

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CAPE CENTRE OF THE
ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA HELD AT THE S.A.A.O. ON
WEDNESDAY 1975 AUGUST 13 AT 20h00

Present: Chairman Mr C. Turk; Honorary Secretary Mr C. Larmuth, twenty-six members and four visitors. Apologies for absence were received from Drs Fairall and Holroyd and Messrs Allen, Duveen and Molyneux.

The minutes of the previous annual general meeting held on 1974 August 13 were read by the Honorary Secretary and signed by the Chairman as correct.

The Honorary Treasurer presented the financial statement which was adopted. The Chairman thanked him for looking after the Centre's finances.

The Chairman then discussed the Report of the Committee of the Cape Centre a copy of which had been handed to persons present. This report was adopted and a copy is annexed to these minutes.

The Chairman reported that only sufficient nominations for office bearers for the ensuing year had been received and he had been nominated for chairman. He was willing to continue as chairman for a second year and thanked the members for their confidence in him. The following were duly elected:

Chairman	Mr C.R.G. Turk
Vice-Chairman	Mr G.H. Larmuth
Honorary Secretary	Mr C.H. Larmuth
Honorary Treasurer	Mr N. Saville
Honorary Auditor	Mr G. Orpen
Centre Representative on Council	Mr J.S. Bondietti
Committee Members	Miss P. Booth, Messrs J. Churms, W. Grimwood, R.F. Hurly and B. Molyneux.

This concluded the business of the Annual General Meeting. Mr Turk then presented the Chairman's address. His subject was observing occultations and he explained his methods of observation and time recording, and suggested ways of avoiding the mistakes often made by inexperienced observers.

Mr R.F. Hurly thanked Mr Turk for his lecture and the meeting closed for tea at 21h36.

Signed as correct



Chairman

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICACAPE CENTRE

Financial Statement for the 1974/75 session ended 30th June 1975:


	R	c
Opening Balance as at 1st July, 1974	147-10	
Receipts:		
Subscriptions (74 @ R1-00)	74-00	
Sale of surplus aluminium roofing ex telescope dome to Mr. Molyneux	11-00	
Sundry donations	8-00	
Interest on Savings Account	7-76	
		<u>100-76</u>
		247-86
Expenditure:		
Teas costs including R4-00 for washing-up	9-61	
Postages	13-43	
Stationery	7-89	
Addressograph Plate-cutting	4-60	
Secretarial expenses of Mr. K. Rochford not claimed during 1973/74 session	12-48	
Refreshments - Mr. & Mrs. G. Harding's farewell party	30-84	
Presentation - " " " "	15-00	
S.A. Museum for use of Planetarium & teas	8-00	
"Vapona" cupboard insecticides for control of fishmoths in library book cabinets	1-20	
		<u>103-05</u>
		R 144-81
		<u>666-</u>
Balance as per bank pass book as at 30th June 1975	R 145-81	

(R1-00 overdeposited by treasurer)

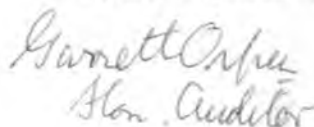
Note: The R74-00 received for Subscriptions includes R2-00 in respect of the 1975/76 session.

The balance of R144-81 is apportioned between the ordinary fund and the telescope fund as follows:

Ordinary	78-81
Telescope	66-00


N. SAVILLE

Hon. Treasurer.


Hon. Auditor

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE
CAPE CENTRE FOR THE YEAR 1974/1975

MEETINGS

Eleven general meetings were held during the year at which the speakers and their subjects were as follows:

1974 August	AGM followed by a panel of experts answering questions.
September	Dr A.D. Thackeray History of the Radcliffe Observatory
October	Mr W. Hirst Double Stars and Orbits
November	Mr R.F. Hurly Two Space films and discussion
1975 January	(Dr D.S. Evans McDonald Obs and Lunar laser
	(Dr R.H. Stoy Solar Parallax and Eros
February	Prof B. Warner Magnetic Fields in White Dwarf Stars
March	(Mr J.S. Bondiotti History and demonstration of the Planetarium
	(Dr A.P. Fairall at S.A. Museum
April	Dr M.W. Feast R Coronae Borealis Stars
May	Sir Richard Woolley The Magellanic Clouds
June	Prof G.F.R. Ellis Black Holes
July	Dr G. Wegner White Dwarfs

The average attendance at the above meetings was thirty-four.

In addition to the above, the Centre held a farewell party for Mr and Mrs George Harding in December, was invited to and attended a meeting of the Royal Society in January at which Prof W.S. McCrea spoke on the History of the R.G.O., and also held an informal meeting in February to meet Messrs Charles Scovil and Clint Ford of the American Association of Variable Star Observers.

OBSERVING

A number of Grazing Occultations were planned but most were wrecked by bad weather. Only one on 1975 February 18 was successfully observed and on this occasion time signals were relayed from the S.A.A.O. by amateur radio hams. At least three individual members of the Centre reported personal observations of occultations and/or variable stars to either HMNAO or AAVSO.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The tradition of many years was continued by certain members of the Centre who acted as guides for the Visitors Evenings at S.A.A.O. on the second Saturday of every month plus the fourth Saturday in January, February and March. Centre members have given lectures on astronomy to schools and other bodies as well as assisting with the programme of the Planetarium which has done so much to arouse the public's interest in the subject.

CENTRE TELESCOPE

The Ron Atkins twelve inch reflector is still stripped for renovations, but a four inch Unitron refractor on loan from the Society is mounted in the Ron Atkins dome at S.A.A.O. Keys to the dome are available from the Committee.

CAPE CENTRE ENDOWMENT TRUST

This trust was registered on 1975 May 6. It was established "for the purpose of promoting and furthering the interests of the Cape Centre of the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa and making donations from time to time to the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa or any Trust which may be formed for the purpose of promoting and furthering the interests of the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa". The capital must remain intact and only interest earned may be disposed of. The trustees are Messrs C.R.G. Turk, J.S. Bondiotti and G.H. Larmuth. Donations to date total two hundred and fifty-five Rand.

THANKS

Finally, as Chairman, I should like to express my personal thanks to the Director of the S.A.A.O. for the use of various facilities, to our speakers for making our meetings so interesting, to my Committee for their unfailing enthusiasm and assistance, and to all members for their attendance. To pick out individual names for special mention is an impossible task as so many deserve this accolade. Everyone in his or her own way has contributed to a very successful year.

C.R.G. Turk