



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

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

Held at 33 Hickson Circuit, Harrington Park. (host Tony Law)

Monday Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2018 at 7.30pm

Committee Attending: Tony Law (President), Barry Moore (Secretary), Andy Milton (Treasurer) Henry Swierk (Membership Officer), John Rombi (Committee member1), Greg Bradford (Committee Member2)

Members Attending to assist committee: Apologies: Brendon Waterhouse (Merchandising officer), Ray Armstrong (Vice President), Mike Nicholas (Schools Liaison),

**1. OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES:** meeting opened at 7.33pm

**2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES for May committee meeting held 4/6/2018** Proposed by Barry Moore seconded by Greg Bradford

**3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

none

**4. REGULAR BUSINESS**

**4.1 Treasurer's Report:** Andy Milton

Approximately \$8,000 in bank accounts and cash in hand.  
\$21,000 in term deposit, total \$ 29,000

Liabilities

Request for invoice for \$3000 to Australian Botanic Gardens. There will be a further \$2000 invoice to be raised for Camden Council grant.

Hotel/Dinner/Lunch expenses for our overseas visitors will be accepted

**4.2 Membership:** Henry Swierk

New Members: 2 new members in total, who are: David Kind and Peter Thomson

Membership at the end of June: 130 members in total including 6 Hon. 3 Assoc.

Henry is following up getting new 10 year badges. A Quote of \$242.10 for 25 badges was obtained. *Update.*

Henry requested reimbursement of postage approx \$65. *Update.*

### **4.3 Merchandise:** (reported from Brendon Waterhouse via email)

#### Forum

- Donations \$20.60
- Sales of merchandise \$580 (\$20 to petty cash)
- Orders
  - o XL Jacket \*3
  - o L Jacket \*1
  - o Women's size 16 Jacket \*1
  - o Beanie \*4 (changed to 8)
  - o XL Polo shirt \*1
  - o 3XL Polo shirt \*1
- Stock request
  - o Pens are running low, approx. 250 left \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5 )
  - o Speaker gifts have depleted our caps (Order 6)
  - o torch's 10 have arrived

Barry to get 10 table lamps from Kmart at Minto \$2 each

Bags for gifts – Tony to look into.

#### Narellan library

- Donations \$35
- Sales of merchandise (scopes) \$80
- (both to petty cash)

#### Notes

- Petty cash balance \$231
- \$580.60 to be handed to Andy at next forum.
- I hope to have the merchandise/donations spreadsheet useable within the next few weeks.

**4.3.1** Request to stock Lisa Harvey-Smith's book for sale was approved by committee (16 already ordered. John to order 20 books)

**4.3.2** There was discussion about Beanies, long sleeved shirts and Jackets. The quantities are under review by Tony and members will be asked if interested to purchase. Committee members asked to wear their MAS items at all events. A shop mannequin is required to show off items. *On going*

**4.3.3** Red light torches are now on sale for \$10. There are 2 left, Tony is to purchase 10 more and will look into more red headlights as well.

### **4.4 Speakers**

**4.4.1** This month's forum is Mon July 16th Amy Shira Teitel (Vintage Space) and Geoff Notkin "The Meteorite Man". Register via Facebook and Eventbrite, cost is \$10 to members. Held at Australian Botanic Gardens.

**4.4.2** Next month's forum 20/8 Dr Ed Kruzins (NASA)

**4.4.3** Full list of future presenters is listed below

17/9 Lucyna Chudczer

15/10 Prof Geraint Lewis (USYD)

19/11 Prof Fred Watson AM (AAO)

10/12 Broughton Anglican College (mentored students) and Prairiewood high school students

Jan 2019 Ric Foster

Feb 2019 Lisa Harvey Smith

#### **4.5 General Business**

- 4.5.1** Possible telescope viewing area at Katoomba Airfield as a dark site. New email from Alexander Massey to committee addresses many advantages of the site and any disadvantages. Members are encouraged to visit. Katoomba (Medlow Bath) is an additional 20min and the location has definite potential. Visit at a date to be decided but all committee members are very busy.
- 4.5.2** Policy document for Telescope loan procedure. The loan agreement has been circulated and agreed to be used. Greg is to get the loan scopes back and check them for repairs and upgrade.
- 4.5.3 Macarthur Astronomical Society Brochure** –Old brochure has been revamped. Item complete.

#### **4.6 Regular Viewing**

**4.6.1 Stargard** June 8 excellent viewing  
Next: 7 July

**4.6.2 The Forest** 15-16 June – Good nights viewing, light rain on the Friday  
Next: **13-14 July**

#### **4.7 Public Outreach**

**4.7.1 MDSI** (Caitlin Manganaro, facilitator from Macarthur Heights Community Development unit – Macarthur Diversity Services Initiative) is running a joint DOMES events on **Sat 21 July and Sat 15 Sept 2018**.

