimated a cost of \$5150 (\$6000 to be safe)

4.9 Fundraising

- Receiving a grant from local council will be extremely difficult due to conditions set by council. Committee decided not to pursue the grant further.

4.10 Website, Web shop, Forum, Facebook, Prime Focus Blog

- Chris requires assistance with Joomla for the website due to a lack of time. Have not received response from MAS members yet.

4.11 Correspondence

Mail in -

Mail out -

4.12 Technical Advancement.

- The committee decided that quarterly workshops will be held on the second Monday of the respective month. These workshops will focus on practical astronomy, astrophotography software sessions etc.
- MN suggested establishing a 'buddy' system for new members, who will be paired with experienced members to provide assistance.

4.13 Publicity

- Media release for the month of August as been sent out

4.14 MallinCam Extreme

- More practise with the cam shall occur, weather permitting.

5 NEW BUSINESS

- TL and CM have been invited to a meeting with Roslyn McCourt regarding a preliminary meeting to discuss co-operation between MAS & UWS at the domes.
- Ragbir will be hosting a talk on Aboriginal Astronomy at UWS on the 25th of August
- The committee will be honoured to keep Brian Gaenslers' as patron of MAS despite his move to Canada
- HS identified that some MAS forms do not state a 3% fee for using PayPal, which leads to some confusion and possible under-payment. All payment forms will be updated to inform payees the 3% surcharge.
- SG suggested that the donations from the next forum be donated to the Cancer Council on behalf of Stuart Cant.

6 NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING - 1st September, 2014 at Henrys'. Apologies JG.

7 CLOSE OF MEETING - 9.30pm

Jack Goralewski
Secretary - MAS