



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Durham Green Retirement Village, 153 Menangle Road, Menangle.
Monday 1st July 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), , Mike Nicholas.

Apologies: Brendon Waterhouse (Merchandising), Phil Kidd (Committee member)

1. OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: meeting opened at 7:38

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES for June committee meeting held 3/6/2019 Proposed by Barry Moore seconded by Allan, Passed.

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

none

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Andy Milton

Attached please find Macastro Financial report for June 2019.

The Society Bank Account balance as at 30 June was \$13307.64.

The Society Investment Account \$21000

There are no outstanding cheques to be presented.

There are a number of outstanding payments to be made:

Road Show for public performance licence \$550.00 (now paid 1/7/2019)

Tony Law - net amount due for Forest usage in April May and June \$310.00 (gross \$620.00 less collected \$310.00)

John Rombi - speaker's dinner costs \$21.16

There a number of receipts due to Macastro:

Invoice to Campbelltown City council for Earth Hour \$300.00

Invoice to Campbelltown City Council for July 21 event \$1840.00 (net of contra payment for picture lamination - \$160) - purchase order number is required to raise invoice (Howard or Kelly at Campbelltown Council)

Amount due from Exeter Winery re Assistance provided at Pie in the Sky - is invoice required and for what ? (refer Ray Armstrong approx \$600)

Amount due from Tulich family Communities re Sponsorship of July 21 event \$1000.00 - is invoice required? (refer Allan Hobbs)

Donation to be received via St George Bank \$40.00 yet to clear into Society bank Account

Commonwealth Bank Employees donation \$500 (to be picked up 4 July by Allan, John and Greg).

There may be amounts due from the Australian Botanic Gardens - not to be billed till after 1 July (refer Tony Law)

The Number 2 Account (China) has a residual amount of \$3.64 representing sundry interest payments

The Paypal account has been cleared into the Society Bank Account and now stands at \$0.00. On 27 June an amount of \$895.34 was transferred. However paypal are threatening to close account unless it has a positive balance. (Treasurer to watch for this and place a float amount in account to keep it open if needed).

My left knee is scheduled to be operated on 17 July. I will be away from my Macastro Treasurer duties from 15 July for a period of say two months. During the period of my absence Barry Moore will act as Treasurer and be responsible for financial matters relating to Macastro.

Report proposed by Andy Milton, seconded by John, Passed

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

New Members - Ramon Erasmo

New members - 1 in total.

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

New 20 year badge. Henry tabled artwork for discussion. Quote for 35 badges is \$286. Cost is good but colour needs to be a lighter Blue.

Action: Henry to follow up with supplier and place order.

Moved by Henry Swierk Seconded by Barry, Passed

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 into COH	\$27.90	
(Total cash till - Cash On Hand - (COH)		\$123.90)
Cash awaiting Allotment	\$56.90	
Total Cash Held by Merchandiser	\$180.80	

1 - Response previous minutes question :

“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?”

- No forward estimates are provided - zero values that are seen are for any future data.
- Values shown are for current positions - including the \$0 for unknown data (before my time as merchandiser).
- Please note, since MAS has it's reporting year Mar-Feb, this is how the data is put forward. The years shown are for the reporting year end - i.e. last year 2018-2019 is shown as 2019, with this current year being 2020.

Response - all understood, thanks

2 - The 21st July Event

- Please be informed, I am unable to attend. Such that, if the merchandise is to be there another MAS member/s may be required. However, with the event being so busy and a lot going on, a full presence of merchandise may be not best suited. It is the committees decision.

ans Committee will sell limited items to be determined at the registration desk (pens and hats maybe?) once registration and closed over the sales will finish.

- Guest gifts from merchandise for the event - what is to be given?

ans Pen Set inc box (7 needed) and a bottle of wine each). Does stock need to be purchased? **(ans Allan will buy wine.**

Report moved by Allan, seconded by Andy passed

4.4 Forum Speakers

This month: 15th Jul 2019

Robert Brand Space Activist & Entrepreneur (Moon Landing and Space)

Next Month 19th Aug 2019

Dr Lee Spitler (Mac Uni + AAO) Huntsman Array

Full list of future presenters is listed below

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 Christiansen TES - NASA
18 May 2020	Dr Luke Barnes

4.5 General Business

4.5.1 The Dudley Chesham redevelopment - a space for MAS "club room and storage" has been allocated on draft plans for the new sports complex - however nothing is definite - on going

4.5.2 (*secretary's comment - This should be announced at Forum meeting or in next newsletter.*)

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 basis 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 - still to be done. Does Public Liability extend to Members at all, Further question if a member injured themselves on an outreach night are they covered for anything?. Maybe we are covered for **Public** injuries but **not** ourselves as members.

