



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Durham Green Retirement Village, 153 Menangle Road, Menangle.

Monday 3rd June 2019 at 7.30pm

Committee Attending: Allan Hobbs(President), John Rombi (Vice President), Barry Moore (Secretary), Andy Milton (Treasurer), Henry Swierk (Membership Officer), Greg Bradford (Committee Member), Phil Kidd (Committee member)

Apologies: Brendon Waterhouse (Merchandising)

1. OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: meeting opened at 7.32pm

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES for May committee meeting held 6/05/2019 Proposed by Barry Moore seconded by Henry, Passed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

None

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Andy Milton

Macastro Financial Report for May 2019. The Society Bank Account balance as at 31 May was \$12570.96

The No 2 Account balance of \$3.64 represents member's payments for the planned China trip.

The Paypal balance is \$881

Investment Account \$21000

No outstanding cheques. Andy will raise an invoice to Campbelltown Council for \$300 for volunteer services received.

Report proposed by Andy Milton, seconded by Allan. Passed

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

New Members - None (Note: Michael Raymond has paid as a potential new member)

New members - none in total.

Membership at the end of May: 133 members in total including 6 Hon. 3 Assoc.

A potential new badge for 20 year membership as a graphic was circulated to the committee. 13 Crystal trophies have already been issued to 20 years of continuous membership. The committee has decided to not continue with crystal trophies but move to the 20 years badges only. The "20 yrs" letters will be in Gold metal and background dark blue ideally. Existing 20 years members will get badges as well. Henry to get 30-40 depending on costs.

Moved by Henry Swierk Seconded by Barry

4.3 Merchandise: (reported by email from Brendon Waterhouse)

Total Monetary transactions by Merchandising.

Initial Cash Balance April 2018	\$96.00
Cash Allotted from Sales or Donations	\$27.90
Cash awaiting Allotment	\$0.00
Total Cash Held by Merchandiser	\$123.90
Total cash till (COH)	\$123.90

The Committee would like an explanation of the forward estimates for donations and gifts and how the amounts are derived as it is not clear to them.

The Treasurer is writing a cheque for payment of \$52.80 for gift boxes. (10 boxes have been used through Tony Law for gifts in China)

Report moved by Allan, seconded by Andy, passed

4.4 Speakers

This month's forum 17th Jun 2019 Les Dalrymple Topic: Celestial 88, A brief history of the constellations

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

Full list of future presenters is listed below

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
May 2020	Dr Luke Barnes (proposed)

4.5 General Business

4.5.1 The Dudley Chesham redevelopment - on going

4.5.2 Michael Gribbin has offered his acreage at Oakdale for observing at members discretion. You can contact him on michael@globalmeats.com.au ph 0458596186 or 02 46596186. The committee believes as a fully paid up member of the club and provided you announce that you are going on an adhoc basic to visit (email secretary with details) you are covered by our public liability insurance however this will need to be checked. Micheal has the right to refuse access at any time and at short notice which must be obeyed. He will set all rules that must be followed.

Action - Check insurance and advise - Barry

4.5.3 "What we do" or "About Us" - Allan Hobbs - pamphlets

Pamphlets attachments were emailed to think about. Are they up to date or can we add more to enable us to sell Macastro to prospective backers or sponsors? Remember we need something that we can use to sell ourselves to the corporate area. When we are selling ourselves to the general public we need a different approach. Committee made some suggestions to the tabled documents and Allan will rework the documents for next meeting.

4.5.4 Camden library (Oran park) Stargazing event on Thurs July 11, 2019. Tony to take care of prints. See 4.7 below, on Going

4.6 Regular Viewing

4.6.1 Stargard – 25 May did not run

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

4.6.2 **The Forest** –31 May + 1/2 June – smoky due to burning off poor viewing.

Future dates. 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 dat

8th June Sat - Public Stargazing #2 at the Domes – urgent call for members to help. Has been announced in the local papers.

15th June Sat - Exeter winery pie in the Sky – Ray Armstrong is organiser. (John R., Dave Manning, Barry, Greg B. and Ray A.).

Pie in the Sky - Volunteers required with scopes for a public night.

Scopes to be setup by 4pm. Extra Tickets \$30 per person Saturday 15 June 5:30 to 9:30

<https://www.cutawayhill.com.au/News.php>

Location 212 Sallys Corner Road, Exeter. It will be cold so bring extra warm clothing.

