

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF COUNCIL
Held on 19 June 2001 at the S.A.A.O.

1 PRESENT:

Messrs P van Blommestein (in the Chair), B Skinner, M Christianson, D Field, R Hurly, C de Coning and G Bosch and ~~Z~~^A McConnell.

2 APOLOGIES:

Drs D Kilkenny and A Mahomed, Ms P Booth and Messrs MG Soltynski, C Turk, A Jones, C Rijdsijk, M A Gray, C Gray (most of whom were observing the total solar eclipse in Zambia or Zimbabwe) and all up country members.

3 MINUTES PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes as circulated were accepted without alteration and signed.

4 MATTERS ARISING:

4.1 Award Certificates:

None have been requested. One enquiry from the Double star Section.

4.2 Web presence for A.S.S.A.

Mr G Bosch now has access to enable him to update the web page on a regular basis. Certain observing sections have also been given space at SAAO for web pages. See <http://da.saa0.ac.za/assa>.

4.3 Imaging Section Competition

The Cape Centre astrophotography competition had no entries from other ASSA Centres who were invited to send entries.

4.4 Comet & Meteor Monogram

In progress. Report to next meeting.

4.5 Dark Sky Section

There is still a vacancy for a section Director.

4.6 Banners

The Cape Centre have their banner and displayed it to Council. It is something of which they can be proud. They will submit a claim for a refund of R500 (of the R570 it cost the Centre) to the Hon Treasurer in due course.

4.7 Solar Section

There is still a vacancy for Director of this Observing Section.

4.8 Scholarships

No report received from scholarships committee.

4.9 Symposium 2000 – Cancelled

The Harare Centre Rep Alternate is to report back.

- 4.10 Handbook redesign**
A benchmark quotation to redesign the handbook was tabled by Mr C de Coning to serve as an indication of what the redesign may cost. Copies will be sent to the sub-committee which was to make a start on the redesign of the lay-out of the handbook.
- 4.11 List of ASSA telescopes**
This has not yet been printed (for insertion into the Minute book). The Krumm telescope sub-committee has not met yet.
- 4.12 Alternates**
Council welcomed Andrew McConnell of the Cape Centre who will become alternate for an out of town Council member after the AGM.
- 4.13 Constitution**
C Turk is yet to send file to Hon Secretary for proof reading and printing.
- 4.14 Minute book**
Not bought yet.
- 4.15 Hon Secretary**
No volunteers yet.
- 5 FINANCE** ^{not}
The Hon Treasurer was present to table an Income Statement and had sent apologies for his absence.

6 NEW MEMBERS

- 6.1 Two new member applications were tabled by Mr M Christiansen on behalf of the Membership Secretary. These persons have been accepted subject to their names being published in MNASSA. Proposed by M Christiansen and seconded by G Bosch.
- 6.2 Honorary Members: The certificates for Prof Michael Feast, Dr Tom Lloyd Evans, Mr Colin Gray and Mr Cliff Turk were signed by the President.

7 CORRESPONDENCE:

Prof Michael Feast wrote thanking Council for his Honorary Membership and confirming that he will attend the AGM. Other Email correspondence was also read to the meeting.

8 GENERAL

- 8.1 Mr R Hurly presented a talk on the Abbe de la Caille to the Cape Centre.
- 8.2 Mr John Watson of the Natal Centre has asked for his Council Minutes to be sent to him on paper.
- 8.3 Mr Rupert Hurley proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring President, Mr Pieter van Blommestein for chairing the meetings for the past ~~two~~³ years. This was carried unanimous

9 DATE OF NEXT MEETING (A.G.M.): 25 July 2001.

10 DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING: Tuesday 4 SEPTEMBER 2001.

Pieter van Blommestein

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Honorary Treasurer's Report for the Financial Year 2000 - 2001.

Your society continues to prosper under difficult conditions of dropping Rand value and inexorable cost increases, and a surplus of R10000 is shown in the unaudited accounts for the financial year just ended.

Of some interest, but of little significance is that our annual income has exceeded the six figure mark for the first time, mainly due to the spiralling cost in Rands of members subscriptions to Sky and Telescope, which accounted for R28000 of the R30000 increase in income.

Other expenses have been well controlled, and it will be seen that the costs of badges and banners have been written off in the amount of R6000.

The scholarship account has grown to R42000, so that renewed efforts are called for to attract candidates.

