

The Astronomical Society of Southern Africa  
The Report to the Annual General Meeting of the  
Cape Centre for 1978/79

Meetings: Eight meetings were held during the year.

The details are as follows:

- 9/8/78 The A.G.M. and Mr. G. Roberts on "Weather Satellites"
- 13/9/78 Mr. W. Grimwood on "Time"
- 11/10/78 Dr. A. J. Penny on "Pulsars"
- 8/11/78 Dr. J. F. Dean on "Cepheid Variables"
- 14/2/79 Mr. H. Krumm on "An Old Timer Remembers"
- 14/3/79 Prof. B. Warner on "Piazzi Smyth at the Cape"
- 11/4/79 Mr. D. Block on "Models of the Universe"
- 9/5/79 Dr. M. W. Feast on "The Distance Scale of the Universe;" Part I - the Magellanic Clouds"
- 13/6/79. Films on the American Space Program were shown in commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the first manned landing on the moon. This meeting was held at the U.S. International Communications Agency.
- All other meetings were held at the S.A.A.O. The average attendance at meetings was 25 members.

Observing Section. No grazing occultations were observed as there were none suitable & convenient to observe. However several members reported personal observations to the Directors of the Society's observing sections and also to interested bodies overseas.

Public Relations. Members of the Centre continued

to assist on Visitors evenings at the S.A.A.O. held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month. Members of the Centre also continued to assist at the S.A. Museum's Planetarium. A second public exhibition of telescopes was held at Cavendish Square in March and was successful in spite of cloudy weather.

at the request of the chief scout of south africa, a member of the centre ran the Astronomy Base at the National Senior Scout adventure in the Great Witzenberg Mountains from 27 December 1978 to 8 January 1979.

Both Boy Scouts and Girlguides had asked us to provide badge examiners and one guide has passed her astronomy badge while one scout has passed both standard and master grades of the Starman badge.

Centre Telescope. The centre telescope has continued in use by members during the year. Unfortunately members are still being singularly lax in signing the book. A 20 mm focal length eyepiece has been mislaid.

Paid up Members. at the end of June 1979 the Centre had 95 paid up members.

Cape Centre Endowment Trust. (~~The financial statements of the Trust for the year ended 1978 December 31 are available for inspection~~) An amount of R100 was bequeathed to the Centre by the late Mr. Ron Atkins and this money was placed in the Trust fund.

Thanks. The Centre wishes to thank, Dr. Feast, the Director of the S.A.A.O. for the use of the meeting room and the Ron Atkins site. We also wish to thank our speakers for the interesting lectures we have heard during the year. A special word of thanks should go to Mrs. Barnum for her considerable effort in organizing the teas after each meeting.

B/8/79

P. Booth Chairman.

Minutes of the AGM of the Cape Centre held at SAAO  
at 20:00 on Wednesday 8th August 1979

Miss P. Booth in the Chair.

Apologies were recorded from:- Dr Dean & Mums  
Atley & Duveen. & Mr. Krumm

The Minutes of the last AGM were read by the acting  
Secretary, accepted by the meeting and signed by  
the Chairman.

The Centre Report of the Committee was read to the  
meeting by the Chairman and accepted.

The meeting specially recorded its congratulations to  
Dr Fuhr for his remarkable number of occultation  
observations during the year.

The Financial Statement was presented by the honorary  
Treasurer and showed an excess of income over  
expenditure giving a current balance of R197.08.  
A suggestion from the floor that some of the surplus  
funds be donated to the Cape Centre Endowment Trust  
was referred to the incoming committee for  
consideration.

The financial statement was accepted subject to audit.

Centre Rules

Draft rules for the Centre were considered rule by  
rule and all 18 were accepted following  
amendments to rules 6, 11, 14 & 18.

There will now be submitted to the Society for  
ratification by Council.

The incoming committee was instructed to  
investigate the question of Public Liability Insurance.  
Mr Bentley expressed the congratulations of the  
meeting to Madam Chair and the committee  
for the way in which the draft rules had been  
prepared.

Thanks.

