



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

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

Held at 260 Ellis lane, Ellis Lane 2570

Monday 9th October 2017 at 7.30pm

Attending: Tony Law, Carol McVeigh, Henry Swierk, Stewart Grainger,

Apologies: Richard Curley, Barry Moore, John Rombi

1 OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: meeting opened at 7.35pm

2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES for September 2017 Proposed by Tony Law

seconded by Henry Swierk. **Accepted**

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

3.1 Broughton, Tahmoor and Bargo Schools to be contacted by Mike Nicholas, no response since "Event".

3.2 Marc Noakes to contact Mike Nicholas to arrange discussion on primary school's co-operation.

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Richard Curley (Note Richard is an apology)

September Report from Richard Curley was tabled.

Proposed by Richard Curley Seconded by Tony Law. **Accepted.**

Approximately in \$4086.00 in bank accounts and cash in hand

\$21,000 in term deposit (\$78.00 from Public night donations has been deposited).

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

New Members: 2, Paul Myhill and Greg Bradford

Current membership: 122 members in total.

4.3 Merchandise: Stewart Grainger

Merchandise Sales: from September forum \$135.00

Cash \$ 0 , EFT \$ 0 , Donations: \$ 11.25

Public Outreach night donations \$78.00

Total \$ 224.25

Action: Stewart to advertise all our merchandise by PM to all members.

4.4 General Business

4.4.1 This month's forum Oct 16– Speaker is **Dr Ángel R. López-Sánchez** Title: **"Capturing the light of the Universe"**

4.4.2 Next month's forum, Nov 20 - speaker is **Prof. Gary Da Costa** **"SkyMapper and the Search for the Milky Way's oldest stars"**

4.4.3 December 11 Forum, waiting on details from Prarieewood HS

4.4.4 Alan Williams has produced a flyer for consideration by committee. It was previously tabled and is under consideration. Ongoing item.

4.5 The Forest

Last: 15/16 September – 50:50, some reasonable viewing and photography.

Next: 20/21 October – but weather forecast is not looking good!

4.6 Stargard

Last: 24 September, all good at The Oaks until cloud started to encroach about 11pm

Next: 14 October, weather permitting

4.7 Public Outreach

4.7.1 Domes Sat Sept 30 The final public session for this winter saw over 200 enjoy a partly cloudy night.

4.7.2 Camden Library public night for 20 June 2018, also Photographers of the month New photos for displays are needed due to deterioration, submit to Tony Law.

4.7.4 Next year's observing schedule has been published on the website and sent by PM to all members.

4.7.5 National Science week 2018 (11-19 August) – proposing Monday 20 August as possible time for a "Public Event".

4.7.6 Broughton, Picton, Tahmoor Schools have shown interest in our group for ongoing outreach events.

4.7.7 Carnes Hill Library (Jessica Bruce) Requesting assistance for an event 12 April 2018.

4.7.8 October 21, this month at the Forest, we will host at least 24 scouts from Balmoral for a short session on our telescopes, all welcome to attend!

4.8 Members' Trips

4.8.1 China 2019 costs and details to be determined. Ongoing item.

4.8.2 JPL 2019 visit to coincide with 50 years since moon landing as possible trip. Ongoing item

4.8.3 Proposed 2020 Space X rocket launch in California is to be considered. Ongoing item

4.8.4 02 Jul 2019 total solar eclipse in South America (and Chile) suggested trip.

<https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/solar/2019-july-2>

4.8.5 Parkes visit. John Sarkissian from Parkes observatory has suggested a Macastro trip in 2018. Ongoing item for discussion.

Tony Law to request members feedback on these suggestions

4.9 Fundraising

Bunnings fundraiser will be a BBQ on Saturday 20 Jan 2018. Raffle to be held. Prizes, 1st Telescope (from Carol McVeigh); 2nd Astronomy 2018; 3rd OneGiantLeap Goodies

4.10 Website, Facebook

Any errors noticed? Please pass on to Roger Powell for attention.

Issues with non-receipt of the Newsletter and PM's showed major problem was in set up of members email spam/junk settings. Will be retested with the upcoming Newsletter

4.11 Publicity – Barry Moore

4.11.1 Publicity for next forum (Oct 16th) has been sent to papers (Advertiser and Chronicle) and local members.

4.11.2 Secretary will forward minutes as soon as they are approved by committee to Roger (webmaster) for member's perusal. On going item

4.12 Future Observatory at Dharawal National Park

4.12.1 The committee has had no progress about a future observatory at Dharawal. On Going item.

4.12.2 A letter from a member has suggested an alternative observing location which is under consideration by the committee. This has now been ruled out after further investigation.

4.13 Correspondence received

Email from Jessica Bruce re April 12 Outreach.

Email from Sector connect, requesting MAS to join – rejected by committee.

