

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Minutes of Council Meeting held at the S.A. Astronomical Observatory  
Cape Town on Monday 1980 February 11 at 20h00.

**PRESENT:** Mr Hurly (in the chair) Miss P Booth, Messrs Bondiotti, Duveen,  
G. Larmuth, C Larmuth, Orpen, Turk and Russo. Dr Holroyd.

Apologies for absence noted from Drs Dean, Fairall and Feast. Messrs  
Armstrong Bentley and Simonhoff.

Minutes of meeting held 1979 November 19, which had been circulated, were  
adopted and signed after the following amendment: Under matters arising  
item (b) Include Sky & Telescopes and Handbooks after "MNASSA".

MATTERS ARISING:

(a) Mailing of MNASSA to subscribers.

Mr Larmuth suggested that the Afric Mail Advertising, who were under  
contract to send magazines to Society members, should be approached  
with a view to undertaking the despatch of MNASSA to subscribers.  
Agreed that this proposal should be discussed by Mr Larmuth first  
with Mr Bentley, who was not present at the meeting.

(b) Miss Booth reported that some BAA journals were still missing.  
Suggested that an appeal should be made at centre meetings. Dr Hol-  
royd stated that he had numerous back issues from which wanted copies  
might be forthcoming. Mr Turk asked whether binding was really  
necessary in view of the very few occasions that the books were  
consulted. Mr Bondiotti spoke in favour of binding and also suggested  
that the missing copies be sought from the B.A.A. Agreed to delay  
a decision on binding until sets were complete.

(c) Agreed that Mr Spencer Jones of the SAAD staff be approached with  
a view to acting as an alternate for Mr Vincent in place of Mr Burke,  
who had moved to Johannesburg.

FINANCE: The following statement was presented by Mr Orpen and adopted:-

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FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PRESENTATION TO COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON 11/2/1980

<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	R.C.	<u>RECEIPTS</u>	R.C.
Subscription to "Sky & Telescope" July to December 1979	2484.55	Credit Balance at 1/7/1979	103.76
Addressing and despatch of publications, July 1979 to January 1980	129.26	<u>Subscriptions</u>	
Cost of production of M.N.A.S.S.A. nos. 5 & 6 only	328.97	Arrears 20.00	
Reprints of articles in MNASSA	19.88	Current 6320.60	
Expenditure on MNASSA Back Nos.	70.00	Advance <u>44.50</u>	6385.10
Printing of amended Constitution of the Society	145.50	Entrance Fees	65.00
Cost of production of Handbook	1012.96	Sale of M.N.A.S.S.A.	400.89
Printing on publications, July 1979 to January 1980	313.47	Sale of Handbooks	220.50
Postage on MNASSA Back Numbers	11.27	Sale of back nos, and extra copies of "Sky & Telescope"	10.90
Stationery (Minute Book)	20.35	Advertisement in M.N.A.S.S.A.	0.33
Postage, other than above	37.94	Interest on Fixed Deposit	100.00
Variable Star Charts	21.06	Interest on Building Society Shares (Forbes Bequest)	8.25
Import surcharge on "Sky & Tele- scope" July 1979 to Jan. 1980	156.56	Withdrawn from "Plusplan" A/C July 1979, and Dec. 1979	850.00
Transferred to "Plusplan" A/C August 1979	2900.00	Commission on cheques and Airmail Postage paid	49.20
Bank charges	105.38		
Credit Balance at 11/2/1980	436.78		
	<u>8193.93</u>		<u>R 8193.93</u>
	=====		=====

An amount of R1000.00 is on Fixed Deposit with the United Building Society at an interest rate of 10%. The amount in the "Plusplan" A/C. is R2750 at date, but varies according to requirements. The interest rate is now 6%.

The balance in the McIntyre Award Account is now R1642.21, of which R1000.00 is Fixed Deposit, mortgage interest of R35.83 having been added in December and deposit interest of R45.50 in January 1980.

HON. TREASURER

Mr Orpen spoke on the financial position of the Society. A provisional estimate of income and expenditure for the remainder of the Society year indicated a possibility of a deficit of over R1000 for the year ending June 30 next. This was without taking into account the increased postage rates from February, which could cost the Society over R600 for a year. Council would be better able to assess the position more accurately by the time of the next meeting in April, but it looked as if an increase of subscription to R17.50 could be a distinct possibility. The Secretary and the Treasurer were directed to prepare a statement for inclusion in MNASSA, giving members an insight into the situation.

NEW MEMBERS: The following were elected subject to publication of names in MNASSA, and no objection being received:-

Mr J N de Jager  
P O Box 887  
BLOEMFONTEIN  
9301

Mr C A Engelbrecht  
C/O SAAO P O Box 9  
OBSERVATORY  
7935

Mrs J P Marais  
40 van Graan Road  
CASSEDALE SPRINGS  
1560

Mr P McLeroth  
No 8 9th Avenue  
Mabelreign SALISBURY (Re-entry)

Rev R H Smith  
P O Box 171  
RICHMOND  
3780

Miss E W Steyn  
58 Joubert Street  
Brenthurst BRAKPAN  
1540

Mr J R Walton  
20 Edward Street  
WESTDENE BENONI  
1500

FURTHER BUSINESS:

(a) Missing Handbooks & October issue of MNASSA

Several members had complained that their copies, posted last December, had not been received. The correct total had been handed in at the G.P.O, and it was a mystery why so many had gone astray.

Second copies had been sent to members who had written in.

Agreed that a note should be put in MNASSA, asking members, who had not received their copies to apply. Applications would be dealt with on a 'first come first served', basis, as stocks held are limited.

(b) Agreed that centres etc. buying Handbooks in bulk from the Society should pay R0.90c. The actual net cost was R0.83c plus postage for distribution to members.

Agreed that the 1981 Handbook should be priced at R1.50. The question of future editorship was mentioned and left over a future meeting.

The next meeting was set for 1980 April 21, same time and same venue.

The meeting then closed at 21h40.

  
CHAIRMAN

T.W. Russo  
HON. SECRETARY