Next event on July 21 will be called “Mars Night”. Set up from 4.00 pm (publicity needed)

**4.7.2 Cobbitty Scout Hall:** Joey Scouts Mob (via Kerry Wallace) astronomy night. **Mon 25th June**. Went well with a \$60 donation received.

**4.7.3 pSTEM Expo** PSTEM (Primary Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) EXPO meeting was held **Tues June 26th 2018**. Poor attendance at the astronomy lecture with most teachers attending the indoor planetarium and coding workshops. A report will follow from Mike.

**4.7.4 “Space Rocks” Mon 16 July 2018** Macarthur Astronomy Forum “Special Event” Amy Shira Teitel – Geoff Notkin (The Meteorite Man). Space History and Planetary exploration are the topics. Venue is the Australian Botanical Gardens (ABG), Plant Bank is the venue. Both speakers have agreed to be joint presenters on the night. \$3000 has been granted from “Inspiring Australia” via ABG is setting a cover charge of \$10 for ABG and MACASTRO members. Non MAS members and public is \$15. Overnight accommodation for our guests will be at our expense. MACASTRO members will be subsidised approx 50% off the ticket price with the refund to be

given after the event at any forum meeting. Publicity has been provided on our website and Facebook site with links to register on Eventbrite. The registration link is reproduced below... <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/space-rocks-a-space-night-with-the-rock-stars-of-science-geoffrey-notkins-and-amy-shira-teitel-tickets-46246909752?aff=efbeventtix>

**4.7.5 Sat 28 July**, Joint viewing at Werrington with WSAG and viewing of the WSU telescope. Set up from 4.00pm. *Members are asked to support and attend*

**4.7.6 Sept** Date to be determined- 1<sup>st</sup> Camden Scout viewing night request by Kerrie Flynn. Will try to fit in towards end of September. *On Going*

**4.7.7 2018 (11-19 August) – Monday 20 August** National Science week, our normal monthly Forum with Ed Kruzins. *On going*

**4.7.8 Broughton Anglican College mentoring.** The mentoring students project is going well. Students will present their final reports during STEM week on the Aug 14<sup>th</sup>. Lots of work and high praise from the committee to Mike. Two Extra viewing sites have been identified to assist students with their observations. All going well. MAS to have a display at this function.

New events added since last committee meeting

**4.7.9** Bunnings Narellan community event on 25 Aug 10am till 2.00pm (table, solar telescopes required, flyers

## **4.8 Members' Trips**

**4.8.1 Murchison Radio Astronomy Observatory WA** - 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> October 2018 – Possible visit depending on numbers. See Macastro web page for more info. Accommodation would need to be in Geraldton but no further progress on this item. *TBA*

**4.8.2 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. Draft Itinerary passed on to Roberto for approval. Dates may shift + or – a few days. Extra day needed for sightseeing. *TBA*

**4.8.3 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*

**4.9 Fundraising** – Inspire Australia and Camden Council have given us grants.

**4.10 Website, Facebook** – all up to date

**4.11 Publicity – Secretary Barry Moore**

4.11.1 Publicity for the next forum July 16th has been sent to Advertiser and Chronicle and local radio stations “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 – cheques book and bank statement received

4.11.4 Macarthur Advertiser had an article about the successful stargazing event

#### 4.12 Correspondence received.

- a) Email from Alexander Massey regarding Katoomba Airfield - see item 4.5.1 and latest committee response.
- b) Email from Marc Noakes (see item 5 below)

#### 4.13 Succession planning – nothing to report

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS arising at the Meeting - Items sent to me be for inclusion in agenda.

- **A Message from Accent on Achievement** (from Marc Noakes):  
With just over a week to go we'd like to invite you to join the Google Primary STEM Hub Community. The community will help bring together teachers, parents and industry professionals from across Australia. To kick things off, we'd like to invite you as a P-STEM Expo participant to join the Google Primary STEM Hub Community (link below) and share your thoughts and photos from the Expo.

<https://plus.google.com/u/0/communities/111903703939857005833>

Looking forward to seeing you at the Expo and online in the Google Community.

Kind Regards Marc Noakes

*Committee response . We will delay comment until report from Mike on the STEM activity is received.*

- **Camden Council liaison meeting** (re Dudley Chesham oval) sent by Greg  
Most of the feedback was about safety concerns (traffic next to the canteen etc) and the state of the toilet facilities. It was interesting listening to groups complaining about how other group (not us) impinged on their operations. Greg submitted a questionnaires. A Booking officer is to be approached in order to update a public calendar visible on the web.

#### 6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm Mon 6<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018, Henry's place Unit 1 , 30 Kings Road Ingleburn.

#### 7. CLOSE OF MEETING 9.25 pm

Minutes Taken By Barry Moore 2 July2018

Written by Secretary Barry Moore on 2/7/2018, Edited by Barry 19/7/18

Approved by Tony Law Date 6/8/2018