



PO Box 17 MINTO NSW 2566

MACARTHUR ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY
Minutes of MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Held at John Rombi's home, 13 Namatjira Cl. Eagle Vale.
Monday 2nd Mar 2020 at 7.30pm

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

Apologies: Allan Hobbs (President), Andy Milton (Treasurer)

1. OPENING OF MINUTES AND APOLOGIES: meeting opened at 7.35pm
2. **ADOPTION OF MINUTES** for committee meeting held 3/02/2020 Proposed by Barry seconded by John, passed
3. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES:**
 - 3.1 The \$1000 donation to Bush fire relief has been made.
Action Barry follow up email. (done 3 Mar 2020)
 - 3.2 The \$300 cheque to Ingleburn Lions club was cashed back in July 2019
 - 3.3 Change of Patron – new patron, Prof Geraint Lewis has accepted this position – notice has been provided on Facebook and our website – Will be inducted at a date to be decided.

4. REGULAR BUSINESS

4.1 Treasurer's Report: Report my email from Andy 8th March 2020

Macastro Financial Report to 29 February 2020

The Society cheque account has a balance of \$15987.07 as at 29 February.

There is one outstanding cheque not yet presented – Cheque No 713 For \$784.38 payable to Local Community Insurance Services. This payment is our insurance premium for the 20/21 financial period.

A donation of \$1294.00 has been made to The Oakes Rural Fire Brigade, being donations from at Forums in January (\$47) and February (\$147) plus \$1100 from the Society.

An amount of \$50.00 is currently held by the Merchandising Officer representing sales of merchandise in February. To the best of my knowledge there are no other payments to be made against the Society Cheque Account.

The Paypal account has been cleared to \$ Zero as at 29 February 2020.

There is a balance of \$3.64 in the Number 2 Bank Account.

The Deposit Account of \$21000 was rolled over on 24 February for a period of eight months at 1.5 % interest.

Interest earned on the deposit of \$392.44 for the 19/20 year has been credited to the Society Bank Account. (BM The term deposit of \$21000 was reinvested for 8 month at a rate of 1.5% - matures 24 Oct 2020)

Unless there are any questions about this I will now produce draft Financial Statements for the year to 29 February 2020 for presentation to the Auditor.

Report proposed by Andy Milton

4.2 Membership: Henry Swierk

Membership at the end of Feb 2020: Still in flux as members renew.

We have 140 members in total including 6 Hon. and 2 Assoc. from our previous billing year
Approximately 50% of members have renewed.

AGM awards membership Awards.

20 year Badge and certificate (none – 13 have been awarded so far in previous years)

15 year certificate

Tony Law	31 May 2004
Stewart Grainger	15 Nov 2004

10 years Badge and Certificate

Dave Wijesinghe	19 Jun 2009
Pete Elston	26 Aug 2009
Michael Nicholas	26 Aug 2009
Michael Jupe	21 Sept 2009
Christine Jupe	21 Sept 2009
Bryan Gaensler	11 Nov 2009
Barry Moore	2 Dec 2009
Borislav Muratovic	14 Jan 2010

5 Year certificate

Daryl Salmon	7 Jul 2014
Stephen Edwards	23 Jul 2014
Robert Sona	20 Feb 2015

Moved by Henry, seconded by Barry - passed

4.3 Merchandise: (reported by email from Brendon Waterhouse 22 Feb 2020)

Please see my monthly report for Feb 2020, and also see the EOY Report for year ending Feb 2020.
As per my previous notes I would like to thank you for allowing me to be the Merchandising Officer over the last 2 years. I now step aside and wish you luck into the future.

Along with my usual report and file update, plus the EOY report, both Andy and Barry will receive the working Excel file to hand-over to the next Merch Officer. Such that, I will need to hand over all the Merch gear to someone this week.

Thanks, Brendon Waterhouse Merchandising Officer Macarthur Astronomical Society.

Total Monetary transactions by Merchandising.

Initial Cash Balance April 2018	\$96.00
Cash Allotted from Sales or Donations into COH	\$4.00
Cash awaiting internal allotment or distribution to Treasurer	-
Total Cash Held by Merchandiser	\$100.00
Total cash till - Cash On Hand – (COH)	\$100.00

Notes

- 1 - Last Forum - Donations continued for Bush Fires as advised by Andy. Two sales completed.
- 2 - Position of Merchandising Officer - As I have been informing the committee, after the close of this current MAS financial year (29 Feb 2020), I will be stepping down from this position. Such that, I this is my final committee report. The yearly report for the MAS Committee will follow shortly.
- 3 - I thank you for the privilege being the Merchandising Officer.

Report moved by Barry , seconded by John

4.4 Forum Speakers

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)	
7th Dec	Students will present astronomy projects	Sixth Annual Students Night

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 Astrofest. June 27th. Members can choose to go to this or the Public night at the Domes.

4.5.5 Camden Library - servicing Telescope collection at Camden Libraries

Action John and Greg to contact Camden Library and scope the job for Camden library indicating what is needed and possible costs involved. Camden Library should see BINTEL (or similar) for replacement parts and servicing help as required. No Further Progress.

4.5.6 High Vis vest logo – Iron on type. Vest are available now. Carol Mc Veith has brought the other MAS vests back to Greg for logo printing. More Logos are needed to do this. – decision that extra vest will be kept unmarked at this stage.

4.6 Regular Viewing

4.6.1 Stargard – viewing Feb 15th – cancelled

Future dates.