Miss Booth then thanked the retiring committee for all their hard work and assistance during the year with special mention of Mr Norman Saville who was retiring as honorary treasurer after 14 years in that office but was still available for election to the committee

Election of Officers

The following were unopposed and declared elected for the ensuing year:-

Chairman: Mr. K. Burke.

Vice Chairman: Dr. J. Dean.

Hon. Secretary: No nominations - to be appointed or co-opted by the committee

Hon. Treasurer: Mr. Dr. Thomas

Auditor: Mr. G. Orpen

Members: Miss P. Booth, Dr. L. Holroyd.

Messrs E. Barmer, N. Saville,  
G. Turk, M. von der Riet

and Wallace ~~and~~

~~Dr. L. Holroyd.~~

Mr K. Burke then took over the chair and thanked Miss Booth the Centre's first ever lady chairman for all her efforts in making the past year a very successful one. He then called on Miss Booth to deliver her address which was titled "The History of the Lamont - Hussey Observatory in Bloemfontein"

Miss Booth was thanked for a very interesting address by Mr <sup>Saville</sup> Burke who then closed the meeting at 22h05.

Signed as correct.

13/8/1980  
date

JJD Dean  
Chairman

P.S. Has now been audited

THE CAPE CENTREOF THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICARULES1) NAME

The centre shall be called "The Cape Centre of the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa" and its Headquarters shall be in Cape Town.

2) OBJECTS

The objects of the Centre shall be :-

1) To adhere to the constitution of the Astronomical Society of Southern Africa, hereinafter referred to as the Society, and to participate as far as possible in the activities of that Society.

2) To provide a facility for and encourage the study and practical application of astronomy within the district of the Centre.

3) MEMBERSHIP

The Centre shall consist of persons who have applied for membership of the Centre and have been accepted by the Committee.

4) OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE

The Centre shall be governed by a Committee consisting of:

1) Chairman

2) Vice Chairman

3) Honorary Secretary

4) Honorary Treasurer

5) Not less than three, but not more than seven, other members.

All of whom shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting of the Centre.

A member of the Centre shall be eligible for election to the committee after having been a fully paid-up member for at least one year.

No member of the Committee shall serve for more than five consecutive years. This provision shall not become effective until two years after the passing of this constitution.

2.

The Centre shall appoint a full member of the Society to represent it at the Society's council meetings. The name of this representative, who will be a full member of Council, shall be communicated to the secretary of the Society by August 20 each year and he shall become a member of the Committee if not already so elected.

At least seven days notice shall be given of a meeting of the Committee which shall be held at least once a quarter to transact the business of the Centre.

Fifty percent or more members of the Committee shall form a quorum.

Any member of the Committee absenting himself without leave of the Committee from three successive meetings shall forfeit his seat.

5) MANAGEMENT

The Committee shall have the sole management, control and disposition of the affairs, assets and liabilities of the Centre, and shall have power to decide any questions not specifically covered by these Rules.

The Committee shall have power to fill any vacancy that may occur in any of the offices of the Centre or in its own body until the next election of officers. It shall have power to co-opt additional members to the Committee from the remaining members of the Centre.

6) PROCEDURE FOR MEETINGS

Ordinary meetings shall normally be held on the second Wednesday of the months February to July, September to November.

At any meeting a quorum shall be twelve members or forty percent of total membership whichever shall be the lesser number.

Any member wishing to exercise his vote at a meeting but unable to attend may appoint in writing a proxy to speak and vote in his stead. Such proxy must be a member of the Centre or the Society or the spouse of a member of the Centre or the Society.

At all meetings of the Centre or of the Committee the chairman of the meeting shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.

7) SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS

Special General Meetings may be convened at any time by request

of the Committee or on receipt by the Hon. Secretary of a requisition signed by not less than five members of the Centre. Notice of a Special General Meeting shall be issued to members not less than ten days prior to the holding of such meeting; the notice shall indicate the nature of the business to be transacted thereat.

8) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of the Centre shall be held on the second Wednesday in August each year or such other day as the Committee shall direct.

