



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Wivenhoe Village Club House, Hollyhock Drive, Cobbitty
Monday Mon 1st Apr 2019 at 7.30pm

Committee Attending: Tony Law (President), Ray Armstrong (Vice President), Barry Moore (Secretary), Andy Milton (Treasurer), Henry Swierk (Membership Officer), Greg Bradford (Committee Member2), Mike Nicholas (Schools Liaison), John Rombi (Committee member1), Brendon Waterhouse (Merchandising), Alan Hobbs, Mark Brackenbury, Phil Kidd

Apologies: Noel Sharp (Liaison Member to Wollondilly Council)

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

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES for March committee meeting held 4/03/2019 Proposed by Barry Moore seconded by Andy Milton Passed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

None

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Andy Milton

Macastro Financial Report for March 2019. The Society Cash Book Balance as at 29 March was \$12155.07. There are three outstanding cheques to be presented totalling \$217.20.

During the month a Bunning's Fund Raising event at Narellan raised \$1220.26. Quote for \$216.50 will be needed to pay for membership recognition plaques etc to be presented at the AGM.

The No 2 Account balance of \$1669.52 represents member's payments for the planned China trip.

The Paypal balance is \$578.95. Details of this amount are included in the attached report.

A copy of the audited Macastro Financial Statements for the year, together with the Treasurer's Report has been separately provided. These are not for distribution to other members until formally published by the Society.

Report proposed by Andy Milton, seconded by Tony Law

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

New Members - Jean Haavasalu

New members - 1 in total.

Membership at the end of February: 154 members in total including 6 Hon. 3 Assoc.

2 existing members have moved and will not be renewing

103 members have renewed so far for 2019-20, Annual dues email has been sent.

New membership cards are white and are being issued.

AGM awards 20 Yrs Trophy X 5, 10 Yrs Badges X 3, 5 years Certificate X 10. Names to be published in AGM report.

Awards and recognition is to be discussed at the next committee meeting with regard to properly

Moved by Henry Swierk Seconded by John Rombi

4.3 Merchandise: (reported by Brendon Waterhouse via email)

Donations Feb Forum \$49.65

Feb Sales \$78.50

Total Monetary transactions by Merchandising.

Initial Balance April 2018 \$ 96

Cash Allotted from Sales Donations \$19

Cash awaiting Allotment \$80.65

Total Cash Held by Merchandiser \$195.65

Total cash till (COH) \$115.00

All stock has been ordered

Report moved by Tony Law, seconded by Greg Bradford.

4.4 Speakers

This month's forum 15th Apr 2019 AGM – Guest speaker Prof Tara Murphy (UNSYD) - “Breakthrough! The detection of gravitational waves from a neutron star merger”

Next month: 20th May 2019 Dr Emil Lenc (ASKAP)

Full list of future presenters is listed below

17th Jun 2019 Les Dalrymple

15th Jul 2019 Robert Brand Space Activist & Entrepreneur (Moon Landing and Space)

19th Aug 2019 Dr Lee Spitler (Mac Uni + AAO) Huntsman Array

16th Sep 2019 Marnie Ogg – "The effects of Light Pollution on Astronomy & the Environment"

21st Oct 2019 Prof. Geraint Lewis (USYD) Cosmology

18th Nov 2019 Dr Brad Tucker (ANU)

9th Dec 2019 Fifth Annual Students Night

Early 2020 Dr Jessie Christardson TES - NASA

4.5 General Business

4.5.1 mobile phone viewing adapters. Ten were purchased and shown at the meeting. Four have gone into each of the Loan Scope kits. Two to private member's purchase from me. Remainder to be sold to other members or put into loan equipment. I will present an invoice for the number actually used by MAS at the next meeting.

4.5.2 Camden library (Oran park) wishes to hold Stargazing event on Thurs July 11, 2019. Difficult to get approval but done now. More pictures will need to be printed for this event. Members are asked to please donate pictures. Council has offered to Print the photos See 4.7 below, *On Going*

4.5.3 The Dudley Chesham redevelopment nothing to report – on going

4.6 Regular Viewing

4.6.1 Stargard – 30 Mar windy, Mentors and Mentees did difficult observing. 31 Mar – viewing was good and cold.

Future dates. 27 Apr, 25 May, 22 June, 27 July, 24 Aug, 21 Sep, 19 Oct, 21 Nov, 21 Dec.

4.6.2 The Forest – 8/9/10 March – poor weather forecast, did not run

Future dates. 5/6/7 April, 3/4/5 May, 31 May + 1/2 June, 28/29/30 June, 2/3/4 Aug, 30/31 Aug + 1 Sep, 27/28/29 Sep, 25/26/27 Oct, 29/30 Nov + 1 Dec, 27/28/29 Dec.

4.7 Public Outreach – current dates that are set for 2019. See website Calendar for confirmation close to date.

15th March Fri - Picnic under the Stars ABG (Australian Botanic Gardens) - \$1000 donation for 3 agreed events – CANCELLED due to poor weather
30th March Sat - Earth hour event - 7 people attended. Windy but stars and Orion nebula visible
13th April Sat – Public Stargazing #1 at the Domes and IAU event
10th May Fri - Stars over the gardens ABG (Australian Botanic Gardens)
18th May Sat - Picton IlluminARTE
15th June Execture winnneary
8th July Sat - Public Stargazing #2 at the Domes
11th July Thurs - Camden Library Stargazing
13th July Sat – Campbelltown Library Stargazing
20th July Sat – Casula Power House Stargazing ad photo exhibit
21st July Sun Apollo 11 50 years Anniversary WSU
9-10th Aug Fri, Sat, Sun The Forest, Belanglo International House (Students night)
13th Aug Tues Broughton Science Fair (1-5pm)
XX August TBA Picnic under the Stars ABG (Australian Botanic Gardens)
7th Sept Sat - Public Stargazing #3 at the Domes
5th Oct Sat - Public Stargazing #4 at the Domes

