



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY  
MINUTES of MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at Durham Green Retirement Village, 153 Menangle Road, Menangle.  
Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec 2019 at 7.30pm

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

**Apologies:** Andy Milton (Treasurer); Brendon Waterhouse (Merchandising), Mike Nichols (schools Liaison officer)

- 1. OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES:** meeting opened at 7.30 pm
- 2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES** for November committee meeting held 4/11/2019 Proposed by Barry seconded by Allan Passed.

### 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:

Tony Law raised the matter of a change in our Patron in an email.

**Action:** John Rombi will write to current patron to indicate a possible change of Patron.

### 4. REGULAR BUSINESS

- 4.1 Treasurer's Report:** Barry Moore for Andy Milton (Andy was in a major car accident on 9th November and is unable to make this report in person)

Macastro Financial report and Bank Statement transactions for 30 November 2019.

The Society Bank Account balance as at 30 Nov was \$14141.59

The Society Investment Account \$21000

The society Paypal account was \$123.56

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

Sundry Cash still to be banked \$ 12.00 ??

Peter Tebbe membership money \$30 (receipt needed)

Cheque from Australian Air League (Donation) \$100

Bank transactions:-

15/11 \$175.20 direct deposit TOMRA COLLECTIion for donation to club from cans and bottle recycling.

15/11 \$35.00 direct deposit - Dave Manning Forest Oct

11/11 Tony Law Forest receipts deposit Nov \$100

Paypal transactions:-

23/11 \$24 deposit from Allan Hobbs for membership of Lachlan Williams (student)

16/11 \$60 withdrawn to Barry Moore - contra payment for flowers for Andy and Penny Milton (car accident)

Outstanding payment to be made:

Roger Powell for website hosting \$181.94 \*\*

John Rombi for Speaker Dinners Sept \$20.62, Oct \$17.59, Nov \$22.16; Total \$60.37 (will pay by PAYPAL)

Greg Bradford iron on logos and vests to be worn at Outreach nights to identify MAS members and their equipment

\$465.10 (will pay by PAYPAL)

Outstanding payment to University of Sydney - Forest. Amount To Be Determined

Invoice for Astronomy 2020 - \$429 (email from Brendan, Invoice from Questar)\*\*

Outstanding Cheques to be presented : #723, \$300 Ingleburn Lions Club update 11/11/19 BM – Ingleburn Lions Club President has been contacted and is looking into this. Unfortunately their treasurer has been sick and has been in hospital - on going matter

There a number of receipts due to Macastro: Australian Botanic Gardens – \$1000

**Action** Barry has sent modified Invoice to ABG – Matter in progress (NB 11/11/19 BM – with Andy’s car accident Barry will be investigating the delay in this Invoice – Christian Eckert is away on holiday until Dec 8<sup>th</sup> and is aware of the need to pay our invoice.

We need to consider setting up a Payid for our account to make it easier for others to pay us money directly to our Bank account. It will have to be an email address as the club does not have a mobile number.

We shall look into obtaining a card for depositing directly into our account cash and coins- currently we have to get teller assistance to do this or the coins and cash are contra deposited via the secretary’s private Comm. Bank account.

\*\* The acting treasurer attempted to EFT two of the outstanding payment amounts but failed to do so as passwords where not available from the other two signatories to the account at the committee meeting. As we do not have access to a cheque book yet we cannot easily pay our bills.

The Australian Dark Sky Alliance donation of \$500 is still to be made (Done 5 Dec by PAYPAL)

Report proposed by Barry, seconded by John, Passed

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#### **4.2 Membership:** Henry Swierk

1 new student member since last report. Lachlan Williams (student). Paid and confirmed.

1 new member, Peter Tebbe paid and confirmed

Membership at the end of Nov: 140 members in total including 6 Hon. 3 Assoc.

Moved by Henry Seconded by Phil, 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
Cash awaiting internal allotment or distribution to Treasurer	\$248.15
Total Cash Held by Merchandiser	\$372.05
Total cash till - Cash On Hand – (COH)	\$123.90

2 Coats on special sale – see Brendan for details

#### Notes

1 - New stock items. – 19 Astro 2020 books are now in ready for Dec Forum (invoice received needs to be paid)

2 - Sign in book – Brendan took this home as it was left at the last forum. FYI, 48 people were present, includes 3 non members.

