

Minutes of the meeting held at the Cape Centre on
8th of July 1981 at 8pm.

Present were the chairman Pat Booth, 20 members
and 5 visitors.

Apologies for absence were received from:

Mr Orpin, Parsons, Banner, Utley, Thesen,
Spencer-Jones and Miss Bekker.

The speaker was Mr M van der Kuit, an amateur
telescope maker ~~the~~ and the subject - mirror
grinding techniques. He described the various
types of glass used in mirror making,
including the principle of zero expansion
glass. He also described the various abrasives
used and described the elutriation process
by which particle sizes could be separated.
grinding was done ^{using} successive ~~stages~~ ^{grades}
of ~~grinder~~ abrasive ending ^{with} ~~in the~~ fine
grinding. grinding alone could not produce
a reflective surface so polishing had
to be done using a yielding base such
as pitch. Then followed figuring which
transformed it to a parabolic surface.
He used his mirror tester to demonstrate
the sensitivity of the test by showing how
glass expands when touched by a warm
hand.