4.7.1 Sun July 21 Afternoon 12:56pm, 50 years anniversary of the moon landing

Sunday 21 July 2019 “THE DISH” moon landing viewing event

One Giant Leap has 7 NASA/JPL specialists available for workshops -- Western Sydney Uni lecture theatre and/or lecture rooms (344 large lecture capacity – 199 smaller lecture theatre) 543 max at \$15 average – venue approved. Barry will act as Catering person as to follow up with contacts (coffee van, lunch trucks, Sausage sizzle BBQ) on going

Sound and vision has been checked – worst case laptop will play into PA system adequately. (Peter Godwin has been approached).

Expenses \$9000 submission to council excluding food provision. Might get \$4500 from ticket sales.

Catering may need a clean area to be due to running generators

Cost for video showing the Dish is \$1 per person, i.e. \$500.

Mike is to look into using Eventbrite or Trybooking booking for ticketing. Trybooking is slightly cheaper.

Campbelltown Library will assist with posters printing and image printing

Campbelltown Library also wants to runs a public observing night at their library – booked for Sat 13 July

Casula Power House night event 20/7/2019 (photo exhibition and a public viewing). A group 5 people will be needed to go to Casula to allow the main organisers to set up for the “the big event” at the UWS the next day.

Camera house has offered to donate TASCOS telescopes for raffle prizes. Also goody bags with One Giant Leap

Tony's email 5/3/19 with summary decisions

After long committee meeting last night, we now have a lot more work to do to bring this event to fruition.

*Decision 1: The Event will be called “**Apollo 11 to STEM and The Next Giant Leap**”, blending our Celebration of the Moon Landing with our STEM Outreach and with NASA’s official “Next Giant Leap”. Also tying in the name of our co-conspirators One Giant Leap Australia!*

Decision 2: We will outsource catering, visitors pay on the day (of course we will look after our overseas guests)

Decision 3: We will need access to the Lecture Theatres on Saturday afternoon to arrange setup. We will have to ensure we have 5 or 6 scopes and a speaker at the Casula Powerhouse event.

Decision 4: Tickets through TryBooking (Mike Nicholas to advise) \$20.00 Adults and \$10.00 for children.

Decision 5: Funding, we are chasing up grants and sponsorships through the local councils and our bankers, plus we will have a small income from our events at the ABG and our Sausage sizzle income! Look for sponsorship from other entities, Tasco, Camera House, Bintel etc.

Decision 6: Need to check with OGLA if we can video the talks

Decision 6: TL to speak to Peter Godwin regarding sound/video set up together with WSU technician. Call upon members for assistance on the day.

Decision 7: We wait for licensing details/costs for The Dish and permission from NASA to use their logos (Greg Bradford)

TL will also speak to WSU regarding the event – we need to get the program to them within the next 4-6 weeks. There will be a further committee meeting in a couple of weeks.

Cheers

Tony

4.8 Members' Trips

4.8.1 China 15 May to 29 May 2019, All moneys have been paid to the tour company. Visa yet to be obtained and vaccinations where necessary *On going*.

4.8.2 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

4.9.1 Greg has send details to the cash for bottles and cans recycling charities donation. Awaiting approval

4.9.2 Bunnings BBQ date 2 March. Approx \$1200 after expenses. More dates are available if we have members to help.

4.9.3 Cutaway Winnery (Sally's corner road, Exeter) – "Pie in the Sky Night" ticketing event in conjunction with MAS. 15 June 2019 – sat full moon evening. See email from Ray Armstrong

4.9.4 Letter to Commbank – in progress

4.10 Website, Facebook – issues with email due to upgrade to software

Facebook has 900 people joined our page to date.

4.11 Publicity and Secretary report Barry Moore

4.11.1 Publicity for the next forum Apr 15 been sent to Advertiser and Chronicle

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

4.11.3 Mail box has been checked each week –bank statement received and new cheque book. I paid the invoice for letter box (12 months usage).

4.11.4 Attendance – March Forum

as per sign-on book: 44 members, 5 Non-members; total 49.

4.12 Correspondence

received. – Nothing of significance (except usual Bank statement and advertisements) received directly to secretary.

sent – nil

4.13 Succession planning – Tony has distributed nominations forms to committee members. We have nominations for all positions. *On Going.*

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Donations Box.

Motion: That our Donations Box be turned in to a collection box for the Asbestos Diseases Society in honour of Davy Jones at our AGM. Moved Tony Law, Seconded Barry Moore. Passed

Motion: That Macastro Society will send a donation of \$150 to this charity as well. Moved John Rombi, Seconded Tony Law, Passed.

5.2 Macarthur Anglican College Outreach

We have a request for some limited assistance. Mike will discuss this item. Help required to show students in year 10 the stars one night this year.

5.3 1st annual Steampunk TESLA fest Sat27th to Sun 28th July

A verbal enquiry to find out if Macarthur Astronomical Society members would like to attend and possibly camp overnight with telescopes and show the stars to others at the event. Held at Australiana Village in Wilberforce. Barry will talk to this. Possible member's trip in daylight also. Very busy month – not possible as it coincides with StarGard night.

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm Mon May 6th 2019 at Andy 55 Wyangala St Leumeah.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 9.38 pm 1/4/19

Written by Secretary, Barry Moore on 1/4/19

Approved by _____ Date _____