11th July Thurs - Camden Library Stargazing

13th July Sat – Campbelltown Library Stargazing (see 4.7.2 below)

20th July Sat – Casula Power House Stargazing and photo exhibit (see item below 4.7.3)

21st July Sun Apollo 11 50 years Anniversary WSU (see item below 4.7.1)

9-10th Aug Fri, Sat, Sun The Forest, Belanglo International House (Students night)

13th Aug Tues Broughton Science Fair (1-5pm)

17th August Picnic under the Stars ABG (Australian Botanic Gardens) outreach (partnership with ABG)

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, Apollo 11 to STEM and the Next Giant Leap

Action points:

1. Tony Law to provide a spreadsheet of all donations, prizes and activities promised by vendors and sponsors.
2. Greg supplied a flyer that was approved for immediate use to promote the event. If logos are missing they will be added to subsequent print runs as time is running out. He will take pdf to a print shop to print 200 flyers and charge to Macastro.
3. Greg to start a volunteers list for helpers (Ushers, setup people, registration desk, general helpers, judge).
4. Trivia night wed 17th July (Campbelltown library) – 3 or 4 support people

Apollo 11 to STEM and the Next Giant Leap

Date: 21 July 2019

Venue: Western Sydney University, Campbelltown, Building 30

Two lecture theatres, holding 344 and 191 persons

08:30 Registration

09:00 Welcome and Introduction of our Seven Guests (MAS & OGLA –One Giant Leap Aust.)

Tom Nolan – Earth Scientist, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory https://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/k-4/home/F_Tom_Nolan_Adventure_K_4.html

Deb Brice – Marine Science Educator, San Marcos Unified School District http://footsteps.ucsd.edu/debbies_pg.htm

Shannon McConnell - Solar System Outreach Specialist, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory
<https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?feature=4047>

Rachel Zimmerman Brachman - Senior Outreach Specialist, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Ben Brachman - High School Student, La Canada High School

Christine Fuller - Mechanical Engineer, former NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Dr. Mike Malaska - Astrobiologist, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

09:15 “Moon or Mars” panel discussion, Q & A with all of our guests

10:45 Coffee/tea break

11:15 The Dish (exact time to be calculated – 1hour 41 minutes running time)

13:00 Break for Lunch

14:00, 15:00, 16:00 – Twin streams of Lectures with our Guests from NASA/JPL

17:00 Finish

Link to trybooking event is <https://www.trybooking.com/book/event?eid=493240&>

Newer and preferred Link to trybooking event is <https://www.trybooking.com/BCBQU>

Western Sydney Uni lecture theatre and/or lecture rooms (344 large lecture capacity – 191 smaller lecture theatre) 535 max at \$20 average – venue has been approved.

Barry will act as Catering person as to follow up with contacts (coffee van, lunch trucks, Sausage sizzle BBQ) awaiting further feedback from catering vans – initial contacts are promising. Initial contacts have been made – some hesitation as the tea and lunch break means they will be idle for the majority of the day – only 1hr 30min available for sale of food items. If we fail to secure a catering van other options are needed. Likewise we might have to hire a couple of Urns (from Camden hire or similar) and put on self help coffee and tea facilities. Sonya Moulang runs a coffee shop in Queen street has given me a menu and can deliver a suggested a cold plate lunch for the guests. I need exact numbers though. Alternative is to order Pizza’s for Lunch.- on going discussions.

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

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 – has anyone definitely been given permission for an outside caterer to set up on campus.

Cost for video showing the Dish is \$1 per person, i.e. \$550.

Camera house will have discount vouchers. They will have a table with telescopes, NIKON camera and Binoculars. They may have sample bags with along with One Giant Leap Australia (OGLA).

4.7.2 Campbelltown Library public observing night at their library – booked for Sat 13 July. Assistance required. Campbelltown Library will assist with posters printing and image printing
Trivia Night Wed 17th July – 3 or 4 MACASTRO members for assistance.
URGENTLY ... members need to submit their latest photos for image printing

4.7.3 Casula Power House night event 20/7/2019 (photo exhibition and a public viewing – 4.00pm to 9.00pm). URGENTLY... A group of 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. John and Allan have been videoed. Barry has made contact to provide some items for viewing and a video reminiscing about the event. Dave Manning and Chris Malikoff will be providing images to the power house. (Jenny). On going.