Action: Allan to send out copy of insurance to all committee to read and interpret.

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

Pamphlets attachments were emailed to committee to think about. Committee made some suggestions to the tabled documents and Allan will rework the documents for next meeting (still On going).

Discussion (main points only) Allan voiced his opinion that we need to sell ourselves to the corporate world to gain sponsorship. Andy asked the "the question "what are we here for - what is our purpose when we serve the members. Barry suggested he joined simply to go out and observe the star's in a friendly club but lately the club has been way too busy on outreach and mentorship and it is wearing everybody out. Andy replied that we should provide an avenue for support to groups interested in astronomy (local schools, scout and similar) and this is all we can and should offer. Allan replied but we need a big corporate sponsor to fund us into the future (secretary vis a vis...to get our observatory?). - on going

4.5.4 Camden library (Oran park) Stargazing event on Thurs July 11, 2019. Tony to take care of prints. See 4.7 below. Prints are now placed in Camden Library

Action members urgently needed to help. Tony to send a broadcast email for help needed.

4.6 Regular Viewing

4.6.1 Stargard - 22 June - report not provided

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

4.6.2 **The Forest** -28/29/30 June - report not provided

Future dates., 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

General Discussion: It was thought that a trip coordinator has to be appointed for each of these events. The coordinator can then cancel and tell everyone involved if the event is called off. If it runs they can document and

record who went and provide a report – the recent cancellation of our last public outreach night caused financial stress to Caitlin of MDIS with her sausage sizzle at the domes.

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 to STEM and The Next Giant Leap (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.
Done
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. **Almost complete**
3. Greg to start a volunteers list for helpers (Ushers, setup people, registration desk, general helpers, judge).
To be done next Forum ???
4. Trivia night wed 17th July (Campbelltown library) – 3 or 4 support people – library advised registration are lower than expected – **Coordinator and names needed**
5. Draft Program (Greg is working on this)

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.)

Our Scientists:

Tom Nolan

Earth and Climate Scientist NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

From Earth-bound to a Space-faring People; ‘Out of this world’ talk reviews the strategies, and challenges, of freeing ourselves from the bondage of Earth’s gravity and exploring out into the unknown

Shannon McConnell

Deep Sky Network, Public Engagement Manager NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

From Mars to the Edge of the Solar System Space Communications: How do scientists and engineers control spacecraft billions of miles from Earth? NASA’s Deep Space Network is a global network of antennas supporting two-way radio communications with spacecraft from a multitude of different countries in our solar system.

Todd Barber

Senior Propulsion Engineer NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Propulsion History of JPL 1936-today: By mission, shows propulsion innovations which happened at JPL, walks through various missions.

Deb Brice

Marine Science Educator NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Science Exploration in Extreme Environments: At sea and in space, when you travel to a galaxy far, far away....what should you bring?

Rachel Zimmerman Brachman

Outreach Lead for Radioisotope Power Systems NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

NASA's Mars Program: How is NASA exploring Mars; what we expect to find; what we hope to learn and planning for the future

Christine Fuller

Robotics Mechanical Engineer,

Extreme Terrain Robotics At JPL; Meet JPL robots that climb in lava tubes, cling to glass in zero-gravity, and explore under the ice.

Dr. Michael Malaska

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Astrobiologist

Astrobiology and the Search for Alien life: Are there other planets with life in our Solar System? What is needed for life to start and survive? Where should we look? Mars, the Ocean Worlds of Europa, Enceladus, and Titan? Presenting a virtual tour of some extreme environments and extreme life on Earth. Exploring weird and wonderful places where life might exist in our Solar System and beyond

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

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.

6. Barry will act as Catering person - Ingleburn Lions club will provide with a large catering Van. Syd Hyett (Ingleburn Lions has provided) The menu for the 21st is as follows

Morning Tea - Tea & Coffee \$2 (2nd cup free at MT only) Fruit Cake \$1
Bacon & Egg Rolls - \$5 will also be available/

Lunch Menu - Snags on a Roll - \$3; Bacon & Egg Roll, Steak & Onion Roll or Chicken & Bacon Roll - \$5 each
Add egg or bacon - \$1 extra.
Soft Drinks \$2; Tea & Coffee \$2

Syd asks - Will the power outlets at the electric BBQ be available?