March 14th, April 18th, May 16th, June 13th

July 11th, August 15th, September 12th, October 10th, November 7th, December 5th/12th

4.6.2 The Forest viewing Feb 22nd - Cancelled

Future dates.

March 21st, April 25th, May 23rd, June 20th:

July 18th, August 22nd, September 19th, October 17th, November 14th, December 12th:

4.6.3 MAS Outreach Nights at the Domes

Members will need have current WWC numbers – update with Henry (membership officer)

N.B. The virus (COVID-19) pandemic may mean we will have to cancel ALL public nights – under review.

May 2nd Public night 1

May 30th Public night 2

June 27th Public night 3

July 25th Public Night 4

August 29th Public night 5

September 26th Public night 6

4.7 Other Public Outreach

4.7.1 Mentoring for 2020. –

4.7.1.1 The request from Broughton Anglican college for assistance for a year 12 has been cancelled as the student has withdrawn from that course of study.

4.7.2 Schools Outreach

4.7.2.1 Macarthur Anglican School

for Terms 1, 2, 3 would like talk on astronomy in general during schools hours.

Report is that Bob and Mike were unable to make the visit. Phil went to school to give a presentation, the school gave him the wrong year group as it was not organised properly. It was unfortunately a complete mess.

4.7.2.2 Broughton Anglican School Mentoring.

There are 7 students and 3 mentors. Nicole (Head Science teacher) will be in contact with students details.

Note (9 Mar 2020) For health and safety reasons due to the virus COVID-19 we have advised Broughton that MAS will NOT be conducting any Mentoring this semester. Email follows

10/3/2020

Subject: Mentoring Cancelled.

Hello everyone,

I have just spoken to Nicole Schroder (Head of Science) at Broughton Anglican College to inform her that regretfully we would not proceed with mentoring this semester.

She understands that the health of our members is our main concern, appreciated our position, and that the decision to proceed or not was "our call".

Thank you for your support of mentoring.

Phil

4.7.2.3 Broughton Anglican School – Science week display

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

4.7.3 Australian Botanical Gardens, Narellan – approved dates are (night before domes)

Friday 29th May

Friday 14th August (Science Week)

Note: Another date to follow in the year has been mooted to us but no details yet

4.7.4 Students from International House,

This will be held on the 1st quarter moon at the Forest, 22 August.

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. In progress.

4.9 Fundraising Nothing to report

4.10 Website, Facebook – Chris is working on this, in progress

4.11 Storing all our display photographs – currently with Tony . A is home needed and person to manage new photo publishing.

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

4.12 Finding new MAS members for outreach and mentoring

Action: Phil to write a Note for newsletter to find new members. Sent to Allan. On going.

4.13 Change of Patron

Prof Bryan Gaensler has now formally stepped down as our patron and will be made an Honary member.

Action: John will be obtaining a plaque to celebrate his association with our society. In Progress

Our New patron Prof Geraint Lewis has accepted the position .

4.14 Forums booking at WSU.

All dates are entered by Ragbir EXCEPT DEC 2020. This needs to be done in June 2020.

4.15 Publicity and Secretary report by Barry Moore

4.15.1 Publicity for the next forum Mar 16th sent out

4.15.2 Mail box was has been checked each week – PO Box invoice for 2020-1 and bank statements only. Nothing else to report – 2nd key is with Andy

4.15.3 Attendance – February Forum : 46 members, 11 Non-members; total 57 (as recorded). However I did a head count three times and got a total of 69 persons during the evening .

4.15.4 Correspondence emails:-

- from Anne George regarding donation of Jason 60mm refractor telescope belonging to former member Alan George.
- from Jim Connolly regarding a donation of a Equatorial mount 110mm Newtonian reflector telescope (20 March item withdrawn now as main mount is damaged as well as mirror due to impacts)

5. NEW BUSINESS

5.1 Nominations for Management committee Position 2020-2021

Nominations forms have been distributed at meetings and collected by Barry. On going

5.2 Donation of Jason 60mm Refractor from the estate of Alan George.

The Macarthur astronomical society formally recognises the donation from Alan George's estate. Barry has picked up the telescope and will clean and adjust it for further use at outreach events.

3 Mar2020 – A thank you email has been sent and response received.

20 Mar 2020 - The Jason telescope was in poor condition, needed considerable repairs and only had one 1 inch eye piece. However I am (Barry) in possession of a smaller TASCOSCOPE telescope that uses 1 inch eye pieces and I have decided to buy the donated Telescope from the Club for a donation of \$40 which has been sent to the club for restoration and repair.

5.3 Australasian Dark Sky Alliance (ADSA)

Item emailed by Allan Hobbs on 28/2/20 for inclusion. John addressed this item in his absence.

ADSA has five \$1000 grants for events and projects that bring that tribe together!

Key Dates:

Applications open: 18th February 2020

Applications Close: 28th April 2020

Grant recipients notified: 14th May 2020

Public Announcement: 16th May 2020 "International Day of Light"

Events: between 16th May 2020 -16th May 2021

Action John is in discussion with Marnie from ADSA – in progress.

6. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

7.30pm Mon **April 6th** 2020 at Allan's place at Menangle (Alternate Greg's place).

7. CLOSE OF MEETING 9.04 pm

Typed by Barry on 2 Mar , edited 11 Mar 2020

Approved by the MAS Committee by email Date 13/4/2020