

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT THE HOME OF R. JOUBERT ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2001

Present : R. Roth, P. Hawkins, R. Clifford, R. Joubert, J. Watson, F. de Bruyn, A. Hill

Apologies : P. Wessels, T. Morley

1. Meeting commenced at 7.30pm - minutes of previous meeting accepted
2. Matters arising - Thanks to FdeB and RC for their contributions at the last monthly meeting - terrible conditions and a very poor turnout - no Geiger counter available
 - TM has now got a full set of keys - PH and RJ still need a set - C.Lake currently overseas
3. Planning
 - Fri 21/9/2001 - Observatory evening
 - Fri 5/10/2001 and 19/10/2001 - Observatory evenings (decision taken to extend the season, and suggest postponement to Sat evenings if weather bad on Frid ?)
 - Wed 10/10/2001 - visit University - invite Dr Cress to speak - **AH** has not been able to make contact yet
 - PH will convene an evening on 'The Moon' as backup - slides & projector from JW - use M.Streicher's Appollo landing journal - video ?
 - Wed 14/11/2001 - Leonid display during November (best in Australia !)
 - Sat 1/12/2001 - Christmas party - will use the hall at Ukalinga - bring own food and drinks - Centre will provide braai fires, chips etc, cask(s) of wine
 - FUTURE IDEAS - The 4 forces of Nature, Space Art, Image processing
 - JW sad that we do not see more of the old friends from Durban Centre
4. Membership
 - Still a lot of subs defaulters liable for 'suspension' in October
 - JW will be away in NZ and Australia from 27/9/2001 to 25/10/2001
5. Correspondence
 - S&T (Sep) and MNASSA
 - newsletters from other Centres (JW to ask Durban to send hard copy - email no good !)
 - phone call from P.Hiscocks (Durban) re F.Crooks video
 - letters written to - G.Prosser to thank him for cleaning up the 12" telescope
 - ASSA Handbook Editor with details for 2002 Handbook
 - JW to follow up on Insurance quotation
6. Treasurer
 - Balance (at 31/8/2001) R 4018,46 [Approx R 1500 outstanding subs]
 - How do other Centres keep subs so low ? - by collecting money at each meeting, charging for tea etc
7. STARDUST (ready by 26/9/2001) - include a further subs reminder and threat of suspension !
 - during absence of JW, RR will make copies and RC will do the posting
8. Library
 - good selection of books at last meeting - new books and videos checked and ready to be accessioned
 - C.Kay has been helpful in sorting out the Library - coopt onto committee, as TM cannot attend meetings ?
 - TM will coordinate the S&T binding (past and future) - JW wants space for Centre archives
9. P.R.O.
 - advertising at P&P in Hayfields done (but is being removed by unknown persons !!)
 - permanent adverts needed at Libraries, Museum (already at Pmb Tourism, but a bit shambolic)
 - must advertise Observatory evenings **again** in Press and other places
10. Observatory & Instruments
 - TM has done sterling work - has cleared large area and planted 'golf course' grass - well done !
 - good turnout at workparty on 16/9 2001 - all wattles are now pulled out
 - somebody has stolen the remaining 9 (unlaid) paving slabs, and dumped garden rubbish on the site !!
 - plans for a Braai area to be reviewed and implemented
 - JW in favour of the 'sit-on' cupboard idea inside observatory - can use a timber framework - carpenter ?
11. Education
 - JW and PH went to star evening at Laddsworth school on 22/8/2001 - clouded out again !!
12. General
 - RR has been given some old projector 'condenser' lenses by H.Tunmer - now investigating the etching of 'star plates' onto Aluminium foil stuck onto thin glass - PH has some thin Aluminium plate

NEXT MEETING - **Monday 15 October 2001** at **7.30 pm** at **Observatory**