

Minutes of committee meeting held at the home of Mr J.Watson on 15/2/99

Present: R.Roth, J.Watson, P.Hawkins, R.Clifford, I.Schroeder

Apologies: B.Lawrence

1. Meeting commenced at 19:45-^{delay} due to heavy mist over Hilton - minutes of previous meeting accepted.
2. Matters arising - 6 members attended the combined meeting in Durban hosted by the Natural Science Museum - letter of thanks to be sent to Mario Di Maggio.
3. Planning 10/3/99 - meet at observatory to plan/discuss the year ahead, both astronomically and observatory-wise.
17-23/3/99 - SASOL SciFest in Grahamstown
29-30/3/99 - ASSA National Symposium in Capetown - JW to go ?
14/4/99 - meet at City Computers - RR to discuss sundials
4. Membership - little reponse to requests for subs from defaulters, some of whom are founder members
- also poor response to appeals for plot-clearing etc at the observatory - maybe RR should give members a revving?
5. Correspondence - N/Letter from Harare - the first ever ! - RR to get their postal address so we can respond
- change of address from Bloemfontein - we stopped sending Stardust a year ago due to lack of response !
- ASSA Symposium invitation and application- to be copied and inserted into March Stardust.
- request from Pmb Tourism (new name for Pub Assoc) to be included in the 'Arts Route' - agreed to hold on until observatory completed
- catalogue of latest science fiction books (Easton)
- letters and diskette from D.Overbeek re occultations due in 1999 - somebody to take charge ?
- letter from D.Overbeek re observatory photo sent to him last month, and another letter regretting not being able to attend February meeting in Durban
- letter to Girl Guides re use of their hall for the July training course
- letters(e-mail) from C.Turk/D.Overbeek regarding the whereabouts and condition of the Roberts Refractor- JW has assured both that we have it, and will report back.
6. Treasurer - Balance on hand R2612
7. STARDUST - next edition to be ready for posting by 25/3/99
8. Library - books moved from JW's office - 1993/94 volumes of S&T are not complete - IS and PH to organise dust cover
9. P.R.O. - 'The Mirror'/Japanese consulate still outstanding
- Pmb Tourism happy to hold leaflets - BL to design
- "Grand Opening" discussed - possibly 26/6 or 17/7/99
10. Observatory and Instruments
- main sign at site erected, tiling of plinth completed, plot clearing slow (wattles-a-growing) , milky way charts
- JW has started on hole for pipe mounting of 'Dancer'
- hold a 'concrete party' to throw slab for Dobs/braai on 10/4/99
- PH and RR still to contact G.Prosser and H.Buchler
11. Education - Girl Guide hall booked from 6/7/99 to 29/7/99 for Basic Astronomy course
- JW plans to show the course to R.Field in Durban soon

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING - Monday 15/2/99 at RC's home