

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE ASTRONOMICAL
SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA HELD AT THE S.A.A.O. OBSERVATORY
ON WEDNESDAY 1975 FEBRUARY 12 AT 20 h 00

Present: Mr C. Turk in the Chair thirty-one members and visitors. Apologies for absence were received from Mr C.H. Larmuth the Honorary Secretary who was indisposed, Mr N. Saville and Mr H. Lock.

Mr G.H. Larmuth acted as Secretary and read the minutes of the last meeting. The Chairman was authorised to sign these minutes as correct.

The Chairman reported that Mr C. Scovil and Mr C. Ford of the American Association of Variable Star Observers would be in Cape Town over the coming weekend and an informal meeting of the Centre had been arranged to meet these gentlemen on Saturday February 15 at 14 h 30 at our usual venue. Anyone interested in observing variables was urged to attend.

Those members who were to take part in observing the grazing occultation on Tuesday February 18 were told by the Chairman that the site chosen was alongside the beach road between Paarden Eiland where the Salt River enters the sea and some distance south of the Milnerton lagoon. Observers were to meet at the Salt River bridge at 20 h 30. Amateur radio enthusiasts would be joining the Centre members and would relay time signals transmitted by Mr Gregory Roberts from the Observatory. This should prove to be a most interesting exercise and facilitate the recording of time signals.

The speaker for the evening was Professor Brian Warner who had chosen as his subject "Magnetic Fields in White Dwarf Stars". This was a new area of study begun as recently as 1970. In his usual lucid manner he dealt with the formation of white dwarfs and neutron stars and the relative strength of the magnetic fields of ordinary stars, white dwarfs and neutron stars, and the discovery of circular polarization.

The Chairman thanked Professor Warner for his most interesting lecture.

Mr R.F. Hurly asked members who intended taking part in observing the grazing occultation on February 18 to see him after the meeting.

The meeting closed at 21 h 15 for tea.

Signed as correct



Chairman

1975 Feb 9