4.7.4 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. on going

4.7.5 Wooglemai star gazing night.

A request for a visit on a Saturday evening when possible later in the year (Oct- Nov – Dec) similar to the last two visits was made to Barry. Members can camp overnight or stay in the bunk house accommodation. BBQ meal provided.

Note in previous visits (2 off) Wooglemai gave us a \$200 donation. Their property is 15-20 min beyond Dudley Chesham on 45 Sheehys creek road off Barkers Lodge road, Oakdale. <https://wooglemaieec.com.au/>

Hi Barry, Further to our discussion about an astronomy night.

I've attached a Guntawang calendar showing the dates for the working bees on the assumption that we could hold the event on the Saturday night of a working bee. I haven't considered a Friday night although I guess that may be possible if that were suitable to Macastro people. Also apart from working bees, Wooglemai weekends are fully booked from now until after the first weekend of August.

So if we just consider working bee weekends that leaves us with the following dates all of which are Saturdays,

May 25th, June 22nd, July 27th, August 24th and Sept 21st. I haven't considered October at this stage as Daylight Saving means sunset will not be until 8:45pm.

Do you think any of these dates would be suitable for Macastro? I would be keen to get something organised as I have had a few requests from young people (including a few non-Guntawang people) for another astronomy evening.

Not sure if you're in China at the moment. If so enjoy and will talk when you return.

*Regards, Paul Wilcock, Secretary, Guntawang Youth Centres Inc.
Reg. No. Y10264-07 ABN 56 382 262 923 E: secretary@guntawang.org.au*

Barry's Note Other dates are Oct 26, Nov 30 as per their calendar

Committee's decision is that we cannot do anything this year. Barry is to pick a night for next year due our overloaded public outreach and school outreach activities.

4.8 Members' Trips

4.8.1 **China 15 May to 29 May 2019**, completed – 16 went – no accidents all enjoyed the trip.
Action point: Tony to provide a short report for newsletter to Allan.

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. Three month time slot approved. Months and locations to be advised. *On going.*

4.9.2 Cutaway winery (see 4.7, 15th June item above for details)

4.9.3 Letter (email) from Commbank Ingleburn.

Hi Allan

It was exciting to call you to let you know that your organisation Macarthur Astronomical Society has been selected by our team here at Commonwealth Bank, Ingleburn to receive a Community donation of \$500.00.

In nominating your organisation, our team felt that you deserved this grant because of the work you do encouraging children in our local community, mentoring students in various aspects of astronomy. We are happy to provide you with this grant as a thank you for everything you and your organisation do for our community.

To finalise the process I would like to invite you into the branch on Thursday 4th July, 2019 at 9:00am to present you with the funds. If appropriate, it would be great to be able to take a photo with your colleagues for us to share with our wider team and possibly the local newspaper.

Once again, thank you for the wonderful work you do in our community. If you need any further assistance, please don't hesitate to contact me on the below number.

Regards Cathy Commonwealth Bank Ingleburn

Allan, John and Tony will be attending the morning tea on 4th July, to pick up the cheque.

4.10 Website, Facebook

Facebook issue with a member wanting to talk about UFO's. Matter has been dealt with. Roger, John, Tony and Chris are moderators.

Action point. Allan to talk to Roger re assistance with website

4.11 Publicity and Secretary report by Barry Moore

4.11.1 Publicity for the next forum June 17 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 was has been checked each week

4.11.4 Attendance - May Forum

as per sign-on book: 25 members, 3 Non-members; total 28

4.12 Correspondence

Received. - email message - wooglemai re outreach visit (see 4.7.5 above)
-Commbank email re donation (see 4.9.3 above)

Sent. none

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 David Jones (deceased member). Suggestion made that an award be created in his honour. Postponed till after July big event (update) – the secretary raised the matter that a criteria set to guide how the award is given (what for and how judges it) each year needs to be written.

5.2 Observatory in Dharawal Mathew Richardson from North cliff colliery meeting was postponed. (update)

5.3 Andy Milton requires a leave of absence for approximately 4 months from next month due to knee operation. Secretary will keep the accounts in his absence.

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm Mon July 1st 2019 at Allan Hobbs, Durham Green Retirement Village, 153 Menangle Road, Menangle.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 9.55 pm 3/6/2019

Typed by Secretary, Barry Moore on 3/6/19, edited 5/6/2019, 30/6/2019, 1/7/2019

Approved by Allan Hobbs Date 1/7/2019