The purpose of the Annual General Meeting shall be to elect officers for the ensuing year together with an Honorary Auditor, to receive the report of the Committee, the Honorary Treasurer's audited Financial Statement for the year ended June 30, the reports of any Centre activities and to transact any other business.

A copy of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting and a copy of all reports shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Society before August 20.

9) ELECTION OF MEMBERS

The names and addresses of candidates for election as members of the Centre together with the candidates' undertaking to abide by the Rules and Bye-Laws of the Centre shall be handed to the Hon. Secretary for consideration by the Committee. If the Committee approve the nomination the candidate shall be publicised to the next meeting of the Centre for election.

10) HONORARY MEMBERS

The Committee shall have power to elect as an Honorary Member of the Centre any person who has rendered special service to the Centre or to Astronomy.

11) SUBSCRIPTION

Persons joining as members of the Centre shall pay an annual subscription, the amount of which shall be determined by a special or Annual General Meeting from time to time.

All subscriptions are payable in advance to the Hon. Treasurer and shall become due on July 1 each year, but a member joining



the Centre after January 1 shall be liable to pay for that year only half the subscription ordinarily due in the previous July.

In very special cases the Committee may waive payment of subscriptions by certain individual members. In each case the waiver shall be recorded in the minutes of the Committee.

12) RESIGNATION

Any member wishing to resign from the Centre shall give notice in writing to the Hon. Secretary and shall pay all subscriptions due, after which his resignation shall take effect.

13) SUSPENSION AND EXCLUSION

The Committee may suspend or exclude any member either for infringement of these Rules or for misconduct reported to the Committee in writing, provided that the member so suspended or excluded shall have the right of appeal to the Committee whose decision shall be final.

14) REINSTATEMENT

Any member who has resigned in good standing may be permitted to rejoin the centre at the discretion of the Committee. Persons who forfeit membership under Article 13 may be reinstated with the consent of the Committee.

15) LIABILITY AND INDEMNITY

The liability of each member is limited to the amount of his subscription.

Each member of the Committee shall be indemnified from liability for any bonafide action undertaken in the course of his duties unless that liability arises through his own fraud or dishonesty.

16) INTERPRETATION

On any question of the implication or interpretation of any of the provisions of these Rules the decision of the Committee shall be final.

17) AMENDMENTS TO THESE RULES

The Committee shall have the power to frame bye-laws from time to time for the efficient conduct of the business of the Centre,

provided they do not thereby change the adopted Rules of the Centre, nor do they run counter to them.

These bye-laws shall be subject to confirmation at the meeting of the Centre next following their framing. The Committee shall give notice of its intention to submit bye-laws for confirmation. The Centre may alter or amend any of its Rules at any Annual General Meeting or at any Special General Meeting convened for that purpose. Notice of any proposed alteration shall be given to the Hon. Secretary in writing at least one calendar month prior to such General Meeting, and the notice convening the meeting shall contain particulars of the proposed alteration.

No alteration or amendment of the Rules shall be valid unless at least two thirds of the members of the Centre present vote in favour thereof.

18) WINDING UP

Should the Committee or ten percent of the paid up members decide that the Centre should be dissolved, they shall cause a General Meeting of members to be called for the purpose of discussing their resolution and the provisional decision shall be made on a simple majority of members present. The said meeting shall communicate to the Society its resolution to wind up the affairs of the Centre at least two months before a further meeting is held to make a final decision by simple majority of the members present. The final meeting will consider any representation that the Society wishes to make concerning the matter, and will accept an observer from the Society to be present at the time when decisions on the disposal of its funds, assets and records are made.

The Centre shall be considered dissolved if it ceases to exist without a formal decision to do so, e.g. by failure to elect officers or by failure of all members of the Centre to pay subscriptions. In this event the immediately preceding Chairman and the Committee shall within one month of the dissolution of the Centre, cause all assets, funds and records of the Centre to be sent to the Society for safekeeping or disposal as Council shall see fit.

