

MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT HOME OF MR. & MRS P. HAWKINS  
on 21/1/1997

Present : R. Jarmain, J. Watson, K. Hampson, P. Hawkins, R. Roth  
Apols. : S.de Vos, A Versveld

1. Meeting commenced at 2000hrs. - minutes of previous meeting read and accepted.
2. Matters arising..  
December Lunch braai party at observatory site a success  
17 members attended + 6 guests  
NMC (local) Crossstar Puzzle drawn - Raymond field won the box of chocolates. Chris Lake delivered them to him.  
Members enjoyed seeing the progress at the site  
Well done works party members clearing +++ more trees!
3. Planning.  
February 12/2/1997 J.W. introduction talk for 1997  
+ progress on observatory + targets for the year  
+ Video "Genesis in Stone" Hancock & Bauval confirmed  
Annette Dybwad has & can lend it.  
March 12/3/1997 R.R. Meteorites & Impact Crators, PH magnet over roof  
Future K.H. from Astronomy Now - Absolute Beginners article meteorite pickup  
Active Galaxies, Quasars, Blazars, Jets, Seyferts  
Galaxies etc, all same type seen at different angle's  
from earth observers line of sight!  
Rob Ginslove willing to give talk & show telescope he has built.  
Carl Botha - willing to talk about U.F.O. sighting!  
K.H. to give St. Charles a schedule of dates of meetings for 1997
4. Membership  
Resignations - Anne Renfrew - has gone to Angola K.H. to send letter with copy of Stardust + Handbook when stocks arrive  
Veronica Collingwood -K.H. to check out reminder re subs -still to stay a member. All procrastinators to stay members just not to be sent Stardust if don't pay subs.  
Prospective Members.- Dr. Albrecht Scheuer, Miss Leanne Hearmon, Mrs. Truter, Mr Thor Jensen.  
Colin McKay, K.H. to let know of viewing evenings
5. Correspondence  
Letters received -from Tim & Hillary chance  
PMB.T.L. Council for application for Grant-in- AID 96/97 Acknowledgement  
Minutes of ASSA Council meeting -Dany Dupreznow alt. rep for Natal Centre ! J.W. to investigate  
Rejection letter from S&T for Pied Blageek  
Letters written -Slides + poem + covering letters of Pied Blageek sent to 3 other magazines Astronomy, Astronomy Now, Souther Sky's.  
P.H. sent letter to brother to send copy's of Australian magazine Southern Sky's  
J.W. letter to Dept. Education & Culture requesting financial assistance for R800.00.  
K.H. Thank you letter to St. Charles Headmaster re use of audio visual room for meetings + dates of meetings for 1997  
Letters to be written - K.H. to Anne Renfrew -see Resignations  
K.H. Thank you letter to Dany Overbeek & Andy for book "Small Astronomical Observatory's"  
K.H. Thank you note with Stardust to Herman & Christne Buchler for clearing so much of site.  
Suggestion from R.R. - to send R.J.'s article + cartoon from Oct 6

6. Treasurers Report  
 R780.00 to be transferred to observatory fund  
 R.J. contacted by Yvonne Williams from Amanzimtoti -cheque for R450.00 in post  
 R50.00 donation from Scripture Union  
 Entry to Crossstar Competition G.A. Secretan-Cox R5.00  
 Donations in lieu of entry to crossstar competition  
 K.Wade-Helman R20.00  
 Angela Banks R20.00  
 P.H. bought rubber stamp cost R28.00
7. Stardust  
 R.J. Has well in hand
8. Library  
 S. de V., K.H., R.R., P.H., to sort out S&K's for binding whichever two years complete will bind.  
 Danie Overbeek & Andy donated a book Small Astronomical Observatories - see correspondence  
 R.R. asks can N.M.C. buy book on Sundials & Moondials Advert.in S&K - Committee in agreement to buy.  
 K.H. to try again to contact W Herschel re S&K still in his possession
9. P.R.O.  
 R.J. contacted Sue at Publicity Association- she says it will be a pleasure for them to sell calendars etc. for N.M.C. also let them know any functions we are planning & they will advertise for N.M.C. Calendar - R.R. has hand book for 1997 (N.M.C. copy) for phenomena for 97 trial calendar - waiting for Skymap computer discs - reason for delay . K.H. & Bidy Hall each willing to buy trial calendar 97  
 K.H. to contact Pat Booth for obtaining Phenomina for 1998 calendar  
 Pied Blageek & slides & copy of letter to magazines & covering letter to be sent to MNASA to tell what we have done  
 J.W. Interview & photo in Newspaper "Vrydag" re Astronomy  
 J.W. -Natal Witness to do feature type articles on P.M.B. societies starting with Astronomy - J.W. to Edit reporters copy!!! need photos of observatory site etc contact S de V. to give slides to J.W. Dept. Education & Culture running a training course in July.  
 N.M.C. to another star party to raise funds for 1997-? July Hols.
10. Instruments & Observatory  
 J.W. Irene Ross (Natal Centre) Accountant at Franky Pile -working on Hullets site -promised to phone J.W. back to confirm date to pour & float slab  
 Subcommittee meeting was held at observatory site 4/12/1996  
 ? co.opt Herman Buchler onto subcommittee as -consultant  
 2/3 of trees cleared from site by Dec. 1996 - need more works parties to continue the work ? tog labour  
 Mrs Mitchell (Henry Mitchell's widow) keen to get rid of astronomical instruments (bits & bobs) will contact J.W.  
 J.W., R.R. & B.L. had meeting with Dr. J. Londr planatarium museum will support if educational- IF motivated plenty of money available - N.M.C. need to do more homework eg.price, where to put it, requirements, training etc..  
 Linked to museum ,N.M.C. would have access to it to give show to public for funds  
 J.W. to write to Prof. J. Ferrail re information on Planetariums
11. Education  
 Thank you to K.H. for giving talk to Scripture Union on journey from Sun to Alpha Centauri  
 Science & Technology Festival to be held in Grahamstown April 1997  
 N.M.C. to run a course during July 1997 Umgeni Valley a good venue  
 J.W to talk to Janet Stewart
12. General  
 Nil

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING Tues. 18/2/1997. 2000hrs at R.J. home.