



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

**MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY**  
**Minutes of the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Held at 30 King Rd, Ingleburn

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February 2018 at 7.30pm

Attending: Tony Law, Carol McVeigh, Henry Swierk, Stewart Grainger, Barry Moore, Mike Nicholas

Apologies: John Rombi, Richard Curley.

**1 OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES:** meeting opened at 7.30pm

**2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES for January 2018** Proposed by Barry Moore  
seconded by Tony Law, passed

**3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

**4 REGULAR BUSINESS**

**4.1 Treasurer's Report:** Richard Curley. Did not tender a report as he was an apology (illness)

Approximately in \$ 3,800 in bank accounts and cash in hand

\$21,000 in term deposit

Paypal account is now fully functional for both deposits and transfers.

Insurance annual payment is due soon

PO Box annual payment is due soon

**4.2 Membership:** Henry Swierk

New Members: Craig Elson

Current membership: 128 members in total. 5 Hon. 3 Assoc. 120 rest.

Renewals for 2018 has been sent to all members by email.

**4.3 Merchandise:** Stewart Grainger – receipts books are currently being checked. Sales will be declared in next month's minutes.

**4.3.1** Red light torches have been purchased for evaluation by Tony Law. Tony demonstrated torch and committee approved purchase of more torches for sale to members.

**4.3.2** 21 X "2018 astronomy" books have arrived and been issued. Five more astronomy 2018 are required and on order. All but a few have been distributed to those that were ordered.

**4.3.3** A red dot pointer has been ordered for our donated SC Telescope. Red dot finder was demonstrated to committee.

**4.3.4** The donated ETX telescope is in need of repair. Currently being evaluated by Tasco.

**4.4 General Business**

**4.4.1** This month's forum is Feb 19, 2018 Maria Cunningham (UNSW) Title is "Stars and the Stuff Between Them".

**4.4.2** Next month's forum Mar 19 Tamara Davis

**4.4.3** Allen Williams has produced a flyer for consideration by committee. It was previously tabled. Carol has distributed electronic copies for comment and modifications. Committee was in

agreement for the concept. Changes were discussed and given to Carol with the required changes to be passed on to Allen.

#### 4.5 The Forest

Last: 13/14 Jan - cloudy

Next: 16/17 Feb, then 16/17 March

#### 4.6 Stargard

Last: 18 Jan - cloudy

Next : 10 Feb, then 10 March

#### 4.7 Public Outreach

4.7.1 Total Lunar eclipse Jan 31 ... was to be held at the Oaks, Clouded out

4.7.2 Astronomy in the Gardens at MT Annan Botanical Gardens Fri Feb 23. Help needed.

4.7.3 Bunnings BBQ at Narellan all day from 7am Sat Feb 24. Help needed.

4.7.4 Rebecca Hay, 1st Camden Scouts has requested a visit for 30 scouts. Date advised and approved is 7.30pm March 1st at The Oaks on a (Thursday night). Approved . Help needed

4.7.5 Carnes Hill Library (Jessica Bruce) Requesting assistance for an event 12 April 2018. They need a couple of people for 1.5 - 2 hrs. Approved.

4.7.6

a) MDSI (Caitlin Manganaro Macarthur Heights Community Development Facilitator – Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative) sent an email requesting joint DOMES events on **Sat 28 April, Sat 26 May, Sat 21 July and Sat 15 Sept 2018**. They are also looking into a public toilet being left open behind the sales office. July 21 will be called “Mars Night”

b) Note from Caitlin: Sustainable living & Natural Environment day. It is now going to be held on the **Saturday 14th of April in Macarthur Heights**. We would love if anyone from the society were able to attend and have a little stall to discuss astronomy, the society and possibly feature the solar telescopes that you mentioned. Would also be a great opportunity to have a tin for donations etc.

4.7.7 Camden Library public night for Wed 20 June 2018, also Photographers of the month New photos for displays are needed due to deterioration, submit to Tony Law by June 1 deadline for printing. Chris Malikoff to be approached to see if he can print and what his cost would be to do this. Border to be simpler than previous photos. Members to submit photographs ASAP. Approved. Help needed.

4.7.8 Cobbity Scout Hall: Joey Scouts Mob (via Kerry Wallace) requested for astronomy night. Approved for Mon 25th June. Approved. Help needed.

4.7.9 We received an invite from Marc Noakes to attend the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) EXPO meeting for Tues June 26th 2018. Will be held in daytime at Tahmoor public school. What is required is a 30min explanation of a possible lesson that teachers could use with public school students. 50 teachers have already registered to attend. Committee discussed and approved. Help needed.

Mike Nicholas is pursuing Bargo, Picton and Tahmoor schools through Marc Oakes as the liaison person.

4.7.10 Broughton Anglican College has expressed an interest for assistance in a astrophotography project with a student. On going

4.7.11 16 July 2018 Macarthur Astronomy Forum "Special Event" Amy Shira Teitel – more info to be announced.

4.7.12 National Science week 2018 (11-19 August) – Monday 20 August, our normal monthly Forum as possible time for a "Public Event" with Ed Kruzins. We need to raise \$1500 to run these events. Jai Rowell has been contacted for an appointment re funding.

#### **4.8 Members' Trips**

4.8.1 Parkes visit. John Sarkissian from Parkes observatory has suggested a Macastro trip in 2018. Dave Manning asked to organise. Date set for 18,19,20 May. Register your interest.

4.8.2 China 11th May to 23rd May 2019, 12 nights, 13 days: Approx Cost \$3500. Draft itinerary has been determined. Tony Law is organising. Roberto Soria is our in-house contact at the Chinese observatories. Register your interest.

4.8.3 JPL July 2021 Estimate \$4000 each needed. Will promote and ask interested members to start saving in our "trip" bank account. Could be combined with a Space X launch. On going item .

#### **4.9 Fundraising**

Bunnings fundraiser will be a BBQ on Saturday 24 Feb 2018. Raffle to be held. Prizes, 1st Telescope (from Carol McVeigh); 2<sup>nd</sup> Astronomy 2018; 3<sup>rd</sup> OneGiantLeap Goodies  
Draft members roster will be circulated at next Forum. 1200 sausages ordered and bread rolls. Help is urgently needed.

#### **4.10 Website, Facebook**

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

Newsletter will now be placed on the website and emailed from Tony directly as there is a problem with BULK emailing from website.

#### **4.11 Publicity – Barry Moore**

4.11.1 Publicity for the next forum (Feb 19<sup>th</sup>) has been sent to Advertiser and Chronicle "what's on" pages. (Note Advertiser got wrong date 13<sup>th</sup> instead of 19<sup>th</sup> ... correct date has been sent again and should be correct in the paper prior to the event.

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

4.11.3 Mail box has been checked each week – no mail has been received in the mail box.

#### **4.12 Correspondence received. Nil**

**4.13 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. A few possible candidates have been discussed.

All Committee members to talk to possible members about committee. On going item.

#### **5. NEW BUSINESS - nil**

**6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Mon 5 Mar 2018 at 33 Hickson Circuit Harrington Park**

**7. CLOSE OF MEETING \_\_\_ 9.40pm \_\_\_**

**Minutes Taken By Barry Moore 5 Feb 2018**

**Written by Secretary – Barry Moore 9/2/2018**