



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of the MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Wivenhoe Village Clubhouse, Hollyhock Avenue, Kirkham
(host Mike Nicholas).

Wednesday 4th April 2018 at 7.30pm

Attending: Tony Law, Carol McVeigh, Henry Swierk, Barry Moore, Richard Curley, John Rombi, Mike Nicholas, Ray Armstrong, Andy Milton.

Apologies: Stewart Grainger

1 OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: meeting opened at 7:31pm

2 ADOPTION OF MINUTES for March 2018 Proposed by Barry Moore
seconded by John Rombi, passed

3 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

4 REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Richard Curley.

The accounts have been audited by Graeme Bellamy and are in good order. A detailed report has been submitted for the AGM this month.

Approximately \$7240.00 in bank accounts and cash in hand
\$21,000 in term deposit, total \$28,240.00

Insurance annual payment has been paid (\$784.38), awaiting a copy of the payment by email.
The email for this notice has to be updated to treasurer@macastro.org.au
PO Box annual payment is due \$127

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

New Members: 3 new who are Wayne Sanday, Mark Brackenbury, Howard Pew. Graeme Bellamy has been awarded an Honorary Membership.

Membership at the end of March: 107 members in total including 6 Hon. 3 Assoc.

Renewals for 2018 have been sent to all members by email, 85 members have renewed.

Currently 23 members have still to renew but 3 of these have indicated they are resigning.

4.3 Merchandise: Stewart Grainger – absent but provided the following report.

Drinks at Bunnings BBQ \$64
Jan Donations \$ 26
Feb Donations \$ 17.65 Sales \$78
March Donations \$ 2 Sales \$40
Total \$ 227.65
Ann Tate donations \$61.60

Total Cash to bank including all donations is \$289.25

The treasurer has requested, "Tea Money" jar float and report for next meeting (action to Frank)

4.3.1 Red light torches are now on sale for \$10.

4.3.2 President requested we all push the sale of merchandise to members and also wear our t-shirts and other items to meetings

4.4 General Business

4.4.1 This month's forum is April 16, ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2018, guest presenter is unavailable. Tony will be showing pictures from our previous members tours or similar.

4.4.2 Next month's forum Mon May 21st is speaker Lee Spitler, Senior Lecture at Macquarie University and the Australian Astronomical Observatory in Sydney.

4.4.3 Macastro brochure is being finalised by Tony and Allen.

4.5 The Forest

Next: 13/14/15 April

Next: 18/19/20 May (note this coincides with the Parkes member's trip)

4.5 Stargard

Next: 21st April

Next : 12th May

4.7 Public Outreach

4.7.1 Earth Hour 6pm- 9.30pm Sat 24th Campbelltown Arts centre. Thanks to Mike Nicholas, Roger Powell, Greg Bradford, Dave Manning, John Rombi

4.7.2 Glenfield Scouts, Mon 9th April- Thanks to Henry, Dave, Mike and Tony for

4.7.3 MDSI: Sustainable living & Natural Environment day. 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. To be held at the Garden Of Light in Macarthur Heights

4.7.4 MDSI (Caitlin facilitator from Manganaro Macarthur Heights Community Development unit - Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative) is running a joint DOMES events on **Sat 28April, Sat 26 May, Sat 21 July and Sat 15 Sept 2018**. July 21 will be called "Mars Night" update. A port-a-loo and sausage sizzle will be run each night

4.7.5 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 April 1 deadline for printing. Camera House to be approached to see if they can print. Border to be simpler than previous photos. Members are to submit photographs ASAP. Carol has offered to get another quote as well.

4.7.6 **Saturday, 05 May** - illuminARTe Wollondilly, at Picton. Was agreed to (we attended last year) details to follow

4.7.7 Cobbitty Scout Hall: Joey Scouts Mob (via Kerry Wallace) requested for astronomy night. Approved for **Mon 25th June**. Approved. Help needed. 2 or 3 people required

4.7.8 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. Theme "Accent on Achievement". 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.

4.7.9 The 16 July 2018 Macarthur Astronomy Forum "Special Event" Amy Shira Teitel – more info to be announced. Tony to update

4.7.9 Mon 23 to Sat 28 July, "One Giant Leap" function will be held at WSU. More to follow. Tony to update

4.7.10 National Science week 2018 (11-19 August) – Monday 20 August, our normal monthly Forum with Ed Kruzins.

4.11.11 Broughton Anglican College 8 members have expressed an interest in mentoring students- meeting at the school on Wednesday 11 April - liaison Mike Nicholas. Mike is coordinating and tabled several outlines of the process at the April committee meeting for distribution to those involved as mentors. Carol has offered to Mentor the Mentors. Students will present their final reports during STEM week on the Aug 14th.

4.8 Members' Trips

4.8.1 Parkes visit - Dave Manning is organiser. Date set for 18,19,20 May. 19 people going in. Car pooling in own cars.

4.8.2 Murchison Radio Astronomy Observatory WA - 5th to 6th October 2018 – Possible visit depending on numbers. See Macastro web page for more info.

4.8.3 China 11th May to 23rd May 2019, 12 nights, 13 days: Approx Cost \$3500 inc airfare Draft itinerary has been determined. Tony Law is organising. Roberto Soria is our in-house contact at the Chinese observatories. China Odyssey tours are possible tour leaders, Breakfast and lunches are included. 18 people have registered their interest.

4.8.4 JPL July 2021 Estimate \$4000 needs to be increased. 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 – Letter from Premier Gladys Berejiklian advised that our application (via Chris Patterson MP) for a grant has been refused. No response applications to Jai Rowell MP,

Angus Taylor MP or Camden Council. A new application has been submitted to Macarthur Science Hub
Discussions to be held with Mt Annan Science Hub, Christian Ekardt - Tony

4.10 Website, Facebook

We have a link and countdown clock to the Total Solar Eclipse event on 22nd July 2028, Sydney on our Macastro website.

4.11 Publicity – Barry Moore

4.11.1 Publicity for the next forum (Apr 16th) has been sent to Advertiser and Chronicle “what’s on” pages.

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 was has been checked each week – notice to close the PO Box received 9/4/2018 – bill still to be paid.

4.12 Correspondence received.

Letter from Premier Gladys Berejiklian

4.13 Succession planning

Nominations for committee positions are as follows:-

President (Tony Law, by Richard Curley, sec Barry Moore)

VP (Stewart Grainger nomination Withdrawn 9/4/2018, due to illness),

Secretary (Barry Moore by Tony Law, sec Carol McVeigh),

Treasurer (Andy Milton by Tony Law, sec Richard Curley),

Membership Officer (Henry Swierk by Carol McVeigh, sec Richard Curley),

Committee position1 (John Rombi by Barry Moore, sec Stewart Grainger,

Committee position2 (Ray Armstrong by Tony Law, sec Barry Moore)

Carol McVeigh and Richard Curley will be stepping down at the 2018 AGM.

Tony Law has indicated that he will step down at the 2019 AGM.

Barry Moore is indicating that he will step down at the 2019 AGM.

5. NEW BUSINESS - nil

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING: Mon 30th April 2018 at Andy’s place, 55 Wyangla Cres, Leumeah

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 10.55pm

Minutes Taken By Barry Moore 4 April 2018

Written by Secretary Barry Moore on 9/4/2018