August, 1979

THE CAPE CENTRE ENDOWMENT TRUST  
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 1978

<u>1977</u>	<b>TRUST CAPITAL:</b>	
415,50	Balance at 31st December 1977	520,50
105,00	Donations received during year	16,00
<hr/>		<hr/>
520,50		536,50
	<b>DISTRIBUTABLE RESERVE:</b>	
57,85	Balance of Income and Expenditure Account	121,51
<hr/>		<hr/>
R578,35		R658,01
<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>
	<b>REPRESENTED BY:</b>	
	<b>INVESTMENTS:</b>	
520,00	Allied Building Society, Fixed Period Paid-Up Shares	520,00
58,35	Nedfin Bank Limited, Savings Account	138,01
<hr/>		<hr/>
R578,35		R658,01
<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1978

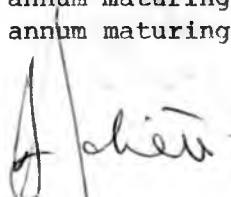
	<b>INCOME:</b>	
42,53	Interest received on investments	63,66
-	<b>DEDUCT EXPENSES:</b>	-
<hr/>		<hr/>
42,53	Excess of Income over Expenditure for year	63,66
15,32	Excess of Income over Expenditure from previous year	57,85
<hr/>		<hr/>
R57,85	Excess of Income over Expenditure carried forward	R121,51
<hr/> <hr/>		<hr/> <hr/>

Notes: Allied Building Society, Fixed Period Paid-Up Shares:-

R200,00 at 10% per annum maturing 13-6-1980  
R50,00 at 10% per annum maturing 28-8-1985  
R150,00 at 10% per annum maturing 29-3-1986  
R120,00 at 10% per annum maturing 19-10-1987



TRUSTEE



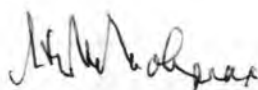
TRUSTEE



TRUSTEE

REPORT OF THE AUDITOR TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE CAPE CENTRE ENDOWMENT TRUST

I have examined the above balance sheet and income and expenditure account, which in my opinion respectively give a true and fair view of the state of The Cape Centre Endowment Trust's affairs as at 31st December 1978, and of its income and expenditure for the year ended on that date.



H.B. Molyneux  
Honorary Auditor

## The Astronomical Society of Southern Africa

The Report to the AGM of the Cape Centre for 1978/79.

Meetings. Eight meetings were held during the year. The dates <sup>speaking topics</sup> and times are given below:

9/8/78	AGM, and Mr G Roberts 'Weather Satellites'
13/9/78	Mr W Grimwood 'Time'
11/10/78	Dr A.J. Penny 'Pulsars'
8/11/78	Dr J.F. Dean 'Cepheid Variables'
14/2/79	Mr Krumm 'An Old timer remembers'
14/3/79	Prof B. Warner 'Piazzi Smyth at the Cape'
11/4/79	Mr D. Block 'Models of the Universe'
9/5/79	Dr M.W. Feast 'Distance Scale of the Universe; Part I, the Magellanic Clouds'
13/6/79	Films of the American space programme with some space films, in commemoration of the

10th anniversary of the first manned lunar landing; held at USIS.

All meetings except the last were held here. (at SAPO)

The average attendance was about 25 members.

Observing Section. No grazing occultations were observed.

Public Relations. Messrs Hurdy and Turk continued to show visitors around SAPO on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Members of the Centre also assisted at the Planetarium in the S.A. Museum. A second exhibition was held at Cavendish Square, and went off well in spite of cloudy weather. ~~It was a success.~~

Centre Telescope. This has been modified ~~to~~ by the addition of a ~~lens~~ <sup>20mm</sup> focal length eyepiece <sup>is</sup> missing. Will any member who knows of the whereabouts please let us know. The telescope has not seen much use.

Paid Up Members. At the end of June 1979 the Cape Centre had 95 paid up members.

Ron Atkins Bequest. A sum of R100 was received from this bequest. This ~~has been~~ <sup>will be</sup> put in the Cape Centre Endowment Fund.

Thanks. The Centre thanks the Director of SAPO, Dr Feast, for the use of the meeting room and Ron Atkins site. We also thank our speakers, again, for the interesting lectures we have heard during the year, and Mrs Carmuth for her considerable effort in organising the teas after each meeting.

G. F. Dean.

Secy. Cape Centre.