4.14 Succession planning – all committee members are to look at a shadow person to assist in their absence. Tony (President) and Richard (Treasurer) have indicated they will not be standing at the 2018 AGM. Tony is stepping down as President and has indicated he wishes to continue on the committee. None of the current committee members are willing to take that role at that point in time either. Barry (secretary) has two significant other personal interest roles and is also considering stepping down at the 2018 AGM.

Tony to bring up in Newsletters and meetings.

4.15 Working With Children Check

Members dealing with public and potentially children must provide a WWCC number. This will be kept on file with the membership officer. Link to obtain this FREE check is

<https://www.service.nsw.gov.au/transaction/apply-working-children-check>

Once your check is complete forward the email to Henry Swierk.

5. NEW BUSINESS

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: 06 November 2017, 7.30pm at Tony's, 33 Hickson Circuit, Harrington Park

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 9.13pm

Minutes Taken By Carol McVeigh 9 October 2017

Written by Secretary – Tony Law (11 October 2017)

Authorised by President – Tony Law

MAS OBSERVING DATES 2018

LUNAR CYCLE No	NEW MOON	FOREST NEW MOON WEEKEND ¹	TIMES ⁴	STARGARD NIGHT ¹	TIMES	OPTIONAL NIGHTS FOR PUBLIC ²	TIMES
1	Wed 17 th Jan	Fri-Sat 12th-13th Jan	SS 20.11 MR 03.37 NM+2	Sat 20th Jan	SS 20.09 MS 22.06 NM-3	~	~
2	Fri 16 th Feb	Fri-Sat 16th-17th Feb	SS 19.48 MS 20.42 NM+1	Sat 10th Feb	SS 19.55 MR 02.17 NM-6	~	~
3	Sun 18 th Mar	Fri-Sat 16th-17th Mar	SS 19.13 MR 7.16 NM	Sat 10th Mar	SS 19.22 MR 00.56 NM-7	~	~
4	Mon. 16 th Apr	Fri-Sat 13th-14th Apr	SS 17.35 MR 5.03 NM-2	Sat 21st Apr	SS 17.27 MS 21.54 NM+5	Sat 28th Apr FM-2 Domes	SS 17.19 MR 16.34
5	Tue 15 th May	Fri-Sat 18th-19th May	SS 17.01 MS 20.47 NM+4	Sat 12th May	SS 17.06 MR 03.48 NM-3	Sat 26th May FM-4 Domes	SS 16.58 MR 15.10
6	Thur 14 th June	Fri-Sat 15th-16th June	SS 16.54 MS 19.37 NM+2	Sat 9th June	SS 16.54 MR 02.32 NM -5	Wed 20 Jun FM+8 Narellan Libry	SS 16.53 MR 12.04
7	Fri 13 th July	Fri-Sat 13th-14th July	SS 17.05 MS 18.24 NM+1	Sat 7th July	SS 17.01 MR 01.19 NM-6	Sat 21st July FQ+1 Domes	SS 17.09 MR 12.22
8	Sat 11 th Aug	Fri-Sat 10th-11th Aug	SS 17.24 MR 7.12 NM	Sat 4th Aug	SS 17.19 MR 00.09 NM-7	Science Week 11-19 August	18 or 25th viewing for IH students
9	Mon. 10 th Sept	Fri-Sat 7th-8th Sept	SS 17.43 MR 5.45 NM-2	Sat 1st Sept	SS 17.38 MS 23.04 NM-9	Sat 15th Sep FQ-2 Domes	SS 17.48 MS 23.29
10	Tue 9 th Oct	Fri-Sat 5th-6th Oct	SS 18.03 MR 5.20 NM-3	Sat 13th Oct	SS 19.08 MS 23.14 NM+4	~	~
11	Thur 8 th Nov	Fri-Sat 9th-10th Nov	SS 19.33 MS 21.58 NM+2	Sat 3rd Nov	SS 19.26 MR 03.57 NM-5	~	~
12	Fri 7 th Dec	Fri-Sat 7th-8th Dec	SS 19.59 MS 20.43 NM+1	Sat 1st Dec	SS 19.53 MR 02.35 NM-6	~	~
13	Sun 6 th Jan	Fri-Sat 4th-5th Jan 2019	SS 20.12 MR 5.47 NM	Sat 29th Dec	SS 20.11 MR 01.13 NM-8	~	~

RP

1. The best Saturday night of the cycle (i.e. closest to New Moon) is allocated to The Forest & second best to Stargard.
2. Public nights are usually scheduled close to FQM. This suits the public who wish to view bright objects; the moonlight satisfies public safety concerns; and avoids cancellation of members observing nights. There is also potential for public nights to be nominated on a night when the Moon spectacularly rises during the event. *e.g. 2nd June.*
3. The annual International House Students Night is normally held in August and the dates proposed, to avoid clashing with regular observing nights, are *18th August or 25th August.*
4. The times allocated to The Forest relate to the Saturday.