Colin Gray



Bergvliet

July 2001

BALANCE SHEET

at 30 June 2001

(unaudited)

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

	30 June 2001	Last year
Surplus at 1 July	60945	42436
Surplus for this year	<u>10535</u>	<u>14849</u>
	71480	57285
Funds from ASSA Symposium	<u>-</u>	<u>3660</u>
	<u>71480</u>	<u>60945</u>

REPRESENTED BY CURRENT ASSETS

ASSA Symposium account	4008	3730
Scholarship account	41818	-
Market Link account	25000	86985
Plusplan account	32596	7086
	103422	97801

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Owing to Trust	1065	1740
Subs received in advance	6010	7320
Mnassa receipts in advance	11682	7336
S&T receipts in advance	<u>13185</u>	<u>20460</u>
	<u>31942</u>	<u>36856</u>

NET CURRENT ASSETS

R71480  R60945

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

INCOME STATEMENT for the Year ended 30 June 2001 (unaudited)

INCOME

	This quarter	Year to date
Subscriptions	-	14900
S&T receipts	8680	45477
Interest	1388	5679
Entrance fees	140	320
Mnassa Sales	2539	22945
Handbook Sales	1505	11692
Advertising	-	1090
Donations	520	1695
Star Walks	-	1010
Badges and banners	-	15
	<u>14772</u>	<u>104823</u>

EXPENDITURE

Sky & Telescope payments	10208	44344
Mnassa production	3294	19808
Handbook production	-	8129
Postage on Mnassa	3324	8512
Postage on Handbook	33	1511
Printing & Stationery	264	1115
Bank charges	676	2179
General expenses	-	694
Honoraria	-	1500
Star Walks	-	570
Badges and banners	<u>500</u>	<u>5926</u>
	<u>18299</u>	<u>94288</u>
NET SURPLUS	Deficit <u>3527</u>	<u>10535</u>

CASH RECONCILIATION

at 30 June 2001

Cash at 1 July		
32 day notice account	86985	
Plusplan account	7086	
ASSA Symposium account	<u>3730</u>	
		97801
Add		
Surplus for the year	10535	
Owing to Trust	1065	
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		140278
Less		
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		<u>103422</u>

**THE ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF
SOUTHERN AFRICA**

New members to be elected at the Council meeting on 22nd April 1996

1. Mr S.D. Poole 42 - 2nd Ave., Houghton. 2198.
2. Mr W.H.Hofmeyer PO Box 456. Garsfontein. 0042.
3. Mr A.P.Pienaar PO Box 3564. Rooihuiskraal. 0154.
4. Mr J.L.Kleynhans PO Box 22630. Margate, 4275.
5. Mrs L.Karg PO Box 52. Rosetta. 3301.
6. Mr R.K.Bär c/o Mercedes-Benz Test Dept F23. PO Box 671.
East London. 5200.

ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN AFRICA

Honorary Treasurer's Report to Council on Tuesday 15 February 2000.

Substantial expenditure on Sky & Telescope payments (R8000 from receipts in the first quarter), Mnassa production expenses (R7000 in respect of last two issues of 1999 year) and Handbook production (R6500 for 1200 copies) resulted in a hefty deficit for the second quarter of R18000.

This illustrates how prudent accounting causes large fluctuations in any quarter, so the year to date surplus of R10000 is a truer reflection of the current financial situation.

Not included in the surplus are amounts of R8500 received in respect of the current calendar year from overseas subscribers to Mnassa and a windfall receipt of R3500 from Derck Smits in Pretoria relating to a surplus arising from the 1994 Symposium held in Pretoria. Both these amounts have been posted directly to the Balance Sheet.

Net assets (ie surplus on operations) now stand at R 56000, including the Symposium amount, which has been placed in a separate savings account for the time being.

A healthy position at the halfway mark - but watch this space in the next quarter!


Colin Gray

Bergvliet

November 1999

BALANCE SHEET at 31 December 1999

ACCUMULATED FUNDS

31 Dec 1999

30 June 1999

Surplus at 1 July	42436	23286
Surplus for half year	<u>10252</u>	<u>18895</u>
	52688	42181

Funds transferred from McIntyre	-	255
Funds from ASSA Symposium	<u>3430</u>	<u>-</u>
	56118	42436

REPRESENTED BY CURRENT ASSETS

Cash resources			
ASSA Symposium account	3500	-	
32 day notice account	54180	52063	
Plusplan account	<u>6865</u>	<u>13391</u>	
	64545		65454

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Owing to Asset	-	2640	
Subs received in advance	-	10720	
Payments received in advance	<u>8427</u>	<u>9658</u>	
	8427		23018

NET CURRENT ASSETS	R56118		R42436
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NET CURRENT ASSETS

R56118

R42436