3 - Next Forum - Please let me know in advance about what gifting the committee thinks should be given at the schools Forum. (reply Pens and Possibly Mugs – Allan to contact Brendan)

Report moved by Phil , seconded by Greg, Passed

#### **4.4 Forum Speakers**

This Month 9<sup>th</sup> Dec 2019

Fifth Annual Students Night

Praiewood and Broughton High schools – topic and student names required – Broughton contacted late but will respond very soon.

Full list of future 2020 presenters is listed below ( **NOTE date change to the DECEMBER forum**)

20th Jan	Ric Forster (MAS member)	
17th Feb	Prof Fred Watson – new book release	
16th Mar	Prof Tim Bedding (USYD)	
20th Apr	Les Dalrymple	
18th May	Dr Luke Barnes (WSU)	
15th Jun	Dr Lucyna Chudczer (AAL) – Australian Astronomical League	
20th Jul	Dr Kim-Vy Tran (UNSW)	
17th Aug	Dr Emil Lenc (ASKAP)	
21st Sept	Prof Michael Wheatland (USYD) – the Sun	
19th Oct	Prof Geraint Lewis (USYD)	
16th Nov	Prof Charley Lineweaver (ANU)	
<b>7th Dec</b>	Students will present astronomy projects	Sixth Annual Students Night

**Action** – Allan, WSU (Ragbir) to be notified to book lecture Hall Forum dates for 2020.

#### 4.5 General Business

4.5.1 The Dudley Chesham redevelopment -- on going

4.5.2 "What we do" or "About Us" – Allan Hobbs – pamphlets - on going

4.5.3 Andy to create a Members attendance record at Public outreach night. Currently designing forms for this. On going

4.5.4 Calendar for 2020 - Stargard, Forest and Public Outreach dates are done (complete list see appendix). Two dates had to be changed as they were Sundays (BM and JR)

4.5.5 Request to attend Astrofest.

John has been talking to the organisers of Astrofest and has been handling it since inception 3 years ago. On going.

4.5.6 *Camden Library* Subject: servicing Telescope collection at Camden Libraries

**Action** John to contact Camden Library and scope the job for costs involved. John and Greg Willing to go in and see and scope (pun intended) the problem. It was felt that Camden Library should see BINTEL for replacement parts and detailed help as John and Greg's generosity of their time is not unlimited.

4.5.7 Donation to **Australian** Dark Sky Alliance of \$500

**THE Motion** put to members present at the Forum meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2019.

That the society pay a donation of \$500 to the "Australian Dark Sky Alliance" – Moved Allan Hobbs, Seconded Andy Milton, Passed by a large show of hands , No hands where shown in opposition.

**Action:** Barry..... ring Marnie Ogg ph 0417689003, send cheque (when we have a new cheque book) to Australasian Dark Sky Alliance PO BOX 973 Newport NSW 2106 – note paid by PAYPAL Dec 5, 2019

4.5.8 High Vis vest logo – Iron on type. Greg has investigated the purchase of these and extra High – vis vest.

Minimum 120 \$30 set up \$1.85 each. Greg authorised to get 120 labels (70 black 50 white) and 20 "MACASTRO" transfers all up \$370.

The additional cost was agreed to by committee. *In Progress* – reimbursement to Greg for \$465.10 required.

4.6 Regular Viewing

4.6.1 Stargard – report for 23 Nov – cancelled and moved to following 27 Nov – smoky but then cleared  
Future dates. - 21 Dec, 31 Dec. 2020 dates: As per Appendix

4.6.2 The Forest report for 29/30 Nov + 1 Dec - cancelled due to smoke and poor visibility  
**Future dates.**, 27/28/29 Dec. 2020 dates: As per Appendix

#### 4.7 Public Outreach

4.7.1 Mentoring for 2020. – how it will work next year – report by Phil Kidd  
Mike N (1 Feb 2020) and Mark B (illness) are resigning this position as Schools Liaison and Mentoring officer respectively.

Phil has created documents as follows for distribution to schools and potential mentors.

- a revised Mentoring booklet (“Student Projects in Astronomy – A guide to teachers and Mentors”) including a risk assessment and ideas for projects.

**Action** – send document “Student Projects in Astronomy – A guide to teachers and Mentors” to Roger Powell for inclusion on our website.

- a list of dates for 2020 (timetables based on school terms and semester) for all 3 schools that have expressed interest in mentoring has been prepared by Phil Kidd

4.7.1.1 Broughton Anglican college has requested assistance for a year 12 student (started this in 4<sup>th</sup> term 2019). Step 1 for this student to find a mentor to assist him in his studies for his HSC. – update Ric Foster has offered to be the Mentor for this student.