(Barry has been to location and the BBQ there has power outlets but that are turned off!! - Barry will follow up with security. Also van cannot be parked on grass due to large kerb and damage to grass from heavy van. The area immediately next to the disabled car parking will need to be reserved for the catering van behind the building. If power is unavailable a generator might be able to loaned from SES. I have offered the small kitchen area to the Lions club as well for morning tea if they want it.)

Lions club to be in attendance 9pm till 3pm.

Action Barry to contact security re van parking and Power and access to small kitchen.

7. Sound and vision has been checked – Pete Godwin and Tony went to WSU yesterday. Large lecture theatre is being upgraded 13 June and we can 'Zoom' from it to the smaller one.
8. At the moment ticket sales are at 122
9. If we have to downsize to just the large lecture theatre for the morning events then we will only need a couple of roving microphones saving us at least \$500.00 on equipment.
10. 'Event Set up' and double checking of audio visual will take place on Friday 19 at 5.00pm. Security will ensure no one enters on Saturday.
11. We will require two tables for registration, two for Camera House, One for MAS merchandise and another for OGLA. Plus, two in each lecture theatre.
12. Photography (from Tony) : I have enough photos for the Library and a few for the Cuttaway Hill Wines Event. Do I get a few duplicates done for Campbelltown Library? Dave has given me some new images of the Moon and is providing one of his planet posters for the raffle at the Event. Would you like that image printed for the two libraries? I normally get the prints done at Harvey Norman and mounted by Camden Framers.
13. Cost for video showing the Dish is \$1 per person, i.e. \$550. Invoice with Andy. Has been paid.
14. 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).
15. John has the delegation to organise and run a raffle for the July 21 event.

4.7.2 Campbelltown Library public observing night at their library – booked for Sat 13 July.

Action: Assistance required and event coordinator. Campbelltown Library has assisted with posters printing and image printing

4.7.3 Campbelltown Trivia Night Wed 17th July – 3 or 4 MACASTRO members for assistance.

Action: Assistance required and event coordinator.

4.7.4 Casula Power House night event 20/7/2019 (photo exhibition and a public viewing – 4.00pm to 9.00pm).

Action: Assistance required and event coordinator (John?) John and Barry are going- other members needed. – photos have been loaned until September

4.7.5 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*

4.7.6 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/>

Committee's decision is that we cannot do anything this year. Barry is to pick a night for next year once Wooglemai have had their AGM (in Sept) and set their calendar for their Saturday working bees which is when they want an observation night – , (July 2019) committee discussed this again but as Paul Wilcock (secretary Wooglemai) was notified we should not reverse this decision. Also see New Business items 5.2 *On going*

4.8 Members' Trips

15.8.1 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. Has Tony provided this?

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) report not provided –

Action: Money yet to be sent, Ray is looking into the donation

4.9.3 Commbank Employees Ingleburn.

Macarthur Astronomical Society has been selected by our team here at Commonwealth Bank, Ingleburn to receive a Community donation of \$500.00.

Presentation Thursday 4th July, 2019 at 9:00am to present you with the funds. Cathy from Commonwealth Bank Ingleburn.

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

4.10 Website, Facebook –

Roger, John, Tony and Chris are moderators of Facebook – on going

Chris Malikoff is looking at Wordpress for the host program for our internet site (basic features only). Roger has offered to stay on as Webmaster until he sees the new website with a view to maintain the new one as he has experience in wordpress language.

Newsletter sent by Allan did not go to all members from our website. Tony sent the newsletter from his own email to get the newsletter out. On going.

4.11 Publicity and Secretary report by Barry Moore

4.11.1 Publicity for the next forum July 15 been sent to Advertiser and Chronicle. Publicity for the July 21 event has also been sent to Advertiser and Chronicle. Flyers placed in Ingleburn Library and some issued to public at the Ingleburn "Into the night Function" (winter solstice June 21) (3 members attended – lots of queues) Other publicity for the July 21 event has been done by Allan (radio and newspaper and Camden council website)

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 – nothing to report

4.11.4 Attendance – June Forum

as per sign-on book: 33 members, 2 Non-members; total 35

4.12 Correspondence

Received. emails

- Tony sent updates for July 21,
- Syd Hyett (Ingleburn Lions confirming catering van)
- Invoice from Roadshow for showing the Dish \$550

Sent. Emails (replies to the above)

5. NEW BUSINESS (Items tabled out at the meeting – to be moved into General Business)

5.1 Booking Form. Should we create one or continue in the present manner – it was agreed we should do this after the July 21 event.