4.7.1.2 A general enquiry from Dept of Education Curriculum advisory services who are also interested to find mentors for other study projects that HSC student are undertaking. – update report required

4.7.2 MallinCam, portable battery and monitor to be used at Public nights.

**Action** See email in appendix 2 from Tony. Masa is going to look into this equipment and its usage.

Suggestion we look a data projector to use on public nights

#### 4.7.3 Schools Outreach

4.7.3.2 Macarthur Anglican School

4.7.3.2.1 for Terms 1, 2, 3 would like talk on astronomy in general during schools hours. Bob, Mike and Phil went to school to find out what was required. Bob to give a talk 20-30 min three times in a day. Year 10. Luke Barnes will also be talking about cosmology the schools

4.7.3 Air league Cadets Fri 8<sup>th</sup> at Smeaton Grange outreach night. Good night, parade and certificates, Donation of \$100 received.

4.7.4 Broughton Anglican School

Email re Science week Astronomy display Tues 11/8/2020 1.00pm to 5.00pm– Outreach from submitted – see email in appendix 2 – Approved by committee.

**Action** Barry to email school with approval. (done 5 dec but check)

4.7.5 Other Outreach dates as per emails as per Appendix 2 – refer to Appendix

-- Australian Botanical Gardens Narellan – suggest Friday nights viewing Science week 14 August

**Action** Allan to contact them

- Students from International House, 1<sup>st</sup> quarter moon at the Forest, August Date to be decided.

#### 4.8 Members’ Trips

4.8.1 JPL May 2021 Tony has circulated a form, provisional trip details and has names of people interested 17 people interested – cut off is 20. On Going

#### 4.9 Fundraising

4.9.1 Return and Earn is working well – 24 Nov is last date for donations though. – See treasurers report for latest income amount.

**Action** Greg to reapply for next year

4.9.2 Bunnings BBQ - not at this stage as members would not be available. Need to consider Gregory Hills Bunnings for a future BBQ.

**4.10 Website, Facebook** – Chris is working on this, On going

4.11 Publicity and Secretary report by Barry Moore

4.11.1 Publicity for the next forum Dec 9<sup>th</sup> sent to Advertiser and Chronicle.

4.11.2 Mail box has been checked each week – nothing to report – 2<sup>nd</sup> key is with Andy

4.11.4 Attendance – November Forum

as per sign-on book: 45 members, 3 Non-members; total 48

4.12 Correspondence

Received. Emails as per December Agenda – all have been attended to in these minutes.

Sent. Email to Christian Eckert for outstanding Invoice – in progress

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Storing all our display photographs – currently with Tony – home needed and person to manage new photo publishing. Any offer to assist –

**Action:** Allan to ask for help at the next Forum.

5.2 Finding new members for outreach and mentoring

**Action:** Allan to write a Note in newsletter to find new members.

5.3 Missing photographs from Durham Green Village Night – can anyone help where they are?

**Action:** Allan to ask at next Forum

## 6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm Mon **February 3rd** 2020 at Allan Hobbs residence, Durham Green Retirement Village, 153 Menangle Road, Menangle. (note committee will not meet in January but will continue to contact business as it arises by email).

## 7. CLOSE OF MEETING 10pm

Typed by Barry on 2 Dec edited 1/02/2020

Approved by Allan Hobbs and Committee, Date 3 Feb 2020

Appendix 1 – calendar dates for 2020 Observing Nights  
These dates below are all for a **SATURDAY**.

NEW MOON The Forest

Jan 25th  
Feb 22nd:  
March 21st:  
April 25th:  
May 23rd:  
June 20th:  
July 18th:  
August 22nd:  
September 19th:  
October 17th:  
November 14th:  
December 12th:

FIRST QUARTER Public Nights,Domes, etc. (Note we have 6 Public nights at the Domes WSU)

January 4th  
February 1st  
March 7th  
April 4th  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> Public night 1  
May 30<sup>th</sup> Public night 2  
June 27<sup>th</sup> Public night 3  
July 25<sup>th</sup> Public Night 4  
August 29<sup>th</sup> Public night 5  
September 26<sup>th</sup> Public night 6  
October 24<sup>th</sup>  
November 21<sup>st</sup>  
December 19th

THIRD QUARTER STARGARD

Jan 18th  
Feb 15th  
March 14th  
April 18th  
May 16th  
June 13th  
July 11th  
August 15th  
September 12th  
October 10th  
November 7th  
December 5th/12<sup>th</sup>