5.2 Outreach night for Picton High School Wed 4th September Outreach night. (from Mike Nicholas) Declared approved. Barry voiced his opinion that as Wooglemai (item 4.7.6) was not given an outreach night due to overloaded outreach nights this should not go ahead.

5.3 Mentoring. St Benedich's (Junior High School) and Picton High School will be requesting Mentors (24 August to commence) Declared approved – there are reservations about finding enough mentors though and some committee members voiced this opinion.

5.4 Update from Broughton Mentoring. (Mike Nicolas (for Phil Kidd who is on holiday) and Hayley Simpson (BAC)) Some students are being immature and not meeting their obligations of contacting the Mentees. Some mentees are now unable to contribute to the program.

5.5 Allan raised issue of providing a phone contact number – on going.

5.6 Andy has offered to keep records attendance at observing nights. Event coordinators will need to be allocated for each observing event and report those attending back to Andy for compilation. The compilation will start after Andy's knee operation.

5.7 An open letter to Members from Tony Law (seeking approval to send by email on 2/7/2019)

From: Tony Law <tonylaw48@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, 1 July 2019 8:16 AM

To: Allan Hobbs <alliz55@tpg.com.au>; Andy Milton <nml3642@bigpond.net.au>; Barry Moore <barrismoore@hotmail.com>; Henry Swierk <hswierk@yahoo.com.au>; John Rombi <astronut@tpg.com.au>; Karyn & Greg Bradford <kgbradford1@bigpond.com>; Phil Kidd <pandjkidd05@gmail.com>

Subject: Apollo 11 to STEM and the Next Giant Leap

Importance: High

Hi All

I want to send this out to our members but thought I would run it past you first as you meet tonight

Dear Members

It is less than three weeks until our Apollo 50 Event. By now you should all be aware of the happenings on 21 July from our newsletters, website or Facebook pages. I have to say the response from members has been disappointing, less than 30% of members have purchased tickets – please do not leave it to the last minute! Attached is our updated program.

This will be an outstanding STEM event; the calibre of our speakers is second to none – bring along your children and grandchildren. Make sure your schools know what is going on. Mike Nicholas has been in contact with them all but we have seen little or no response!

Our Scientists:

Tom Nolan

Earth and Climate Scientist NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

From Earth-bound to a Space-faring People; *'Out of this world' talk reviews the strategies, and challenges, of freeing ourselves from the bondage of Earth's gravity and exploring out into the unknown*

Shannon McConnell

Deep Sky Network, Public Engagement Manager NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

From Mars to the Edge of the Solar System Space Communications: How do scientists and engineers control spacecraft billions of miles from Earth? NASA's Deep Space Network is a global network of antennas supporting two-way radio communications with spacecraft from a multitude of different countries in our solar system.

Todd Barber

Senior Propulsion Engineer NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Propulsion History of JPL 1936-today: By mission, shows propulsion innovations which happened at JPL, walks through various missions.

Deb Brice

Marine Science Educator NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Science Exploration in Extreme Environments: At sea and in space, when you travel to a galaxy far, far away....what should you bring?

Rachel Zimmerman Brachman

Outreach Lead for Radioisotope Power Systems NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory

NASA's Mars Program: How is NASA exploring Mars; what we expect to find; what we hope to learn and planning for the future

Christine Fuller

Robotics Mechanical Engineer,

Extreme Terrain Robotics At JPL; Meet JPL robots that climb in lava tubes, cling to glass in zero-gravity, and explore under the ice.

Dr. Michael Malaska

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory Astrobiologist

Astrobiology and the Search for Alien life: Are there other planets with life in our Solar System? What is needed for life to start and survive? Where should we look? Mars, the Ocean Worlds of Europa, Enceladus, and Titan? Presenting a virtual tour of some extreme environments and extreme life on Earth. Exploring weird and wonderful places where life might exist in our Solar System and beyond

Don't forget **Members only can 'Meet & Greet'** the Scientists at dinner (paying for yourselves) on the night before at the Catholic Club Bistro. Please email me if you intend to come along.

We are also in need of volunteers to help run the event, marshalling our visitors and helping out with registration etc. Food and drinks are going to be supplied by the Ingleburn Lions Club at very reasonable prices.

Your support will be much appreciated.

Best Regards Tony Law – Immediate Past President

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm Mon August 5th 2019 at Allan Hobbs, Durham Green Retirement Village, 153 Menangle Road, Menangle.

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 10.36 pm 1/7/2019

Typed by Secretary, Barry Moore on 1/7/19, edited 2/7/19, 6/8/19

Approved by The Committee by mutual acceptance Date 5/8/19